



Sacramento Area Magicians

January 2007

Magic Flash

Newsletter of the Society of American Magicians Assembly 72

Monthly Meetings

Assembly 72 of the Society of American Magicians meets on the fourth Wednesday of every month at 7:00 P.M. We meet at the Mission Oaks Recreation and Parks District's Senior Citizen Center, 4701 Gibbons Drive in Carmichael. Prospective members are encouraged to visit us anytime!

Assembly 72 Dues Are Due!

If you have not paid your local dues for 2007 yet, please pay them as soon as possible. You can pay at the meeting or mail a check for \$20.00 to our Treasurer:

Allen Greenberg
5500 Oak Hill Court
Carmichael, CA 95608-6644

Each member must also pay \$15.00 a year for membership to Mission Oaks in order for us to use their meeting facilities for free. Please show your 2007 receipt to Allen Greenberg.

2007 Assembly Officers

President

David Wright 916-944-8454
wright.davida@sbcglobal.net

Vice-President

Leland Eiben 530-790-7470
leenassoc@hotmail.com

Secretary

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Treasurer

Allen Greenberg 916-483-4345
greenberga@placersierrabank.com

Board Members at Large

Richard LaVergne

Richard Hill

Visit our web site at
www.magic1.org/sam72



Wright writes ...

Many Magic Moments

By David Wright, President

Magic is in the air – and many magical moments are in store for SAM Assembly 72 this coming year. This year marks our 20th Anniversary and to celebrate, we intend to host a *20th Anniversary Banquet* this year.

A planning committee is already working on the logistics of this special event. If you are interest in helping to decide the how, when, where and why of this endeavor, please contact **Terry Robinson**, the committee chair, at (916) 524-1176. You can help select the location, date, menu, and entertainment for our gala show and celebration.

To start the year off right, we co-sponsored our first magic lecture of the year on January 17th. **Daryl** presented a very entertaining lecture and passed on a lot of valuable tips and magic tricks in Elk Grove.

Check elsewhere in this newsletter for the SAM 72 2007 Calendar of Events. We are planning a fun-filled year of great performance themes and workshop topics each month. Also, please remember that our local Assembly 72 dues are due in January. All Assembly members must also pay Mission Oak's annual dues of \$15. at their office.

For our meeting on Wednesday, January 24th, the performance theme is **Thumb Tip Magic**, and the workshop will be a hands-on technical clinic that looks at various moves for performing the **Cups and Balls and/or the Chop Cup**. If you want to work on your Cups and Balls routine or have special interest in this topic, this is the clinic for you. Later in the year we will present clinics on the Linking Rings, The Magician as Master of Ceremonies, Safety Pin Magic, and Card Magic. *There is something for everyone in 2007!*

Thanks to **Dale and Elaine Lorzo** for inviting us into their home over the holidays. The *Annual Holiday Party* in December was a great success. Everyone in attendance had a wonderful time. And thanks to all of you who helped to make last year such a great success for SAM 72! Now roll up your sleeves and get ready for many more magical moments in 2007!

SAM 2007 Magic Calendar

Society of American Magicians • Assembly 72

Date	Performance Theme	Workshop Subject
January 24	Thumb-tip Magic	Cups and Balls / Chop Cup
February 28	My Favorite Trick	Linking Rings Clinic
March 28	Magic With Rings	The Magician as M.C.
April 25	Rope Magic	Magic Which Needs Help
May 23	Original Magic	How To Be Funnier
June 23	Comedy Magic	Book and Movie Reviews
June ____	Annual SAM / IBM Barbecue	Location TBA
July 25	Paper Magic	Psychology of Magic
August 9 (IBM Meeting)	Annual SAM / IBM Stand-Up Competition	
September 26	Knives, Choppers, Scissors, Spikes	Business Side of Magic
October 24	Annual SAM / IBM Auction	Bid High and Bid Often!
November	No meeting	Happy Thanksgiving!
December 7 (1st Wed)	Coin / Silk Magic	
December ____	Annual SAM / IBM Holiday Party	Location TBA

This calendar is subject to change and additional activities will be added as necessary. For up-to-the-minute information, please phone a club officer or check our web site at <http://www.magic1.org/sam72>.



Do You Realize Your Awesome Responsibility?

By Quentin Reynolds

As a magician, you have an awesome responsibility. As I see it, your job is to create an extraordinary magical experience for your audience. Whenever I perform it is always my goal to instill in my audience the same kind of wonder that I experienced when I saw my first magician. I'll be the first to agree that performing conditions don't always allow for that – but it is what I aim for. Let me frame this by telling you about a performer who had a different goal for his performance.

In 2004, **Tony Wilson**, the IBM International President and his wife **Mary** stayed with me in Manchester for a few days. We took them to Blackpool to see a show. One of the performers was a “comedy” magician. During his spot he picks up a boy from the audience. He was the kind of boy that was perfectly natural and fun - the kind you would love to pick in all your shows.

The first thing this magician does is turn the boy around eight times leaving him dizzy and disorientated – for no reason other than a cheap laugh. Pretty much all the jokes and gags from then on are at the boy's expense, leaving him more and more uncomfortable. Eventually he makes the boy a balloon animal, takes it back from him and sends him back to his place, leaving the boy humiliated and disappointed.

The magician then tries to lure the boy back on stage with the promise of the balloon animal, but the child is now upset, in his father's arms and refuses to return.

The magician manages to coax another child on stage and finishes his routine. If you're talking with Tony Wilson, he will verify every word about the act. Perhaps you might argue that the occasional cheap laugh is alright, or maybe humiliating the odd spectator is alright, too. After all, you have a living to make and need to put food on the table.

Unfortunately, this incident has more far reaching consequences for you and I. Someday in the future you will be performing at a function and some guy will make snide unwelcome remarks during your act. You won't know why this obnoxious spectator vents this outburst on you. How are you to know that it comes from the hurt and embarrassment from an incident in his childhood, for you see he was that boy on stage in Blackpool.

At least now you'll know why!

As a magician you have an awesome responsibility, not just to your audience but to your craft and to your fellow magicians.

© 2007 *Quentin Reynolds*. Quentin Reynolds works as both magician and speaker. You can read about one of his programs at <http://www.speakingschools.com>

Tragedy hits SAM Hall of Fame

Tragedy has befallen on *The Society of American Magicians Hall of Fame and Magic Museum* in Hollywood. An electrical transformer located in a nearby underground vault owned by the L.A. Dept. of Water and Power (“LADWP”) malfunctioned and caused fire and smoke to be emitted. The smoke and fire contained hazardous substances which migrated into and contaminated our Museum and has closed it!

There is no access, except by trained personnel in hazmat suits. We cannot have access to or remove any of our artifacts, memorabilia or records. The LADWP has not accepted responsibility for the contamination and the cost to clean the Museum. We are preparing to file suit to recover our damages. The initial cost of litigation will consume our treasury and we need to immediately raise additional funds to undertake the necessary steps to litigate with the LADWP to establish its liability. I wish that were all the funds we need. Unfortunately, the cost of remediating environmental hazards is extremely expensive. We will need additional funds to plan for and to clean our space, our valuable and unique magical artifacts and old SAM records and films.

We are looking for benefactors and others to help us raise the necessary funds to save these valuable, historic magic artifacts which have been accumulated through generous donations of many magicians over the last 35 years. Donations large and small will be greatly appreciated. The SAM Hall of Fame is a 501(c)(3) corporation and donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Your donations may be made payable to SAM Hall of Fame and Magic Museum, Inc. and sent to: **SAM Hall of Fame and Magic Museum, Post Office Box 27610, Los Angeles, California 90027.**

John Engman, President of Hall of Fame 2617 Whitney Drive, Alhambra, CA 91803

New Book: *Magic Secrets of David Blaine – The Street Magician Revealed*

Magic Secrets of David Blaine: The Street Magician Revealed written by **Herbert L. Becker** follows on the very successful 1995 Lifetime Books publication, *All the Secrets of Magic Revealed*.

Publication of the **David Blaine** secrets book has been pushed off until 2008 for a couple of reasons, first of all, demand for pre-release was greater than first anticipated and secondly, concern for revealing how street magicians perform their feats might cause pandemonium in the market place.

“Before you know it, everyone will be freezing themselves in blocks of ice or standing on poles in Central Park,” quipped a company spokesperson.

In reality, there is a small group that would prefer not to allow magic secrets to be revealed. “Many magicians believe in keeping the secrets of magic just that, a

secret. There has been a great deal of pressure not to publish this book,” the spokesperson said.

The 1995 publication of *All the Secrets of Magic Revealed* has become the most successful magic book in history selling over 250,000 copies according to the most recent information.

Pre-release sales from Amazon.com and BN.com have been sizzling. At one point, it was at the top of the sales rankings.

Genii Magazine archive on-line

If you go to www.geniimagazine.com you'll see that the first 61 years of the magazine have been archived online, searchable by word. Single pages can also be printed. There is a fee, but depending on what you're looking for, it could be well worth it. (*From Richard LaVergne*)

Find our Assembly activities in the Sacramento Bee's web site at
<http://ourtown.sacbee.com/SocietyofAmericanMagiciansAssembly72>

The Magic Flash

**Society of American Magicians
Sacramento Assembly 72**

Viktor Berry, Secretary
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Next meeting is this week!

**January 24• 7:00 P.M. Theme – Thumb-tip Magic
Workshop – Cups and Balls / Chop Cup**