

the Joey Journal

Vol. 3

July-August

No. 4



the JOEY JOURNAL

A Publication of the Texas Clown Association

Editor Richard Wade

Mailing Address - P.O.Box 91514 - Houston, Tx. 77291-1514

Purpose of the T.C.A.

- I. To promote, preserve, and improve the profession of clowning.
 - II. To provide the opportunity to study the art, history, and philosophy of clowning.
 - III. To educate its members and the general public in the wholesome and clean entertainment provided by the profession of clowning.
 - IV. To provide news to the members of all clown events in the state of Texas.
-

Advertising Rates

Business Card	\$ 7.50
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3/4 Page	30.00
Full Page	40.00
Back Outside Page	40.00

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All advertising and copy must be submitted on or before the 15th of the month preceding publication.

The opinions expressed by contributors to the Joey Journal are not necessarily those of either the editor or of the T.C.A. The Joey Journal assumes no responsibility for the originality of the material submitted by the contributors.

All photographs submitted for publication must be in the negative form, and will be returned.

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The centerfold this time is a pull-out which has a dual purpose. Either or both sides may be used.



HAPPY READING !! MAY ALL YOUR DAYS BE HAPPY DAYS !!

T.C.A. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

These are your elected officers. Each and every one is a representative of YOU, the member, to efficiently operate YOUR organization. Contact them with your suggestions. Let yourself be heard!!

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LET
US
HEAR
FROM
YOU
!!!



CALL !
WRITE !
OR
SEND SMOKE SIGNALS !

Your Editor Speaks!

National Clown Week (August 1st through the 7th for the uninitiated among us) is almost upon us. What do you as an individual, or you as a group have planned that could be considered special for this time? There are many things which clowns could do to promote this special week which should be used to let the general public know that there is someone out there available to put a smile on not only their lips, but on their hearts as well.

The general practice for most of us groupwise is to go out and solicit proclamations from the mayor, city manager, or whatever form of local government that pertains to you, the county governing person or body, and of course, our Governor. In some respects these diverse bodies at times move somewhat rapidly. Usually, however, in an instance such as this which could be considered non-political they don't move that fast. Therefore, when something of this nature is requested it is a good idea to get your requests in early (at least a month ahead of time) for a proclamation for your area or group. Copying and displaying these proclamations wherever the general public will see them is a good way to get recognition. If at all possible see if your local newspaper will print these with either a brief item about you or your alley.

This is also the best time of the year to go out and contact the local hospitals, nursing homes, senior citizens groups, or other institutions in your area which are havens for the unfortunates among us. Volunteering in these institutions not only brings joy to those less fortunate than us, (after all, we are exceptionally blessed to be able to do this) but will bring a lot of joy and satisfaction into our lives as well. There are many souls who are confined to these institutions who were previously able to perform for others as we are still able, but are now handicapped in one way or another. Put yourself in their shoes for a moment and ask yourself, "How would I feel if I were incapacitated in any way?" Your editor personally knows of several of these folks right here in Houston, and I'm sure there are others possibly in your area too.

Clowns are traditionally supposed to be a caring, sharing lot, so let's get out this year and spread some of our cheer to those less fortunate. After all, if we are any good at all as performers we can always pick up a birthday

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party, a company picnic, or any other commercial endeavor for monetary gain just about any time of the year, but what other time do we have a week set aside to show the general public that caring, sharing clowns are not just a myth?

After National Clown Week is over for this year take a few minutes to write about what you did, either as an individual or as an alley, and send in your experiences. We will print them and share them with other members. If you had some particular thing work well for you it might be something which would also work well in other areas of the state.

In whatever endeavor you may undertake during National Clown Week may it be the best ever for you and may your satisfaction from it be boundless! Happy clowning!

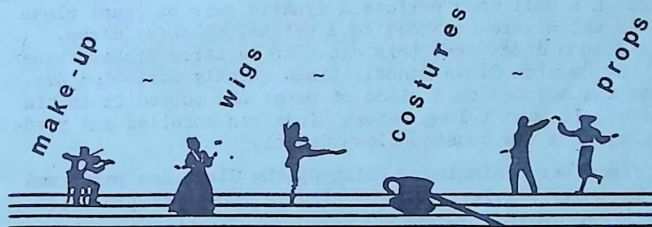


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Everything for the Clown





Introducing -

our

Cover Clown

LOLLIPOP!

What's red and yellow swirled, sixteen inches in diameter, and supported by a long stick? Lollipop the Clown's strawberry-banana, banana-strawberry lollipop!

You can call it fate: perhaps it was a colorful monogrammed clown beach towel she snuggled at the age of six, or the teenage dream while in Sarasota that she and a girlfriend were going to Clown College. Today, under the smiling Auguste make-up and curly blue hair is Linda Starer.

During the fall of 1981, her first year of employment in Houston as a teacher of deaf children, Linda's parents visited her from their hometown, Utica, N.Y. While browsing through a mall they noticed a dynamic pair of giant clown shoes which were attached to a bright, colorful clown. Linda soon discovered this clown to be Larry Kibbey, owner of the Houston Clown School. Linda quickly scribbled her name and address on a piece of paper and popped it in his pocket. It wasn't long before Linda was enrolled and graduating from the Houston Clown School.

Since her beginnings, Lollipop the Clown has performed at birthday parties, company picnics, business promotions, and other special events.

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She also makes appearances at hospitals, fund-raising endeavors, and community service events.

Two years ago at Christmas, Lollipop the Clown was part of the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Orange Bowl, by clowning for the Orange Bowl Queen in Miami, Florida. Lollipop was also selected to model in New Orleans for a poster which has been published, entitled, "Mardi Gras Clown 1984".

Linda enthusiastically joined the Texas Clown Association at the Arlington Convention in October, 1983, and was elected Area Director for Area 713. At the T.C.A Houston Convention, she served as Hospitality Room Chairperson. Linda enjoys concentrating her time, energy, and organizational efforts into something she loves so much - clowning !

Lollipop was among the two hundred clowns to attend Clown Camp 1984, in La Crosse, Wisconsin. She is planning to attend the second session of Clown Camp 1985 in July. "Clown Camp was such an exciting, yet, intense learning experience," Linda highlighted. "Each joey contributed in his/her own way to learn more about clowning. A warm rapport was felt between beginners and experienced professionals as clown communication and close friendships were established."

The art of clowning is always changing and evolving, Linda believes. In clowning there are so many specialized skills to master. I'd like to attempt most all of them. Continuously craving new knowledge, Linda perceives Lollipop's character and clown talents to expand, develop, and diversify.

Throughout my life I've always reached out to benefit others. Perhaps that is why I chose to become a teacher and was so involved in volunteer activities in high school and college. Linda feels that in clowning a great deal of mutual learning takes place. Clowning is highly reciprocal. As you give of yourself to others, their responses and reactions enable you to learn, and feel enriched and fulfilled.



A GREAT BIG WELCOME -

to our newest contributor!

This gentleman, by way of introduction, is one of our newer members, and as nice a man as anyone would care to meet. He has over 21 years of clowning experience behind him, clowns all over West Texas as "Triki the Clown" and also clowns under another name not only in Texas, but in Mexico and Central and South America as well. Now, without any further ado here's Triki.



Triki the Magic Clown

921 Duskin •

El Paso, Texas 79907

sion? In fact, laugh is so essential in our lives, that a doctor thought it important enough to write a book about it.

The title of the book is "Laugh After Laugh: The healing power of humor" and is written by Raymond A. Moody, Jr., M.D. It's a book about the medical implications and uses of laughter and humor as they bear upon questions of health and disease.

In his uniquely informal, yet learned style, Dr. Moody carefully leads the reader to an awareness that mankind may have overlooked its most valuable healing asset - laughter and the sense of humor.

Dr. Moody traces the history of the idea of humor,
continued next page

"Laugh After Laugh"

In this month's issue of the Joey Journal I want to make every clown feel really good about themselves by telling you that through your clowning abilities in making people laugh, you are contributing to the health and well-being of everyone around you. Now isn't that a nice feeling? Of course you already knew that, I simply wanted to remind you of it.

Did you also know that just as comedians and clowns rely on the ability of the audience to laugh, doctors use laughter as a therapy for some of their patients to bring them out of a deep depression?

In fact, laugh is so essential in our lives, that a doctor thought it important enough to write a book about it.

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Dr. Moody traces the history of the idea of humor,
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beginning with the Biblical advice that "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine", and takes the reader on a fascinating historical tour of the relationship between humor and health. In addition to citing modern examples of how laughter and humor have actually helped to heal, he even discusses the diagnostic importance of the state of a person's sense of humor and lends solid credibility to the long-lasting folk belief that humor is good for you.

I find it to be a very interesting book and one I'm sure you will enjoy reading, as it allows you to view laughter and humor from a different point of view.

If the book is not available in your book store you can drop me a line and I will be glad to send you the name and address of the publisher.

Well, that's it for now. I better get going before I get a ticket for being double parked. Incidentally, if you are into magic, I would like to share some of my ideas in the following articles (for what they are worth) and maybe you can share some of yours with me. After all, isn't sharing what this association is all about ?

Happy Glowning
Your Pal, Triki

Success by Ralph Waldo Emerson

To laugh often and much
To win the respect of intelligent people and the
affection of children
To earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure
the betrayal of friends
To appreciate beauty
To find the best in others
To leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy
child, a garden patch, or redeemed social condition
To know even one life has breathed easier because
you lived
This is to have succeeded

+++++

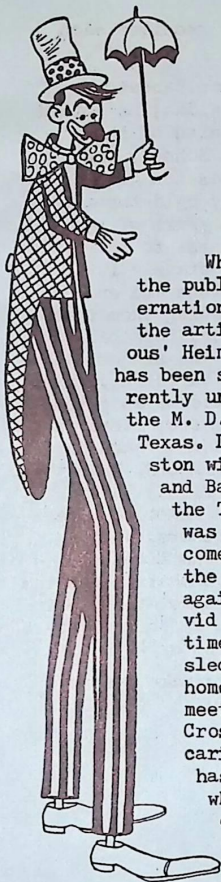
submitted by - - -

Terry "Crinkles" Tormey

A VIEW FROM THE FIRST OF MAY

by Mauri Norris

Binkie the Clown



What a wonderful story in the Calliope, the publication of the Clowns of America International organization. I am referring to the article by Betty Cash about David 'Precious' Helm and his little friend, Adam. Adam has been stricken with a brain tumor and is currently under-going out-patient treatments with the M. D. Anderson Cancer Institute in Houston Texas. David met Adam last year while in Houston with the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus. Through the efforts of the Texas 'Make A Wish' organization, Adam was able to have two of his biggest wishes come true. One was to see "real snow" and the other was to see 'his clown - Precious again. Adam spent three full days with David just before Christmas during which time they visited a resort and went snow sledding. Finally, Adam returned to his home in Texas. I had the good fortune to meet David recently at Clown Camp in La Crosse, Wisconsin. He is truly a warm and caring person and a marvelous clown. He has the capacity to make people laugh

whether in makeup or out. David lectured on No Prop Clowning at Clown Camp and also at the 1985 Clowns of America International Convention. He possesses a wealth of talent that over-

flows during his sessions. His passion for laughter is contagious and it is easy to see why young Adam loves him so much. So I ask you all to think happy thoughts for Adam and I am sure he would very much appreciate any cards or clown pictures that you would like to share. Send them to: ADAM, c/o Cheerful Clown Alley #166, P.O.Box 2192, Houston;

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Texas, 77252, and I will be sure that he receives each
and every one promptly. Thanks.

Another instructor at Clown Camp, Steve Rancatore, visited Texas recently. After a job in Dallas, he joined us in Houston and spoke to the first session of the Cheerful Clown Alley #166's annual Clown School. The opportunity to have Steve as a speaker was too good to be true. He is a dynamic lecturer and easily held the attention of everyone present whether 50 or 5 years of age. Steve is open and caring and his willingness to share his knowledge seems without bounds. He quite bravely invited all of the students to ask him ANY questions and encouraged them to "pick his brain" while reminding them that they may not get such an opportunity often. Personally, I found Steve to be very friendly, loving, and sincere. And, BOY, IS HE FUNNY!! He talked mostly about building your clown character and stressed that it should be an extension of yourself. EXAGGERAT is a key word from Steve and he suggested that each of us should spend time each day with the most useful tool we have - OUR MIRRORS. Select an emotion and (from the neck up only at first) let it show on your face. Then exaggerate it and memorize it and practice. We should know how we look to others. What a motivational lecture, he really had everyone fired up about being great clowns; despite the fact that it was the end of a very long day for many of the people attending. Everyone tremendously enjoyed his lecture and his visit and we hope he will return to Texas real soon!!!

Y'all come on down and we'll promise to make you feel right at home.



GOSPEL CLOWNING

by Helena McAfee



clowning you may do.

This month in place of writing an article I'm going to give you a list of resources which you or your gospel group might find helpful. These are exceptionally good for just about any type gospel

GLOWN MINISTRY by Floyd Shaffer and Penne Sewall
Group Books, Box 481
Loveland, Co. 80539

IF I WERE A CLOWN by Floyd Shaffer
Augsburg, 426 S. Fifth Street
Minneapolis, Mn. 55415

INTRODUCTION TO CLOWNING by Karl Hartish
Most local clown supply stores
stock this one

GETTING STARTED in GLOWN MINISTRY by Tim Kehl
Clown Ministry Cooperative, Box 24023
Nashville, Tn. 37202

THE COMIC VISION and THE CHRISTIAN FAITH by Conrad Hyers
Pilgrim Press, 36-01 43rd Ave.
Long Island, NY. 11101

DEWEY'S GOSPEL BALLOON ROUTINES by Ralph Dewey
1110 E. Princeton
Deer Park, Tx. 77536

GLOWNING IS by Ernie and Jean Leibig
278 Carmel, Emerald Bay
Bullard, Tx. 75757

THE GLOWN MINISTRY HANDBOOK by Janet Litherland
Meriwether, Downer's Grove, Il. 60515

If you have anything to share, please write:
Helena McAfee, 3816 Ave. Q, Galveston, Tx. 77550

ANNOUNCING: AN INVITATION TO ALL CLOWNS AND CLOWN FANS !
TEXAS CLOWN ASSOCIATION'S 3RD ANNUAL CONVENTION
IN CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS--OCTOBER 4TH, 5TH, AND 6TH, 1985

For More Information, Call "SUSU" at (512) 241-6955 or
"LITTLE HIPS" at (512) 643-1276 or
Write: CLOWNS, INC. - P.O.Box 81071 - Corpus Christi, Tx.
78412

MORE OF INTEREST:

Our convention will consist of workshops and seminars for the clowns at the La Quinta Royale Hotel. There will be a hospitality suite for the clowns at the hotel. There will be a banquet Saturday night with great food and fantastic entertainment, and also an auction.

There will be a competition session which is open to the public. Competition will be a walk through judging on make-up and costuming of each type of clown. There are four types: white-face, auguste, tramp, and character. Following this there will be skit competition with two categories: single and group (consisting of two or more clowns). Presentation of trophies completes the show. This show will be three to four hours of fine entertainment for anyone who loves clowns. The competition show will be held at the Padre Staples Mall in Corpus Christi.

We are expecting 200 clowns, and possibly more.

Registration fee for the convention is \$35.00 (late, after September 15th, \$45.00 - non-members add \$20.00 to this.)
Make reservations for rooms directly to the La Quinta Royale Hotel. A limited amount of blocked rooms are \$37.00, single or double, with Contintal breakfast included.

HURRY !!

HURRY !!

HURRY !!

Hotel will not hold unreserved rooms after September 13th !



OUR EDITOR ?

Just a line to say I'm living
And not among the dead,
Tho I'm getting more forgetful,
And more mixed up in my head.

There are times I can't remember,
When I'm standing in a door,
If I'm going in for something,
Or just looking at the floor.

And I stand before the frigidaire,
My mind is filled with doubt,
Have I just put food away,
Or if I'm going to take some out?

There are times when it's dark outside,
And no thoughts in my head,
If it's time for my retiring,
Or if I'm just out of the bed.

So if I fail to write you,
There's no need to get sore,
I might think I've called you,
And I don't want to be a bore.

So remember that I do love you,
And I wish that you were here,
But it's nearly mail time,
So I'll say goodbye my dear

There I stood before the mailbox,
With my face so very red,
Instead of mailing your letter
I opened it instead.

Author and title unknown



GAGS & STUNTS

Here are a couple of stunts you might want to incorporate into your repertoire as is or possibly modified. As you know, there aren't too many new ideas - just different versions of old ones. However, the old ones always got a laugh no matter how many times you saw them.

The Pie Stunt:

Start with an aluminum pie pan. Cut a circle out of a piece of $3/4$ inch thick plywood to fit the bottom of the pie pan. Then cut a "V" shape out of the circle and paint what is left yellow. Staple or tack the plywood circle to the bottom of the pan. Cut a rubber band from an old inner tube $1/2$ inch wide and 2 feet long and attach it firmly to the bottom of the pie pan. Tie a loop on the other end so that it will go around your wrist. Cover the plywood with shaving cream.

One clown chases another toward the crowd. Clown with "pie" throws it first, and the other clown ducks. "Pie" goes toward the crowd, but stops and returns to the thrower. Carry a can of shaving cream along so the pie can be repaired.

+ +

Walk around trying to sell eggs. A plant in the crowd heckles you about them being fresh, or whatever. You finally get mad and throw one into the audience at him. (A blown egg filled with confetti) Be sure you pick the right egg. Better yet, have them all filled with confetti except one or two which you could "accidentally" drop for effect.



INVOLVEMENT

The convention is right around the corner and the members in Corpus Christi are working hard to make sure all is ready. WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE INVOLVED ??

There are various ways out of town members could get involved:

- Send in reservations early !
- Publicize the convention in your area. If examples or ideas are needed for publicity, contact Little Hips. Don't forget the radio stations.
- Last year there were two or more items auctioned off that had personal and sentimental meaning behind them. Two of these items were bought by Corpus Christi members, these items are being donated back for this year's auction - starting a tradition, I suppose. Does anyone out there want to donate an item which may have special meaning or of a sentimental value to them and get in on the fun? Or just a fun item, for that matter and if so, feel free to do so. This is your club, thus your convention and we want to put as much fun into it as possible.
- The title of this article is "Involvement" - this is your club - Corpus Christi is hosting the convention and you are the guest, but if there are any joeys who might be considering hosting a convention in the future, come, get involved. There are many ways - sit at the reservation desk, (a great way to interact with fellow joeys that you may not know) collect tickets at the door for the banquet, assist in the hospitality suite, and many more. Just let us know, we'll get you involved. We have already issued an invitation to the junior clowns to come in wardrobe and assist as stagehands during the competition. We want our young joeys to feel they are contributing and to know that this is their club also. Which it is!
- Badges - is there a fellow joey out there in the business? We have presented an idea for badges for the convention to the T.C.A. board - we will not get a decision on this at least until the next board meeting on July 27th, so if there is a T.C.A. joey out there who is in the specialty advertising business and can give us a good price on badges, please contact us; we will tell you the type badges we have in mind and maybe we

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- can get the badges for the convention in the making.
- Convention Photographer - The reason a city goes all out to host conventions is for the revenue for their city, but the bottom line is the cost and saving money (especially when the budget is tight). I say this because my asking if there is a joey out there who is also a photographer and would like to become involved by being the convention photographer, is not to take the revenue away from my city, but to get the most reasonable price possible as well as giving a fellow joey who is in the business a chance to become involved in the convention.
 - Promote the fact that we are going to have a caricaturist at the convention, scheduled to be on hand during the time that all will be in wardrobe. The prices are very reasonable and the caricaturist can also do a portrait as well as a caricature.

ANYONE INTERESTED MAY CONTACT:

Judy "Little Hips" Rokovich
113 Granby Place
Portland, Tx. 78374
(512) 643-1276

or

Carolyn "SuSu" Jordan
3706 North Creek Circle
Corpus Christi, Tx. 78410
(512) 241-6955

THINK ABOUT IT !!

Keep trying --- it's often the last key that opens the door.
If you don't learn anything from your mistakes, then there's no sense making them.

If you're kicking up a storm, you can't expect clear sailing.

Even a fool is counted wise if he holds his peace.

To do two things at once is to do nothing.

Plan every move and keep your thinking ahead of your work.

No man ever became so well educated that he couldn't learn more from time and experience.



MIND READING

In place of the usual "clown magic" at a party, or along with at least, here is something, especially for some of the older children which will give them something to think about afterwards. There are many simple to do mind reading stunts. Here's one for starters. It is called, color clairvoyance.

The performer proves (by magician's logic) that he can distinguish between colors without seeing them.

Display several wax crayons of the sort that children use with coloring books. "Magic," you begin, "is sometimes very useful. When I'm driving my car I never need to look at a traffic light to know whether it is red, green, or yellow. I just guess - and I'm always right. I'll show you!"

Put your hands behind your back, and turn away from the audience. "Select one of the crayons and give it to me behind my back." When this has been done, face the audience again.

Behind your back, dig the nail of the middle finger of your right hand into the end of the crayon and scrape off a small piece of the colored wax. Bring this hand to the front, place it against your forehead, and concentrate. If you keep the fingers curled inward as your hand moves up to your forehead, you can spot the particle of crayon under the fingernail, and note its color.

Don't name the color immediately; that makes it look too easy. Pretend that what you are doing is difficult, and that you really are receiving faint mental impressions. Also, as should be done in most mind-reading tricks, give the information out piecemeal. "I get the impression of a light color ... yellow, perhaps, or orange ... I feel it more clearly now ... the color is yellow!" This adds suspense and is dramatically effective.

Finally, prove that the trick wasn't just a lucky guess by doing it again once or twice.

You could also use a different helper each time to prove that there was no set-up or coercion with any of your prior helpers.

Date: June 17, 1985

Report to: T.C.A. Board of Directors

From: Judy Rokovich

Subject: T.C.A. 3rd Annual Convention Report

Convention dates are: October 4th, 5th, and 6th, 1985

Registration fee is: \$35.00

Late registration fee is: \$45.00

Late registration date is: September 15, 1985

Convention hotel is: La Quinta Royale - 601 Water Street

Corpus Christi, Tx. 78401

Phone: (512) 888-4461/1-800-531-5900

Convention registration checks are to be made payable to:

Texas Clown Association

Convention registrations to be mailed to:

Carolyn "SuSu" Jordan

3706 North Creek Circle

Corpus Christi, Tx. 78410

Convention mailouts have been printed, addressed, sorted, etc. They will be mailed out within a week or so. As there are 250 plus, we are sending these mailouts to Richard Wade in Houston. He has kindly offered to take them to the Houston post office and mail them under the T.C.A. bulk mail permit.

Six (6) workshops are scheduled and at least two (2) more in the process of being finalized.

Hotel contract signed - have all necessary rooms needed for workshops, dealers, hospitality, etc. - registrant rooms blocked - cut off date for blocked rooms will be September 13, 1985. (This cut off date is being enforced by all C. C. hotels.)

Transportation to the mall has been contracted.

Convention Fund bank account has been opened with \$500.00 seed money deposited.

Trophies have been ordered, deposit paid, and will be ready no later than September 15, 1985.

Plans for preliminary competition at hotel for Friday evening are in the making.

Judges have been contacted (5) and have accepted, and contacting more for alternates.

Tentative schedule of events for convention has been printed and is in registration mailouts.

Arrangements have been made for a Sunday morning Non-Denominational Devotion prior to breakfast buffet.

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Convention report continued

Banquet (menu selected) has been finalized, except for headcount, with hotel.

Dealers have been invited - several have accepted - and waiting for returns on others.

Since a copy of this report is to be printed in the Joey Journal, due to the request of the board: Banquet and Breakfast cost is included in the registration fee.

ALL JUNIOR CLOWNS, READ AREA 512 REPORT !!!

OUR THANKS TO CAROLYN MOORE AND CHARLES MCBRIDE FOR THE WORK THEY ARE DOING IN THEIR AREAS ON PUBLICITY FOR THE CONVENTION !!!!!



AND A
A GREAT BIG
HEARTY WELCOME
TO

OUR 4 NEWEST MEMBERS

Frances Sims
111 Royal Oaks Road
Kerrville, Tx. 78028

Michael T. Mathias
4848 S. Alameda #104
Corpus Christi, Tx.
78412

Sian Ivor-Smith
10015 Wickersham Lane
Houston, Tx. 77042

Laura Williams
3923 Davila Drive
Dallas, Tx. 75220

May all your clowning days be long and happy, and we hope that your association with the Texas Clown Association be as long and happy as your clowning days, and equally rewarding.

We will also be looking forward to meeting and greeting you at the 1985 Convention in Corpus Christi.

CLOWN COMMUNIQUE

"LITTLE HIPS"
113 GRANBY PLACE
PORTLAND, TEXAS 78374

July 12, 1985

Richard Wade - Editor
Joey Journal
P. O. Box 91514
Houston, Texas 77291-1514

Dear Richard,

Thought I'd drop you a quick line to say hi and to answer the question in the "Wake Up Everybody" article on the inside back cover page of our last Joey Journal (May/June issue).

The question as to the other name Charles Sherwood Stratton was known by - the answer is General Tom Thumb. He was a circus performer in the 1800's. P. T. Barnum discovered him, if I'm not mistaken.

Keep telling you I are edgeukated!

I like all the little extras you throw in, it makes the Joey Journal fun as well as interesting.

Gotta go, keep up the good work.

Yours in clowning

Judy "Little Hips" Rokovich
Judy "Little Hips" Rokovich



QUESTION of the MONTH

Either not many read the question in the last issue, or knew the answer, or had stamps. (A postcard would do) It is fun sometimes to look up an answer. There is always a chance that you could find other interesting things as well.

Whatever the problem we did get one correct answer and that was from Judy "Little Hips" Rokovich who identified Charles Sherwood Stratton as none other than General Tom Thumb. Congrats, Judy, and your letter is just ahead.

Let's see if someone can come up with the answer to this month's question. Here 'tis - -

What was the costume traditionally worn by the early jesters called ? ? ?



For Your Information

The Joey Journal is mailed bulk rate postage under its own permit number; however, this is third class mail. What this means is it is up to the particular postperson in your area as to when you receive your Joey Journal.

They are sorted per the government's lengthy requirements and all mailed at the same time, but it is up to your postperson when they are delivered. In other words, he or she can sit on third class mail until there is nothing else to deliver. If your postperson is one of these typed, complain to your area post office, and chances are that your voice will be heard.

With the exception of only four zip code areas, that is, a zip code area with the first three numbers the same, (770 - 772 - 774 - 775) which remain in the Houston post-office, all mail goes to the Bulk Mail Center in Dallas for further distribution.

Please notify me or any officer of any problems you -
THE MEMBERS - have regarding this. HAPPY READING



CIRCUSIANA

While to be sure, circus performances have been produced without such basic ingredients as bareback riders and elephants, no big top entrepreneur has dared to present a circus without clowns.

From the time the very first circus performance was given near the Centre-House in Philadelphia on Saturday, August 27, 1885, when "between the different parts a clown amused the spectators", a comic character variously referred to as a merry andrew, pantomimest, jester, and other synonyms, has been very much in evidence in the sawdust ring.

The evolution of clowning has made a most interesting study for the collector of circusiana - and circus clowns have been the inspiration for many books, thereby providing a host of items for the collector.

In the beginning of the circus in America, the clown was a singular person. For decades after the circus was firmly entrenched in the American amusement seeker's heart, not even the largest of traveling big top organizations boasted of more than one clown. Furthermore, such clowns as Joe Pentland, Dan Rice, and Den Stone, not only received top billing in the circuses in which they were featured, but each of them became a circus owner in his own right, and Stone is credited with operating the first railroad circus in America during the season of 1854.

The clown in those days was a most versatile fellow. Singing was one of his specialties and certain clowns were identified by their audiences through the songs they made popular. Those were the days when circus songsters were sold in the arena. Each of these little paper-backed pamphlets contained a number of songs which the circus clowns sang.

The clown also exchanged smart repartee with the ringmaster as the butt of his jokes. He often was a bareback rider, and in most cases, a tumbler as well.

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When the circus branched out to embrace two rings and three rings, a multitude of clowns, depending upon the size of the show, began to populate the arena. And as the big tops grew, the talking clown was on the way out, for no longer were the crowds which attended circuses able to hear the words of his songs and the dialogue in which he had engaged with the ringmaster, because of the vast size of the arena.



Thus, the pantomimic clown replaced the talking clown, and the funmakers depended on acting out situations to create laughs. Clown numbers generally, are divided into three types. First, there is the walkaround. In such a number, practically all of the clowns of the contingent parade around the hippedrome track, each striving to create a laugh by the garb he wears, the gadget he carries, or the vehicle he rides. Then there is what is known as a stop number. In this situation, one or more clowns working together, act out a pantomime which creates laughs. And finally, there is the production number, such as the clown band, the comic wedding, the adam smasher and other in which all the available clowns participate.

In most circuses, there is a principal or producing clown, who is responsible for all the clown numbers and directs all the activities of all the joeys. In the largest of the circuses, there may be several producing clowns each of which furnishes the properties and costumes and may have several working for him. There have even been producers of clown numbers, who never appear in costume or grease paint, but create the acts and situations and employ men to work with their props.

The increase in the number of clowns in a circus has brought a greater variety of makeup and dress to clown alley. There are two types of clowns, one the white-faced and the other, the character clown.

The white-faced jester is the older, stemming from the theater of the days before the circus came into being as an amusement enterprise. For the most part clowns of the white-faced variety wear white one or two-pieced costumes, trimmed with bright color combinations, going back to the Pierrot type of dress.

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The white faced clown uses a white background on his face, which is lined with red and black makeup pencils. Each clown adopts a makeup which he usually wears year after year and is identified in the profession by it. Thus the ardent circus fan recognizes clowns of their acquaintanceship through their makeup while cavorting among dozens of other funny fellows in the ring.

The character clown on the other hand, depends upon comical dress, wigs, and theatrical type of makeup to distinguish himself from the white-faced clown. There are several types of popular character clowns to be found in most every circus, depending of course, upon the size of the show and number of clowns on the payroll.

One of the stock circus characters is the clown policeman. He dates back to the beginning of multiple-ringed circuses, and there are so many clown policemen in circusdom, that this writer saw three of them in one indoor circus during the past winter season.

Another character, made famous by Emmett Kelly in the past two decades, is the tramp comic. While the tramp comedian predated Kelly's entrance into the field of clowning, his type of makeup and wardrobe has been copied by numerous funmakers, and there is rarely a circus with as many as four or five clowns today, that does not have a tramp comic in the lineup.

Female impersonators are also popular, as are the rustic hayseed types wearing linen dusters, chin whiskers, and smoking corn cob pipes. A combination of white makeup and character studies are the auguste and grotesque types, the wearers usually adding wigs for the effects they try to achieve. Felix Adler and Lou Jacobs, are well known clowns who use the grotesque and auguste types of makeup respectively.

There have been racial types of comics too, but these have about passed out of the picture. The Dutch comic type was for many years the typical comedian of aerial bar acts, and Jewish comic characters had their inning, Herman Joseph being one of the most successful and best known. He retired from the profession 20 years ago.

In addition to appearing in the arena and on the hip-

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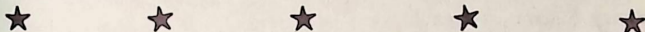
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podrome track in clown number, comedians of the circus have played other important parts in the circus. Clowns like the late Milt Taylor were employed to stand at the circus connection or entrance to the big top from the menagerie, to shake hands with the children. And so-called comein clowns have long been circus fixtures. These have been female impersonators or rube clowns, who entertained early arrivals, by their antics before the show started.

Clowns have also taken parts in various types of acts. For example, the noted Poodles Hanneford, introduced a type of comic character in bareback riding acts, which has been widely copied. Hanneford wears baggy clothes, red wig, a minimum of makeup, and an ever present coon-skin overcoat.

There have been comedians on the aerial bars, in flying return acts, on the trampoline, comedy acrobatic acts and comedians on the tight and slack wires. In fact, there are few of the standard circus acts which have not been burlesqued in some form or other by comedians.

And when the roll of the circus world's outstanding performers is called, the names of several clowns are near the top of the list.



This was a reprint from a long out of print magazine called, Hobbies, and was written by an A. Morton Smith. The article appeared in the March 1949 issue.





AREA 915

No Report

Kay Veale

AREA 817

No Report

Mary Ann Beck

AREA 806

No Report

Christine Duncan

AREA 713

Linda Starer

Sunny Summer, Joeys !

The most shimmery spangled months for clowning must be July and August ! Fourth of July yields gala celebrations; National Clown Week brings clowns scampering into the community to spread smiles; and July in Houston boasted a visit from the Greatest Show on Earth.

Citywide celebrations for the Fourth of July seemed as spectacular as fireworks themselves. The Deer Park Clown Club's festivities included a parade, fun contests, and the assisting of a Beauty Pageant. Jump into a pool of Jello ? Sure, especially if it contains a key which opens a treasure chest awarding you with a trip for two to Mexico ! This creative activities' proceeds benefit the Deer Park Handicapped Program.

The Deer Park Clowns also attempted to break the Guinness Book of Records by assembling the largest band. Who was the guest conductor ? Pink Panther, of course ! For National Clown Week, the Deer Park Clowns will gather to

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entertain in the Community Center with face painting, magic shows, and balloons.

The Kibbey Clowns proudly announced their Clown School Graduation held in Stafford on the Fourth of July. They created a colorful float centered around the clown school theme. The summer months also yielded several shows in convalescent homes in and around the Houston area. The Kibbey Clowns ventured out together to see the Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey Circus.

Five Cheerful Clown Alley members recently returned from Clown Camp '85 in La Crosse, Wisconsin. All agreed that it was their most intensive, yet exciting experience ever.

Clown School sponsored by the Cheerful Clown Alley, taught over 20 participants in the background and basics of clowning. Many Alley members served as instructors. Wonderful new friendships were established as the Cheerful Clown Alley's membership continues to blossom.

Which alley is becoming reknowned for their outstanding guest speakers and workshops? The Cheerful Clowns! In May, Krako (John Uthrie) presented a very genuine lecture complete with stories and flavored experiences. The clowns enjoyed purchasing fun and magic supplies at his dealer's table.

In June, Steve Rancatore, the outstanding columnist for the Laugh-Makers Magazine, owner of Three Ring Enterprises, and ex-Ringling clown lectured at the first session of the Cheerful Clown Alley Clown School. Steve gave great insight on the evolution and development of your clown character. He also demonstrated physical comedy and comical juggling. The Cheerful Clown Alley greatly appreciates Steve sharing his time, talent, and knowledge.

Until next time Happy thoughts !

AREA 512

Don Stiefel

Fellow Joeys,

Area 512 report will be brief. We are all very busy working on the convention. Though we are still clowning around a lot, our priority is the convention. One of our Joeys in this area has made the recommendation to the Convention Chairman that we involve our T.C.A. junior members by asking them to come prepared to be in make-up and wardrobe and to assist during the competition session

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of the convention as stage hands. Neat idea ! So, Junior
Clowns, you who are planning to come to the convention and
with your sponsors, do plan to come and dress out and ass-
ist us. Remember, our plans are to have two sessions of
competition, Friday evening, and Saturday. Friday evening
the preliminaries at the hotel will be for make-up and
wardrobe for the four categories, White-Face, Auguste,
Tramp, and Character. Then Saturday at the Mall, the com-
petition will be for the top ten finalists of the four cat-
egories, plus skit compe ition, both singles and group. If
you do this, you will be a great help and participate in
your T.C.A. Convention !

To my fellow joeys in other parts of Area 512, my apol-
ogies for not contacting you, I will be getting in touch.
If you possibly can, please contact me - just drop me a
line and let me know what you have been doing.

Keep Smiling !

Ducko

rea 409

Carolyn Moore

The organizational meeting for all clowns in Montgomery
County (and surrounding areas) is to be held at 7:00 p.m.
on Wednesday, July 24, 1985, at the Gulf States Utilities
Auditorium, 3000 North Frazier, (north of Loop 336) in
Conroe, Texas. All clowns are invited to meet with this
group learn together to help further the art of clowning.
For more information call Ernie Halsell, (409) 273-1022 or
Carolyn Moore at (409) 597-5709. We plan to continue meet-
ing at this location on the fourth Wednesday of each month.
Please join us.

Information bulletins have been sent to more than 80
newspapers for announcements to be printed advertising our
T.C.A. convention. Please contact me with the name of the
peper whenever you see an article so that I can evaluate
the success of this newspaper campaign. Thanks to all of
you.

Happy clowning,

Bumpus

AREA 214

Peggy Pennington

Summer already ? The past six months have been extra
continued following page

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busy for clowns in the Dallas area. Parades, benefits, a carnival for Wishes With Wings, plays, and television specials.

Hurrah for Peppy (alias Sarah Bloomfield), she appeared in a national television commercial !

This Area Representative played the Jester in the play, Once Upon A Mattress for three months; filmed a television special for children; and has the lead in the next community theater production for children.

On June 23rd Area 214 had its first T.C.A. area meeting. The meeting was held to discuss the upcoming convention, the new competition rules, and the new items added to the convention from last year. This was a great opportunity for clowns to find out what convention is all about and what to expect as far as competition and workshops; also to promote T.C.A. to nonmembers. Everyone in this area sure is getting excited about convention.

National Clown Week is almost here. Our local theme this year is "Clowning is Catching".

Good luck and congratulations to Catnip (alias Ronnie Noles) who is entering the ministry this summer.

Elizabeth Cauley (alias Sunshine) went to Clown Camp at La Crosse, Wisconsin the first week of June. Elizabeth came back just full of "Sunshine" ideas. The hardest part, she said, was a very close critique by two Ringling judges; but of course our last year's makeup competition winner came out shining. The Cauley family has been very busy with promotions in the Dallas area and also participated at Lakefest at White Rock Lake.

Excitement abounds here for the 4th of July weekend. Besides all of the parades to be in (it's hard to choose as there are several in the Dallas area to participate in) a famous New York artist is coming to paint portraits of several of our members: Elizabeth Cauley (Sunshine), Sara Bloomfield (Peppy), Peggy Pennington (Butterfly), and Lacy Buchanan (Crystal).

Elizabeth and Charles really have a close clowning family. I was informed by Elizabeth her one son just couldn't resist the greasepaint. Now, all six members of the Cauley family are clowns.

More news next time. Remember to laugh often and much are part of the ingredients to success.



NATIONAL CLOWN WEEK AUGUST 1, THRU 7, 1985

As the proclamation from the Governor has not yet come into our hands, we are going to rerun the one from last year for those of you who may not have read it.

Let us know what you did for Clown Week in your area.



Official Memorandum

By

MARK WHITE

Governor of Texas

GREETINGS:

AUSTIN, TEXAS

If you have heard the laughter of a child or seen sudden delight on the face of a lonely old man, at the sight of a baggy pants clown with painted face, you have experienced a mystery more profound than love. We are indebted to clowns for such moments of quiet splendor --who redeem sickness and pain with joy.

Clowns with putty noses and baggy trousers, following a tradition as old as man's need to touch gently the lives of others, go into orphanages and children's hospitals, homes for the elderly and for the retarded, and give a part of themselves. Clowns, and the spirit they represent, are as vital to the maintenance of our humanity as builders, growers, and dreamers.

There is a persistent claim in folklore that the heart of a clown is sad, that his mirth is a facade that conceals his pain. There is some basis for this belief in that the clown, traditionally leaves happiness wherever he goes and takes misery away with him.

Yet, we cannot totally accept this myth as reality. For Clowns are blessed; they heal the heart of the world and surely they must share its joy.

THEREFORE, I, as Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim the week of August 1-7, 1984, as

CLOWN WEEK

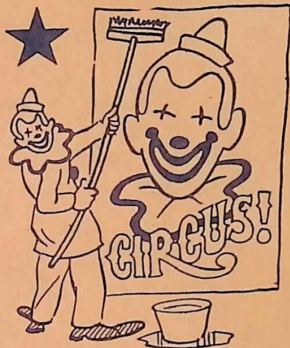
in Texas.



In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this 25th day of July, 19 84

Mark White
Governor of Texas

Coming Events



T.A.O.M. Convention

Aug. 30 - Sept. 2

Marriott Hotel

San Antonio, Tx.

Mexican International

Clown Convention

September 13-16

Acapulco, Mexico

OUR

W

N



T.C.A.'s 3rd Annual Conv.

OCTOBER 4,5,6, 1985

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