



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 Ronald McDonald House, 2555 49th Street in Sacramento (behind the UCD Med Center.) *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

We are also updating our Roster.

Please email your current email and mailing addresses with your phone number to Viktor Berry at viktor2@mac.com or leave a message at 916-362-8355. Thanks!

2007 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

viktor2@mac.com

Treasurer

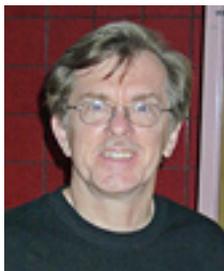
Allen Greenberg 916-483-4345

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Board Member at Large

Richard Hill

Please visit our web site at
www.magic1.org/sam72



Wright writes ...

Moving to McDonalds – Really!

By David Wright, President

Great News! Starting this month we will meet at our new location, the *Ronald McDonald House* (RMH) at 2555 49th Street in Sacramento. After more than a year of negotiations, we will meet in the main conference room at RMH on April 25th, starting at 7:00 PM. We will keep the fourth Wednesday of the month as our meeting night until further notice.

So why did it take so long to make this move? As you may recall we met at RMH in April 2006. At that time we agreed to relocate beginning in May, but negotiations with RMH broke down when we were asked to provide proof of insurance for \$1 million before we make the move. Since then, we have been seeking alternative ways to satisfy RMH without bankrupting our budget.

Thanks to **Dale Lorzo** we were able to get RMH to agree to a monthly waiver in lieu of insurance. The waiver will be the same as with the Mission Oaks Community Center. We will all sign the waiver at the beginning of each meeting. We have also promised to provide annual magic demonstrations to RMH as part of our rent.

Plans for our twentieth anniversary banquet continue to evolve. We have a tentative location for this banquet and a target date of late August or early September. We are now looking for a caterer and a top-name performer to highlight the event. If you have any ideas that may help us in the planning stage, please talk to me or **Terry Robinson**, our committee chair for the banquet.

This month's performance theme is *Rope Magic*. Compeers are invited to join in the fun. Come to the meeting ready to show off what you can do with an ordinary (or not so ordinary) length of rope. You may win the Best Performer award for your effort.

The workshop theme for this meeting is *Magic Which Needs the Help of an Assistant*. This discussion workshop will cover all aspects of managing assistants on-stage and close-up. Topics may include picking the right person, providing proper cues, avoiding hecklers, stage management, etc. We are only limited by our own creativity when it comes to this useful topic. So come to the meeting prepared to share your expertise.

SAM 2007 Magic Calendar

Society of American Magicians • Assembly 72

*Dates in **RED** indicate a change was made since last month..*

Effective April 25, we will be meeting at the Ronald McDonald House, 2555 49th Street in Sacramento (located behind the UCD Medical Center on Stockton Blvd.)

Date	Performance Theme	Workshop Subject
April 25	Rope Magic	Magic Which Needs Help
May 9 (IBM Meeting)	Annual SAM/IBM Close-up Competition	
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	
August 22	ESP Magic	Safety Pin Magic
September 26	Knives, Choppers, Scissors, Spikes	Business Side of Magic
October 24	Annual SAM / IBM Magic Auction	Bid High and Bid Often!
November	No meeting	Happy Thanksgiving!
December 7 (1st Wed)	Money Magic	Card Clinic
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>.

Minutes of the April, 2007 Meeting

SAM Assembly 72 **President David Wright** opened the meeting with announcements of upcoming events, including an auction and lectures sponsored by IBM Ring 216 in Oakland.

A photo exhibit featuring historical spirit photographs from the extensive collection of **Ricky Jay** runs until May 20th at UC Davis.

A brief discussion followed about Assembly 72's proposed **20th Anniversary Banquet**.

Dick LaVergne asked members to submit any ideas to him on how to increase club membership. This is going to be an important task this year to keep our Assembly membership as large as previous years.

The performance theme for the evening meeting was *Magic with Rings*.

Joe Chez was on stage first, and he opened his routine with a side-splitting joke. Joe proceeded to perform the *Russian Rings* (a Laflin Magic product) and ended his routine by performing his version of the *Linking Rings* using eight rings.

Leroy Goodenough followed Joe. Leroy demonstrated how he could push a half-dollar coin through a finger ring and then performed a very clever *Ring on Wand* routine using a pencil for his wand.

Lynn Goodenough performed her unique *Ring and Rope* routine.

Jenny the Genie performed a classic *Linking Rings* routine.

David Wright performed *Eric Mead's Watch the Birdie*, from the book *Tangled Web*, and finished by performing *Michael Ammar's Linking Headbands*.

The closing routine was entrusted to **Tim Walker** who masterfully showed us how to link a ring on a string without going near the ends of the string!

The workshop theme for this evening was **The Magician As Emcee**. This was an open discussion on the do's and don'ts of performing as a good **Master of Ceremonies**.

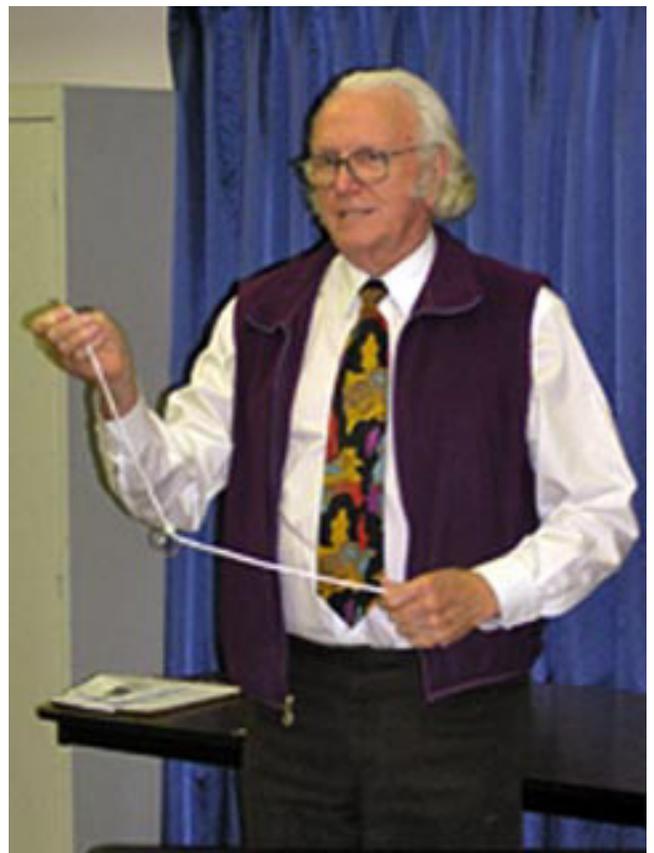
One person suggested the best book on emceeing is *Beyond Compare* by **Terry Seabrooke**. Many agreed that the best emcee/ magician performing today **Aldo Colombini**.

The general consensus was that a good emcee is one that does not outshine the magicians he or she is introducing, and does not take more time than is necessary for the

next act to get ready.

He should be prepared to manage any and all situations, including the general management of back stage activities if necessary. One needs to be prepared for all emergencies, and plan out ahead of time the opening, middle, and closing of the show. Tricks performed by the MC should, in general, be short and as interactive with the audience as possible.

This was a thought provoking topic for a workshop and everyone in attendance had a great time with the discussion and left with a better understanding of what is expected as an emcee in a magic show..



Tim Walker demonstrates his skills working with a rope and a ring.

Blackstone the Magic Detective

Did you know that the Great Blackstone (Sr.) had a radio show called **Blackstone the Magic Detective**?

You can listen to many episodes on the Internet at no charge at a web site that is preserving over 100 different radio shows from radio's golden age.

To find Blackstone, go to: <http://www.radiolovers.com/pages/blackstonethemagicdetective.htm>

Did you hear that the Magic Castle is for Sale?

Many of you have probably heard by now that the owners of the property that the **Magic Castle** sits on has put the entire property up for sale, including the Magic Castle building and the Japanese restaurant higher up the hill.

When asked about it recently, here is what **Milt Larson** had to say:

“ ... (A)s you know, the Glover family has owned the Hollywood Hill property for over a half a century. They have now decided to sell the land that is best known for two landmarks, the Yamashiro Restaurant and Hotel and The Magic Castle. The Academy is positive that new leases will be worked out with the new owners that will assure the continuation of our unique institution for many years to come. We consider this a very positive move to develop the 10.5 acres in a way that will benefit the Hollywood community as well

as continuing our goal of advancing the art of magic in America. The Glover family has assured us that they will make every effort to sell to a buyer sympathetic to developing the property while retaining the two historic landmarks.

Simple answer: No, the Magic Castle is not for sale. We will be working out sale and lease arrangement with the new owners. Milt.”

An Honest Liar

There has been a lot of discussion on the Internet about a recent essay written by **Jamy Ian Swiss** in *Antinomy* magazine. Entitled *An Honest Liar*, it has been described as a very literate, and thoughtful essay on magic today. You can find it located at:

<http://antinomymagic.com/honestliar.htm>

The Magic Flash

Society of American Magicians

Sacramento Assembly 72

Viktor Berry, Secretary

2827 Tiber Drive #37

Sacramento, CA 95826-2533



Our next meeting is this Wednesday!

April 25 • 7:00 P.M.

**We have moved to the
Ronald McDonald House!**

ACR



MAGICIANS is a new movie from Universal International which opens in the U.K. on May 18th. I could not find any information about it opening in the U.S. but I hope Universal distributes it here, too. The stars are both popular TV comedians on Channel 4 in the U.K.

You can watch a couple trailers for this movie on the World Wide Web, and it looks like it is going to be a very funny movie.

To view a hilarious trailer, go to:

<http://www.universalpicturesinternational.com/playerDyn.aspx?title=magicians&clipid=MAGICIANS>

A second, completely different trailer can be found at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0YIBaQ19Eul>