

Magic Messenger

I.B.M. Ring 210

December 2020

S.A.M. Assembly 88

A Candle in the Dark

Dr. J. M. Ayala – President

Happy ChristmaHannuKwanzikas everyone! *Whew – what a year, eh?!* We have all faces some unusual challenges this year, personally, professionally and as a club too and I know everybody is eager to hit that 'reset' button.

I really do not have a lot to discuss here this month, so I will keep this brief. The only business which must be mentioned here is that in January 2021, we will be holding elections for our Board of Officers for the next two years. **If you have any nominations, PLEASE send them in BEFORE January. If there are no new nominations, the current Board will be up for re-election as follows:**

President: Dr. Joaquin M. Ayala

Vice President: Don Oesterwind, Jr.

Secretary: Frank Machniak

Treasurer: Robert S. Krozal

Sergeant-at-Arms: Sean Howell

Considering the year it has been and in light of it being the holiday season, I have decided to make this newsletter all about the fun and magic of the holiday season. I am personally looking forward to next year and seeing what we can do together – even if it means we still must do things on a socially distant level.

I sincerely hope all of you are doing well and I really do miss seeing you, hearing from you and interacting with you. I implore you to keep this club going by participating in the Zoom meetings and any other functions that we can host in the future. PLEASE, reach out to us and to each other. Share your light and your magic – not just the sleight of hand variant of magic either, but the real magic that is YOU!

I hope everyone stays safe and healthy for the remainder of this year, in the next year and for many years after that, I hope that you all find joy and satisfaction in the small things in life and that you have a wonderful and magical holiday season, no matter how you celebrate it! I want to say THANK YOU to each and every one of you for all you have done and continue to do for this club and for each other.

From me to all of you, and on behalf of the entire club, I raise a virtual glass to each and everyone of you, and I wish you a VERY Happy Christmas and a most Prosperous New Year in 2021!

All the very best,

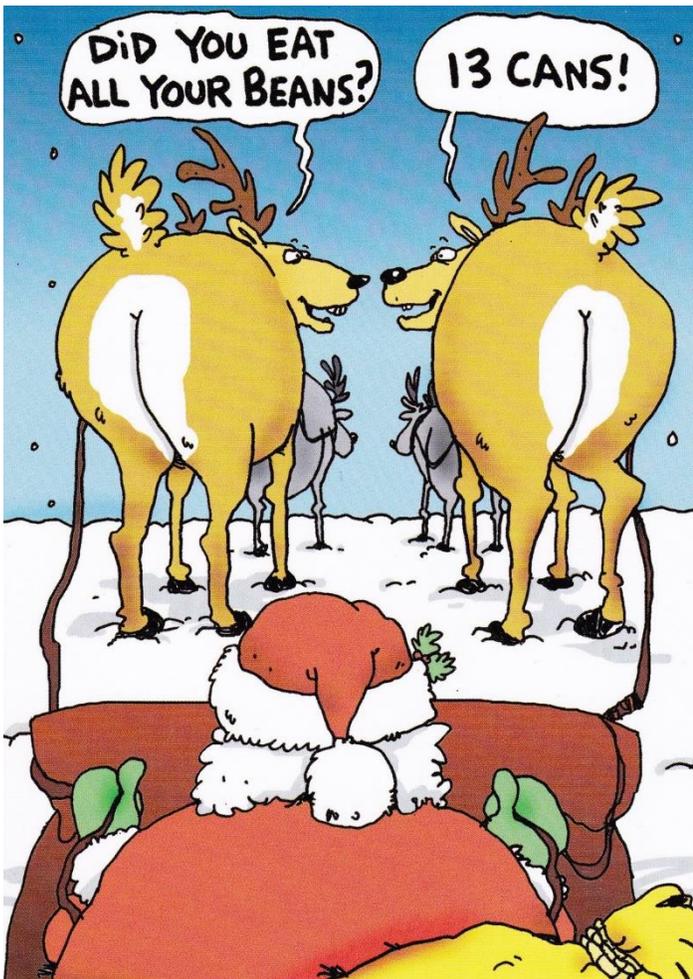
Dr. Joaquin M. Ayala de Cédoz



What do you call an obnoxious reindeer? Rude-olph!

How do reindeers warn you before they tell you a joke? "This one is going to sleigh you!"

WHAT DO YOU CALL AN ELF THAT CAN SING AND DANCE? ELFIS!



Something Christmas-y to Try:

I know some of you own a Santa hat (you know? The traditional red kind with the poufy white ball at the tip and the band of white fur at the base). Get yourself a bit of cotton fabric that matches the color of the hat and cut a triangular piece that fits the inside dimensions of the hat.

There are two ways to go about attaching it and it depends on your prowess: Turn the hat inside out and lay it flat. On one side of the hat along the two long edges, put a thin strip carpet tape or some iron-on adhesive strips. Attach the triangle of fabric to these strips, making sure it lays nice and flat. Turn the hat right side out again.

The second method involves cutting the long seam of the hat open, sewing the triangle into place, and then sewing the hat shut again. This is not necessarily difficult, but it will depend on your ability to sew by hand or to use a sewing machine.

Either way, you now have a very useful Change Bag which can also be used as an old-fashioned Egg Bag! You can begin with a Santa silk in one compartment and holding the bottom edge shut with your hand, you can turn it inside out to show it empty, or even just show it without turning it inside out. Turn it right side out again, show a red, green, and white silk, place them into the empty compartment. After a magical gesture, close that compartment by moving [actually, shifting] the fabric to the opposite side of the hat, thus opening the secret compartment containing the printed Santa silk. Remove the silk to show the transformation!

You can also do an Egg Bag routine by taking a little square wooden block and painting it to look like a miniature Christmas present. This would be used in place of the egg.

Lots of possibilities here – use your imagination and have fun with it!



One evening a Viking named Rudolph the Red was looking out the window. He turned to his wife and said, "It will rain soon." His wife said, "How do you know?" "Because Rudolph the Red knows rain, dear."



Ex Libris by Joaquin Ayala, Ph.D.

Hello everyone and welcome to the Ex Libris article for December 2020! At long last after trudging through this tumultuous year we have reached the end! I know last month I mentioned reviewing a biography, but I had not gotten a chance to finish reading it yet, so I will revisit that early in the new year.

This month I have decided to 'go home' – to Spain, that is (at least for me) and have a look at a book from a magician that is arguably one of the most influential magicians in the history of magic.

The book is *The Five Points in Magic* by **Juan Tamariz**. This was originally published in 1982 by **Frakson Magic Books** (Spain) as a 55-page, comb bound softcover booklet in 8.5" x 11" size. It was revised and subsequently re-published in 1988 by **Frakson Magic Books** as an 85-page hardcover booklet with a dust jacket and black & white photo illustrations. The latest edition was published in 2007 by **Hermetic Press**.

This book is only 85 pages long, but it contains some very important information for the performer – this is primarily a theory book. This focuses specifically on the eyes, voice, the hands, the feet, and the body. Each of those five points have their own section or "chapter" in the book, and there are details on how to enhance each of those things to their fullest potential across various venues from close-up to parlor to stage to even the streets.

There are some effects detailed in the book for each of the points, and these are mainly used to help illustrate the points in actual practice.

The idea behind the five points as a whole is being able to connect with your audience in a direct and clear manner, and on a more personal level no matter the size of the audience and no matter the size of the venue. Using these techniques will allow you to do that. Furthermore, these techniques are applicable to more than just magicians – any sort of performer can benefit from the study and use of these techniques.

That is all for this month – I do hope you all have enjoyed the articles for this year and I really look forward to continuing to share my thoughts on more books in the new year. For now, I wish for you all to stay safe, stay healthy, have a, Happy ChristmaHannuKwanzikas and a most prosperous New Year! Keep the magic alive!

Dr. Joaquín M. Ayala de Cédóz

CHRISTMAS COOKIES?

**NO, I HAVEN'T SEEN ANY
CHRISTMAS COOKIES**

**Oh, Christmas Tree...
Oh, Christmas Tree...**

**Your ornaments are
history...**

Support our local brick & mortar magic shops!

ABC Magic Shop
21525 24 Mile Road, Macomb, MI 48042 / (586) 790-3700

Wunderground Magic, Inc.
16 S. Main St., Clawson, MI 48017
(248) 280-5925 / Web: <http://www.wundergroundmagicshop.com/>

AAMC Board Contacts

President: Dr. Joaquin M. Ayala / chefayala99@gmail.com
Vice President: Don Oesterwind, Jr. / don@safesteprecovery.com
Secretary: Frank Machniak / fmachniak@icloud.com
Treasurer: Rob Krozal / rkrozal@yahoo.com
Sergeant-at-Arms: Sean Naes / sean@naes.cc
Librarian: Dr. Joaquin M. Ayala / chefayala99@gmail.com
Historian: Dan Jones / dmjones0701@yahoo.com
Webmaster: Karl Rabe / krabe@comcast.net
Website: <http://www.aamagic.org/>

Check out our Facebook Page: “Ann Arbor Magic Club”
**Have a question / suggestion / comment / contribution?
We would love to hear from you! Get in touch with us!
Bring a guest to a meeting! Perform! Join a Committee!**

**The Ann Arbor Magic Club meets the 2nd
Wednesday of each month at Senate Coney Island
Restaurant - 34359 Plymouth Rd, Livonia, MI
48150-1500. Meeting starts at 7 p.m. Come at 6
p.m. if you want to eat.**

*****During the COVID-19 lockdown our in-person
meetings are suspended. During this time, we will
be using the ZOOM platform to host our monthly
meetings.*****