

## **Greetings to prospective Scottville Clown Band guest musicians.**

The Scottville Clown Band can trace its beginnings to 1903. The band was reestablished after a hiatus for the war years in 1947 and official name of the Scottville Clown Band was adopted by the members. The band is based and headquartered in Scottville, MI.

As the band has evolved over the decade's since 1947 and membership has grown from a few dozen members in the Scottville vicinity to a roster of over 200 across the nation (Mostly West MI). Most performances see a participation of 25-50 members with a handful of larger events seeing 75 or more players participating. Even at our current size we are always ready to welcome new musicians and potential new members with musical skill and a spirit of clowning camaraderie.

The qualifications for perspective guest musicians are this:

1. High school level proficiency on a musical instrument commonly found in a marching/concert band.
2. A willingness to take direction from the band's musical director(s).
3. A willingness to abide by the rules and standard practices of the Scottville Clown Band.

Guest musicians are invited to play in practice and performance. Attendance at all performances and practices is not mandatory. But those interested guest musicians are encouraged to attend as frequently as possible if the intention is that you wish to join as a regular playing member. Regular membership in the Scottville Clown Band is granted by the band board of directors. The procedures for applying for regular membership will be explained to guest musicians after a minimum of one full performance season of guest participation.

There are no dues or application fees to gain membership or to play as a guest musician. The Scottville Clown Band is a volunteer organization. The band charges fees for performances and raises other funds through merchandising. Members and guests are not paid for performances. Members and guest musicians are invited to partake in food and beverages as the band provides it.

There is no formal audition requirement to join as a guest musician. Rather your audition will be your contribution as a guest at practices and performances. If, in the view of the musical director and or senior regular members in the band sections your musical talents are not meeting skill requirements you will be advised that your guest status will not continue. In addition, the Scottville Clown Band is a private 503c organization. The band board of directors has the final say on members and guest's participation in the organization taking all factors of musicianship and deportment.

Guest musicians are invited to use the band's music folders at practices and performances. This music may not be taken home. Due to expense and copyright concerns the band cannot furnish guest musicians full copies of music folders. Attendance at practices is your best way to

insure competent play. The band practices Tuesdays from February – early June. Most practices are held in Scottville with the exception of two or three generally held in the Grand Haven area.

The Scottville Clown Band is a charitable organization. After meeting expenses, the band donates funds to several programs including our own youth music scholarship program. You will have fun in this organization but we also, as a group, provide charitable funds that reach dozens if not hundreds of fans and their families every season.

Thank you for your interest. We invite you, if you feel you are ready to have fun in a lively musical group, to join us as a guest player. Please fill out the Guest Musician Application and submit it following the instructions. We look forward to clowning around with you.

Board of Directors – Scottville Clown Band.

### **Scottville Clown Band Guest Musician Application**

Name:

Instrument(s) played:

Brief Musical resume – list of musical experiences:

Describe your interest in the band – where did you hear us or hear about us etc.:

Email:

Phone number:

Address:

Copy and paste the above information in an email. Or submit questions related to the guest musician status to this email address: **clownbandguest@yahoo.com**

*The Scottville Clown Band is a private 503c corporation. The Scottville Clown Band does not discriminate under current federal laws regarding the race, sex, religion or other pertinent demographic considerations but under law as a private organization the band reserves the right to choose its membership. Membership in the organization, guest or otherwise, will not be granted except as a function of the Board of Directors of the Band. The Scottville Clown Band reserves the right to decline guest musician status and membership based on the lack of musical ability of an applicant, the instrumentation needs of the band and considerations related to the best interest of the organization in maintaining a spirit of musical camaraderie.*