



# Magic Messenger

The Official Newsletter of the Ann Arbor Magic Club / S.A.M 88 / I.B.M. 210

April 2014

## President's Corner

Finally, it's getting warmer people. No more unexpected snow squalls, right. (Crossing my fingers on this.)

Our next meeting will be at the Faith Lutheran Church at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, May 14th and the theme for it is Swap Night. Please do bring your magical items you would like others to buy. (I do have some major illusions in my garage if anyone is interested in them.)

There will be an Officers Meeting at six before our General Meeting.

For those who attended Michigan Magic Day at Colon High School, I do hope you all enjoyed yourselves. It was great!

The 2015 Michigan Magic Day will be held in Kalamazoo but there is no firm location for this event yet. It will be either be held at the County Fair Ground or at a hotel. Please stay tune here for an update on this.

In case you haven't heard this, Marvin Mathena was inducted into the Michigan Magic Hall of Fame. I do believe he'll bring his award to our meeting so please do bring your cameras to record him showing it to us. Not everyone can achieve this high honor.

We still need to form our own 2016 Michigan Magic Day Committee. It'll take a lot of teamwork to pull this off successfully. Believe it or not, 2016 is not really that far away. Marvin and myself are the Co-Chairs for it.

After our last meeting, George Honor mentioned to me that he'll take our Historian position. Thank you George for taking it.

According to our AAMC Policy and Program Manual, the positions to be filled each year are Historian, Editor, Video Librarian and Book Librarian. I would like each position filled for this 2014 - 2015 year and have their names and what books

and videos are available to our membership. Also, we need Committees to be formed. They are the Hank Moorehouse Award Committee, the Auditing Committee, the Awards Committee and the Harry Colestock Award Committee. Two positions I would like to create are the Public Relations Chairman and the Membership Chairman. This is because I would like the community know what we are doing and we do need people to join our club. I have personally mention to some magicians about us and they never knew we existed. Has that ever happened to you?

I'll see you at our May 14th meeting at 7:00 PM at the church.

Thank you and have a nice day.

Bill Brang

## **Secretary's Report 4/30/14**

*Congratulations to Marvin Mathena for being inducted into The Michigan Magic Hall of Fame Friday 11 April at Michigan Magic Days, held in Colon Michigan !*

Coming out of a brutal winter, we kicked off spring with a fantastic April meeting! The theme this month was silk magic and our members came prepared. At Plymouth Denny's, a packed (some would say SRO) crowd was mesmerized as 9 members performed feats of silken sorcery. After welcoming 3 guests: **Tim Miller, Shabier Raffee and Jeff Boyer**, the show began.

**Jim Placido** kicked things off with a smooth rendition of Silkola, vanishing a silk which later appeared inside an empty bottle. Along the way, he skillfully employed the help of a young boy that left his assistant totally befuddled, exiting with a broad smile.

**Magic Joe (Fusco)** followed with a puzzling effect. One of three colored boxes was freely selected by our evening's waitress, based upon her birthday. She also randomly selected a playing card. After some comical byplay, her selected card was found inside the box previously chosen along with a matching colored silk.

**Jim Folkl** penetrated a silk hank with a pirate sword (ARRRR), then produced two (very small) “rabbits” from a Genii tube aka “the tube of mystery” culminating with the appearance of a large Silk King Studio Rabbit in the Hat silk.

**President Bill Brang**, pulled out all the stops. First he displayed a randomly numbered silk streamer that with a flourish, arranged itself in numerical order. In rapid succession, Bill changed red/white/blue silks into an American flag, produced an Olympic flag, did a funny bit with a UNIQUE silk, presented the classic silk effect, “blendo” and concluded with the appearance of a 36” THE END silk.

**George Honer**, fresh from a Florida respite, demonstrated an unusual version of the change bag. With the assistance of our favorite waitress/assistant, George proceeded to transform the colors of various silks, with the kicker being the change of the bag’s color from black to multi-color!

**Marvin Mathena** showed a green silk with a white rectangular center. A freely selected card was vanished and its denomination appeared within the center of the silk to audiences’ amazement.

**Jim Ruth** demonstrated one of his restaurant routines employing the thumb tip. The appearance and subsequent disappearance of a yellow silk from within a blue silk. The trick was simple and direct with maximum impact, ideal for dining venues. Thanks for the practical tip Jim!

**Great (or is that Grate?) Scott Kindschy**. Always comical, Scott recounted his frequent globetrotting vacations while producing the flags of many nations. Consistent with the theme, he was leading to the conclusion of being happy to be back in the USA, but had a little trouble finding his big ending, the American Flag! Scott handled the magical misadventure with aplomb to the merriment of the group.

**Tim Miller** closed the show by performing the effect previously demonstrated by Marvin and with a prop that was used repeatedly throughout the night – the change bag ! What made the trick hilarious was Tim’s impromptu patter regarding the duplication of the trick and its principal gimmick. It is the mark of a skilled performer to present an entertaining routine on the fly and Tim did just that!

**Note:** As Scott Kindschy was unable to attend the Installation of New Officers’ Banquet, 1 March, he was formally installed as the club Vice President by George Hoener at the April meeting.

## **Upcoming Meetings:**

**14 May** Flea Mkt / Swap Meet @ Faith Lutheran Church. Bring your unwanted magic for sale or trade and leave with an effect or two that will make you a star! 2014-15 membership cards will be available at this meeting. Subsequently, cards will be mailed to members not in attendance.

**11 June** John Russell Lecture. Magic and the internet. John will provide insights on the internet's applications to the business of magic, including marketing, buying/selling, promotion and other related considerations.

## **Around the town highlights:**

**3 May** "Vegas in Macomb Magic Show". Two performances at Noon and 7pm. Macomb Music Theater, 31 North Walnut, Mt. Clemens, MI. Award winning lineup: Jerry Herzog, Johnny O, John Hopman, Dave Devin, Ryan Nemeth, Charlie Laubie. Sponsored by ABC Magic Shop.

**10 May** Abbott's Flea Market & Auction - Starts at 9:00 AM at the Colon Elementary School, 328 State St., Colon, MI 49040 - Free to attend (you only need to buy a table if you are selling magic.)

<http://www.magiccapitol.com/aboutfleamarket.html>

**13 June** FCM meeting, 7pm @ Journey of Hope Community Church, 8900 Pardee Road in Taylor. Learn & share ideas on gospel magic and related arts. Pastor Bill Fix / Tele: 313.292.1660 / fcmbillfix@aol.com

**For** a complete listing of magic events in Michigan, visit John Luka's site

<http://www.johnlukamagic.com/mi/events.html>

**Soliciting info** on your upcoming public performances for posting in the Messenger. Let us know where we can see you prestidigitate!

[Jim Folkl](#)

## **Funny Business:**

“Can you imagine what the 10 commandments would look like if Moses had to put them through Congress ?”

“The definition of patience is losing your temper slowly.”

“Did you hear about the psychiatrist who had two baskets on his desk? .....  
Outgoing and Inhibited.”

“We’ve been married 25 years and my wife still appeals to me ... to stop buying magic”



**WHO / WHERE / WHEN? Answers at the end of the Messenger!**

## MAK Magic

The story of MAK Magic starts with Ulysses Fredrick Grant who was born in Millerton, New York on January 12, 1901, and would become one of the greatest minds in modern day magic. Grant was the great, great grandson of President Ulysses S. Grant. In the early 20s, Grant began to sell magic effects out of his Pittsfield, Massachusetts home. After living in New York and then in Colon Michigan, where he worked for the Abbott Magic and Novelty Company, Grant built a reputation as a developer of good solid magic. In the early 40s, he moved to Columbus, Ohio and set up the U.F. Grant Magic Company. In 1944 he hooked up with R.N. Menge and began to produce products under the name G & M. Eventually the business transitioned to his daughter Maryanne and her husband Jim King. The business then became MAK Magic.

I did it, you fools! I have  
the rabbits right here,  
all six of them! See?!  
Now pay your  
magician as you  
agreed! *Pay your  
magician!!!*



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### AAMC POCs

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**WHO:** Duke Stern & Karrell Fox / **WHERE:** Abbott's Get Together / **WHEN:** 1968

**Bring a guest to a meeting! Perform! Join a Committee!**