



Magic Flash

Newsletter of the Society of American Magicians Assembly 72

From Dream to Reality, Part Two: A Magical Journey to Assembly 72

By George Westwood

(Editor's note: In the May, 2005 edition of the Magic Flash, George Westwood wrote about how and when Assembly 72 was formed, and who was responsible for getting all of the work done. This month he continues with important dates in the growth of our Assembly.)

Oct. 1989 to Nov. 1990 newsletters

Due to some unforeseen reason there was no information for the months of May, June, July or August in 1989. In September we lost two of our officers: **Tom Turk**, our Secretary and Scribe had to resign due to other commitments. **Roy Profido**, our Vice-President and one of the best magicians in the field of children's entertainment up and left us for greener pastures (?) in Livermore, CA. This month I changed the name of our newsletter from *Spectra* to *The Magic Flash*; being the Editor, I can do this!

In October, *The Magic Flash* shows that we celebrated National Magic Month with our *First Annual Magic Show* at the Colonial Heights Library. The show was well attended by no less than 75 people, including 69 guests. All of this was due to the efforts of a small group of performers led by none other than our **MOST ILLUSTRIOUS PRESIDENT DALE LORZO**. DALE acted as our M.C., **TOM ALLEN** and **MARY MOWDER** were the opening act followed by **JOHN HEINEN**, **GEORGE WESTWOOD** and **ARMIE WESTWOOD**. **DALE LORZO** closed the show with a great escape act.

During our November meeting, before a small but enthusiastic group of members and guests, we were very pleased to announce the results of the Election for the coming year: President: **DALE LORZO**, Vice-President **JOHN HEINEN**, Treasurer **ALLEN GREENBERG**, and Secretary **GEORGE WESTWOOD**. Board Members are **ART GROSS**, **RICHARD KOWALESKI**, AND **LLOYD RICH M.D.**

February 4, 1990 was a big day for a lot of us who attended the **BILLY McCOMB** lecture! A lot of thanks should go to **DALE LORZO** and his lovely wife **ELAINE** for all the work they put into this event to make it such a great success! We made a few friends at the **GALLERIA**. I understand we even made a few dollars on this lecture; that in and of itself should make the history books! This has been a first for our Assembly, but I hope not the last!

Our first *Auction* was held on March 27th, and from all reports the auction was a great success for both buyers and sellers. **ALLEN GREENBERG** reported a gain of \$63 in our account; sounds good to me!

May 1990's theme was *Brown Bag Night*. Last year it was so much fun we decided to do it again this year. It was nice to report a gain in our financial status, too. As of April, we had \$844 plus a few pennies in our account. Sounds good. We should give **ALLEN GREENBERG** a Giant Thank you for taking such pains to oversee our account. Those who performed for the Brown Bag Night were the following: **RICHARD KOWALESKI**, **BOB RAKER**, **FRED BRONNER**, **JOHN HEINEN**, **Physician Magician LLOYD RICH**, **WILMER HORNBOSTEL** and **BILL ETGEN**.

June's Meeting Theme was *Trash Can Magic* and videotaping of the performers finally took place after a year of trying to get it started. Yours truly recently performed at the **McCLELLAN'S D.S. Family Day and Open House**. The big news: I ran into some old magic buddies! **RICK KIEFER** and **BOB KERSTEN**. **GREG GREGORY** has been down with some serious health problems and will not return. **STAN MATTY** also has health problems but hopes to return as soon as he recovers.

A new column, *Teenager's Point of View*, was introduced in July, written by one of our young magicians, **VINCENT HANCOCK**. As it turned out, the July edition of the newsletter was the first and last time Vincent wrote the column. To bad, it would have been a

(Continued on page two)

real contribution to the newsletter. *Note: Fifteen years later Vincent is living in upstate Michigan doing freelance writing. He has gotten back into magic along with doing some airtime for the public radio station there.*

It's August, and the Elections are just around the corner. I personally believe the experience of serving as an officer should be shared by everyone in order to appreciate what a fine club we have. We have enjoyed an easy and relaxed atmosphere this year and hopefully for years to come. This month RICHARD KOWALESKI presented a lecture on *The Business of Magic*. The lecture also received input from the following magicians: DALE LORZO, ART GROSS, BILL ETGEN, WILMER HORN-BOSTEL and FRED BRONNER.

In September we welcomed guests SAM BOCKLICH, GARY BERARD, BRENT CALHOON, JAMES GEORGE, RAY RICHARDSON and MADELINE SPICER. We were pleased to announce that videotapes will be available soon! I hope each member will receive as much pleasure viewing the tapes as I did filming them.

In October, 1990 our *Video Library* had begun to take shape with the placement of the first four videotapes into our collection! Those who entertained us for the October meeting were DALE LORZO, BOB BROWN, FRED BRONNER, VINCENT HANCOCK, and TOM TURK.

The theme for the November 1990 meeting was *Artistic Magic*. Webster's New World Dictionary describes "artistic" as something being done skillfully, tastefully or aesthetically. "Magic" is described as the art of performing a skill to produce baffling effects or illusions by sleight of hand or concealed apparatus. I had to look this one up, I was afraid I might have to show up as VAN GOGH. Our annual dues for 1991 will be increased to \$15!

More to come in a future issue!

Volunteers Needed at Annual Show

On Saturday, September 19, SAM will join with IBM Ring 192 in presenting our annual magic show to benefit the Mission Oaks Community Center. The show provides funds to help support the Center. In addition, the clubs share a percentage of the profit; it's a monetary benefit for all! This event has been well attended in the past and has provided a great performance opportunity for SAM and IBM members. We are in the planning stages NOW! **We need volunteers** to help man the ticket and food sales counters and to help set up the stage and chairs and then tear down and cleanup afterwards. Please contact a Board member and let us know how you would like to help. This is our biggest fund raiser of the year and your help will be greatly appreciated.

Marc Duva from Murphy's Magic will make a presentation at the July 27 meeting to show us some new magic items (and hopefully bring some free samples!) We will have refreshments and a free raffle for some of Lee Forrester's cards.

2005 Club Officers

President:

Rick Hill (707) 678-8807
rhill@ucdavis.edu

Vice President:

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

Secretary and Newsletter:

Viktor Berry (916) 362-8355
viktor2@mac.com

Treasurer:

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

If you have not paid your local dues for 2005 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 \$12.00 a year for membership to Mission Oaks in order for us to use their meeting facilities. Please show your receipt to Allen Greenberg.

Monthly Meetings

Assembly 72 of the Society of American Magicians meets on the 4th Wednesday of every month at 7:00p.m. at Mission Oaks Recreation and Park District Senior Citizen's Community Center, 4701 Gibbons Dr., in Carmichael. Prospective members are encouraged to visit us anytime!

Notes from the President

By Rick Hill, President

Amazingly, even though we are offering great cash rewards for bringing in new members, we don't have any. John Robertson joined this year, but he was already a SAM National Member and he found us on his own. Remember, if you bring in a new member, we will pay your national and local dues next year. Plus, we will waive the local dues for the new member. Such a deal! Offer good only through the last scheduled meeting of 2005.

I have been working on the library. We have a new private, *Members Only* section of the web site. Once you log in you will be able to see the library list, check-out procedures and some other goodies as well. Look for the username and login password in a separate mailing to Assembly 72 members. I will also provide it at the meeting (along with a demo of the site) at future meetings.

Good progress has been made in converting the library to a more portable format. Soon the entire library will be available at every meeting for your use. To check out items, members in good standing need to sign a "I promise not to copy commercial items contained in the library" agreement. Once that is on record, you can check out materials. You will only need to sign the Agreement once a year. I'm still considering library policies. Here's what I'm thinking so far:

- 1) Each member may have up to two library items checked out at the same time.
- 2) Items may be borrowed for one month. If no one wants an item you have checked out, you may renew your check-out of the item for an additional month.
- 3) There will be a \$25 replacement charge for lost items.
- 4) There will be a \$5 fee for damaged items.
- 5) Items maybe returned by mail at the borrower's expense.
- 6) Items may be checked out either at a regular meeting or by emailing the librarian (me) and requesting the item. Items requested by email can be sent by mail to the borrower or hand delivered by a proxy member identified by the borrower. Again, the borrower is responsible for any shipping costs for items sent by mail.

I plan to have a good chunk of the library available at the July meeting. So, we will start loaning items even as these policies are refined.

Meanwhile, please review these draft policies and let me know your thoughts.

Oh yes, if you go to the web site and can't find the "Members Only" site or you find it and it is "empty," please check back again. It is a work in progress!



SAM Assembly 72 President Rick Hill

**Visit our web site for:
The latest news
and newsletters
www.magic1.org/sam72/
and www.magicsam.com**

SAM Assembly 72 • 2005 Magic Calendar

Meetings begin promptly at 7:00 PM.

July 27th	Meeting Theme – Impromptu Magic
August 24th	Meeting Theme – “Make it move or float”
September 17	Annual Magic Show at Mission Oaks - Please volunteer!
September 28	Officer Nominations. Children’s Magic (Back to school.)
October 26th	Election. Meeting Theme – Spooky magic
November	No meeting - Happy Thanksgiving!
December	Date TBA – Holiday Party
December	No meeting - Happy Holidays!

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:

July 27th • 7:00 P.M.

Meeting Theme -

Impromptu Magic

June 22nd Meeting Minutes

SAM 72 • June 22, 2005 Minutes

I. Meeting called to order at 7pm by President Rick Hill

II. Attendance:

- a. Officers present: President
- b. Guests: Erma Hill
- c. Members: 5

III. Reminders:

- a. Pay dues and Mission Oaks fees
- b. New members get free local dues
- c. Members bringing in the most new members gets

Local and National Dues paid for 2006

- d. We are seeking members to present workshops at future meetings.

IV. Announcements

V. Old Business

a. By-Laws

- i. Dick Lavergne described a small clerical error that resulted in the wrong version of the By-Laws being adopted in May. He passed out the REAL By-Laws. After he described the few omissions and changes from the version presented in May, the group voted to adopt the correct version.

b. Library

i. Rick Hill presented an update on the status of the library.

ii. Between a quarter and a third of the library items have been moved to DVD format for checkout.

iii. A checkout procedure was described:

1. To use the library, members in good standing will sign a document stating they will not copy commercial library items. This need only be done once each year.

2. The library will be available at each meeting.

3. Members who have signed the loan agreement can check items out for a month at a time.

4. The question was raised about a charge for damaged/lost items. No action taken.

5. Rick said he would have a draft process by next meeting.

6. Rick said that the library contents would be posted on the web site in a Members-Only area by next meeting.

c. Banquet

i. Dale Lorzo was not in attendance.

d. Mission Oaks September Show

i. Charlie Fass will be one of the stage performers

ii. No more stage performers are needed.

iii. John Robertson volunteered to do strolling magic at the event.

iv. Need volunteers to help setup, tear down and work concessions.

v. Ask that those interested in performing contact a board member by end of June.

e. Treasurer's Report

i. Treasurer was not in attendance.

VI. New Business

a. Promotion

i. Dick Lavergne has been pursuing new avenues to promote membership in the group.

1. Community calendar announcements in the Sacramento Bee

2. Promotional packets and table signs for use at lectures.

3. At the Harry Allen lecture, the promo packets will include a raffle ticket good for a \$25 gift certificate for non-members at the July meeting

ii. Joe Chez asked why we were seeking new members and what would we do if we had an influx of ~50 members suddenly.

iii. There was discussion on the need for a somewhat larger membership and the vitality of the group.

VII. Meeting adjourned at 7:20pm

June Magic Performances

June 2005 Performers

Charlie Fass opened the evening by displaying three pieces of rope, one red, one white and one blue. In an instant, the three separate pieces merged into a red white and blue loop. Charlie then had two long pieces of rope examined. He placed the two pieces behind his back and tied one of them one in front of his body. He then pulled the ropes visibly through his body. For his final effect, he had three pieces of rope, each about two feet long, examined by the audience. Two were selected by audience members. One was returned to Charlie. All three pieces were tied into separate loops, two by the audience and one by Charlie. Taking all three loops in hand, Charlie instantly linked the three loops.

John Robertson displayed a new effect he is working on. Using a silk, he told a story about a fairy cloth. From the empty cloth, he produced a coin, which just as (over)

JUNE MAGIC PERFORMANCES

(Continued from Page Five)

quickly vanished back into the cloth. The coin reappears and penetrates the cloth twice, once in a spectator's hands. Finally, the coin vanished and all that was left was the cloth.

Rick Hill demonstrated a number of different knots and how he used them in children's performances. He tied a knot without letting go of ends, tied a one handed knot, snapped a knot into the end of a rope, created an instant pair of knots, then tied four

knots at once. Then he tied a shoelace knot, pulled the ends through the loops and created a large knot which instantly vanished. Rick closed with a version of the cut and restored rope.

Charlie Fass returned to the stage and performed and Aldo Colombini ring and rope routine.

Chalrie Fass was awarded a gift certificate for the best performance of the evening.

“A Magic Journey” Details Announced

Preparations for the Annual SAM/IBM Magic Show have begun and many members are rehearsing their acts for the big day, Saturday, September 17. Dors will open and strolling magicians will start at 6:30 PM and the show is scheduled to begin at 7:00 PM. The show is scheduled to run until 8:30 or 8:45 PM with a brief intermission about halfway through.

The theme for this year's gala is *A Magic Journey*. Before the show begins, we still need volunteers to help set up the chairs and stage, and to man the Concession Stand. It is not hard work, but we do need help, and the evening is always fun.

The audience will be greeted and entertained before the show by strolling performers. Members volunteering as strolling magicians are Rick Hill, Tom Allen, Phil Stillman, and John Robertson.

Stage performers this year will be Steve Johnson, Mary Mowder, Ed Middleton, Dan Kirk, Kevin Warren, Charlie Fass, and David Wright.

FYI -- for those of you who collect magic theme collectibles, Hallmark will be coming out with a new magic theme ornament this year. It's called "Snoop The Magnificent" and has Snoopy dressed as a magician, pulling Woodstock (complete with bunny ears) out of a top hat. It retails for \$9.95 and will be in Hallmark stores July 16.

Creative Fun

Courtesy of Richard Lavergne

Let's have some creative fun. A few days ago I was looking through some old M-U-Ms (which are filled with treasures by the way) and I ran across a few

MAGICALIMERICKS by Dick Schamberg --

The Escape artist named Kalligor,
Packed'em in with no room for more;
But the show was ill fated,
(The crowd waited and waited)

He got locked in the Men's Room next door!

(M-U-M February 1972)

This nutty magish from Po'keepsie
Performed the Linking Rings while tipsy;
He had one extra beer,
Got the key ring on his ear,
And for a while looked like a gypsy!

(M-U-M January 1972)

They made me laugh, so I looked through other old M-U-Ms
and found that Dick Schamberg had contributed to a number of
them. Examples...

And assistant lamented "Oh Heck,
His head chopper's really a wreck;
The trick is too old,
And that darn blade's so cold...
To me it's a pain in the neck!"

This sun-loving magician was sued,
For doing his act in the nude;
It wasn't his bareness,
That struck their awareness,
But the fact that his patter was lewd.

(M-U-M December 1971)

A magician from club thirty-five,
Owned a trick called "Burning Alive";
At a barbecue outing,
It's flames brought the shouting...
"These steaks are sensational, Clive."

(M-U-M September 1971)

An old-time magician named Pitt,
Did the Walking Thru Plate Glass bit;
Said he: "It's a PANE,
To do it again...

The audience can see clear thru it!"

(M-U-M August 1971)

Flash paper is volatile stuff,
A small piece is flashy enough;
But 50 sheets were to much,
For a cigarette to touch...
And my whole act went up in a puff!

(M-U-M January 1971)