



Sacramento Area Magicians

February 2006

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

If you have not paid your local dues for 2006 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 pay \$15.00 a year for membership to Mission Oaks in order for us to use their meeting facilities for free. Please show your 2006 receipt to Allen Greenberg.

2006 Assembly Officers

President

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

Vice-President

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

Secretary

Viktor Berry 916-362-8355
viktor@viktor.com

Treasurer

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

Board Members at Large

Richard LaVergne

Richard Hill

Wright writes ...

By David Wright, President

The Year For Workshops

What's new for SAM Assembly 72 in 2006? Hands-on workshops! SAM 72 is hosting a series of monthly workshops this year designed to teach both the craft and art of magic through learning by doing. Compeers will share their knowledge and skills on a wide range of magic topics. At last month's meeting we held a very successful workshop on Rubber Band Magic. At our February meeting, we are planning a workshop on rope magic. These workshops are not lectures or one-man-shows. They are group efforts designed to let everyone participate, exchange secrets, and teach and learn from each other. *The 2006 Calendar of Events* has been especially structured so that workshop topics feed into the next month's performance themes. In this way, new techniques learned one month can be mastered and demonstrated at the next month's meeting.

The month of February is the month for Valentines. The performance theme for this month's meeting, therefore, is *Romantic Magic*. Think music, love, poetry, hearts, relationships, secret getaways and/or weddings. It is the perfect time to demonstrate your rendition of the floating rose or the anniversary card trick. Meeting themes are supposed to be inspirational topics that get you to think outside the box, stretch your imagination and experiment with new techniques in the magical arts. For this month's theme, be creative and come up with your own interpretation of what Romantic Magic means to you. You might even win the Best Performer Award for the night.

Our first meeting for 2006, the January meeting, was a great success! We had approximately 18 magicians in attendance, a combination of members and guests. Several of the performers on this night demonstrated new effects and enjoyed an exciting workshop on Rubber Band Magic. Although our business portion of the meeting ran beyond the allotted 30 minutes, we covered essential topics such as the annual budget, lectures, and award procedures. We established ground rules for all meetings for the rest of the year. In the future, I hope to limit lengthy discussions during the business portion by directing issues to our Board of Directors for pre-screening and recommendations before bringing them back to the club for a vote. Let's keep the momentum up that we saw at our January meeting and make each of our meetings in 2006 a fun-filled adventure of new beginnings and magical moments!

Visit our web site at

www.magic1.org/sam72

Please bring some rope with you to the February Rope Magic Workshop!

January 2006 Minutes

By Viktor Berry

A representative from a Mission Oaks booster club came to speak to us before the meeting officially began to let us know about an election coming up to raise property taxes in Carmichael to get more money for the Park District and passed out some petitions for supporters.

Rick Hill officially turned over the gavel to 2006 President **David Wright**. The new officers and Board members were introduced and thanks given to the 2005 officers.

Members were reminded to pay their dues for 2006 which are only \$20. They can be paid at the meetings or mail to **Allen Greenberg**. (His address can be found on page one.)

Mission Oaks' membership fee was increased to \$15 and everyone is required to join so we can use the meeting rooms for free every month. Please show your receipt to **Allen Greenberg**.

We are still looking for meeting locations in Sacramento, and if anyone knows where we can meet for free or inexpensively, please let Board Member **Richard LaVergne** know.

The proposed Budget was prepared by **David Wright** and circulated to members. It was unanimously approved.

This year we will start awarding two prizes each month to the members who get the most votes for their magic performances. The prizes are Gift Certificates to **Murphy's Magic Supplies**. First Place will receive a \$40 prize, and 2nd place will receive a \$20 prize.

Treasurer **Allen Greenberg** reported that we have \$2,781.05 in the *Assembly Treasury*.

Librarian **Rick Hill** reports that there are 180 DVDs in the *Assembly Library* available to members. You can see the list in the *Member's Only* section of the web site. If you do not know your password, please call or e-mail an officer.

We welcomed guests **Sean Cline** and **Tim Johnson** to the meeting. Tim turned in his applications for membership in SAM and Assembly 72. We also welcomed back member **Ven Mendoza** and his son **Aiden** who had not been able to attend meetings for awhile.

We had a LOT of very good performances this month! The entertainment began with **Ven Mendoza** doing a great *Bill in Orange*. Then, his son **Aiden** performed a quick escape from a large chain locked wrapped around his wrists and arms.

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Aldo Colombini and Viktor Berry

Aldo Colombini

Live at Lorzo's

March 23rd 7:30 P.M.

- Voted "Parlor Magician of the Year" twice by the Academy of Magical Arts of the world famous Magic Castle in Hollywood
- Performer at Caesar's Magical Empire in Las Vegas
- Featured performer on PAX-TV's Master's of Illusion

Presented by

Assembly 72 of the Society of American Magicians
Ring 192 of the International Brotherhood of Magicians
and the Elk Grove Magic Circle

Dale Lorzo's house, 2609 Greenwood Ave, Sacramento, CA.
Members: \$10.00 • Non-members \$20.00
Please RSVP with Larry Impson by e-mail at
larryimpson@covad.net or call Larry at (916) 991-7916.

Leland's Legerdemain

By Leland Eiben

I want to thank you for electing me as Vice President this year. The thought occurred to me that none of you know that much about me.

Growing up in McAlester, OK,

I started doing magic early. My first exposure was an Adam's Magic Set. It must have been in the latter part of the 1960s. (Perhaps in 1968.) My next set was a "My Favorite Martian" set. I was hooked. The third magic set I got for Christmas was out of the Sears Roebuck catalog called "Professional Magic." I then found several advertisements in my favorite comic books about the Johnson Smith Company and the Flosso-Hornman Company. So, I started ordering from them. Anything and everything that had to do with magic, I had to know. I started clipping out the magic sections out of my *Boys Life* (a Boy Scout publication.) The local library had some cool books, so I started my own library with copies of the books that were available in my hometown library. As I started getting more confident, I started doing magic while baby sitting. I was known as the *Magic Baby Sitter* by the kids I kept. I did small pocket tricks which are now known as "close up magic."

By the time I was in high school, I learned about the IBM. I joined the IBM, but I did not have a local ring to go to. The nearest Ring was in Tulsa, which was a mere 88 miles north of McAlester. I had a best friend at the time, who shared my interest in magic, and we tracked down a local magician, but both of them moved away. Eventually I went off to college and found myself down in Galveston, TX. It was while I was in Galveston, that I started going to IBM meetings in Houston. The SAM also met there, but there was some stress between the two clubs. Their solution was to have another organization called HAOM or the *Houston Association of Magicians*. Business meetings were held separately, but the magic was shared. At least, this is what I remember.

After moving from Galveston to Corpus Cristi, TX in 1990, I made a change in my life. I started a family, and life got in the way. I dropped out of doing magic just to get control of my life. In 1992 I lost my job, and my wife and I went bankrupt. In 1997, I met Anita and she was magic to me. She turned my life around and then she moved out here to California. Four months later, I fol-

lowed her out here. We were married and moved to Yuba City. About a year and a half ago, I broke my foot. While I was laid up, we decided that I should take up magic again.

One of my first wishes was to reinstate my membership in the IBM. Upon finding Sacramento's Ring 192, I was introduced to the SAM's Assembly 72. I found warmth in both clubs so I decided to join both of them. There were several reasons why I decided to join SAM Assembly 72 and not just stay with the IBM. First, I was impressed with the President, Rick Hill. I liked his sense of humor and his magic was phenomenal. David Wright was another person whom I liked (magic and otherwise.) Second, I learned that there a library was available. This was something that IBM didn't have. Third, I was eager to get back into magic and thought I should not limit myself to having only one source, the IBM, to learn magic from. Finally, I liked the informal atmosphere that the SAM meetings have. More magic is shared and more can be learned.

Last year, I decided to put something back into the magic community. The very fine officers that SAM had started to get burned out, so I thought that I would share my experience, for what it is worth. I volunteered to run for the position of Vice President. I thank you once again for electing me. This coming year will be full of challenges, but I hope we will have fun and learn tons of magic doing it.



Vice-President Leland Eiben

Don Banks then took the stage to amaze us with his *Discrepancy City*, which he found in **John Bannon's** first book *Impossibilia*. Don went on to teach us how it was done, and taught the group how to perform an *Elmsley Lift* and a *Double Lift*. Don turned out to be a very good teacher – even I can do them now!

Joe Hogan magically appeared center stage to demonstrate his powers of ESP. Seven cards were freely chosen to be put in seven freely chosen slots and they turned out to be the cards Joe predicted!

David Wright was next in the spotlight, and he began by catching poker chips from the air. Then he rolled up a dollar bill and dropped a poker chip and a mini die in it, and he passed another die through his hand. In the end, ALL of the chips and die were in the rolled up bill!

Leland Eiben was poured some water into his hands and he magically converted it into ice cubes!

Don Banks and **Ven Mendoza** tied for first place

for best performance! Everyone else did a very good job, too!

After the performances, we began the first of our monthly magic workshops. January's workshop topic was Rubber Band Magic, and Rick Hill taught us many of the tricks that he performs. Everyone who performs Rubber Band tricks taught the group their favorites.

Everyone was in agreement that natural rubber bands were the best, and that the #19 size was the group's favorite. For doing the Boomerang trick, the #16 size works the best. You can special order the **Gold Bond** brand at **Staples** or you can pick up some Natural Rubber bands at **Valley Shipping** off of Richards Blvd. in Sacramento.

Congratulations to Rick Hill

for his ten year anniversary as a member of the Society of American Magicians!

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

2827 Tiber Drive, #37

Sacramento, CA 95826-2533



Next meeting:

February 22nd • 7:00 P.M.

Romantic Magic

and a Rope Magic Workshop

Bring some rope with you if you can!