

# Magic Messenger

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

MAY 2016

## President's Corner

Well, well, well. Where do I begin?

Let me say first off, what an honor it is to represent this club! You all pulled together, stepped up, and helped pull off Michigan Magic Day 2016 in such a way that, as Jim Folkl put it, "raised the bar for future conventions"! Thank you, thank you, thank you, for all your help, all your ideas and suggestions, and for all your encouragement and kind words.

### **WE DID IT!**

Thanks to **Art Goyette** (master of the registration desk), **Ken Magee** (our forever auctioneer), **Dan Jones** (our money man), **Jim Folkl** (transport extraordinaire), **Randy & Pam Smith** (donated the snacks for Friday night - THANK YOU - and Randy's photography skills and Pam's ticket taking Sat night), **Mark O'Brien** (may the light always shine on you), **Joaquin Ayala** (backstage guru), **Scott Mitchell** (my go-to guy for whatever I needed), **Jim Molnar** (keeping things secure, and suggestions on the fly), **Jim Placido** (making magic in the lobby), **Linda Triemer** (balloon artist - so sorry we never got to utilize your talents to the max), **Bill Brang** (master of raffle sales, and a *very* cool costume), **Scott Kindschy** (among other things nonchalantly mentioning WCC as a location), **Jim Ruth** (generously donating the proceeds from the Magician statue auction), **Gary Segadi** (a utility guy who pitched in and helped whenever, and wherever needed), **Karl Rabe** (web master, and mastermind of our awesome ticket sales), and **Molly Larson** (who was with us in spirit after illness kept her down)! As you probably have heard (if you didn't experience it first hand), everything went flawlessly. I don't believe we had one single issue the entire

weekend! We probably had somewhere in the neighborhood of 300 people at the show Saturday night! And our own **Gordon Schott and family** did a masterful job (as always), closing the first half of the show. Lots and lots of pictures on Facebook, as well as on our site. I don't know about you, but I'm ready for the next one. We've got a great system down, a fantastic facility, and made some great contacts, and some new fans. Once again, thank you, thank you, thank you to all!

## **May Meeting**

Just a reminder that our meeting this month will be our now annual "Magic Mini-Mart". What do you have lying around that you're not using that someone else might? *Bring it!* And see what else you can pick up and take home with you too!

Plus, bring along some of your best/favorite money making/saving ideas and share them. For example, did you know you can make your own see-through force bag with a couple of baggies? How about spray roughing fluid for a fraction of the cost of "regular" roughing fluid? What can you share with the group? *Bring it!* Wednesday May 11<sup>th</sup> at the Senate Coney Island.

And by the way, we've got a bit of business to take care of just before the meeting starts. First, we'll get an update on the final financial numbers from Michigan Magic Day. Second, we're going to introduce some by-law changes to bring our current practices in line with our "official document". We will introduce them, discuss them, then vote on them at a future meeting.

And remember, if you care to eat, come early so we can be done by 7pm meeting time.

## **Fall Flea Market**

Date has been set for this fall's Annual Magic Flea Market: Sunday September 25<sup>th</sup> from Noon-3:00 at the Belleville Eagle's Club. Member tables are just \$10 and can be reserved starting at the May club meeting. (Non-member tables are just \$20 and will be released for reservation after May 11<sup>th</sup>).

## **Gene Anderson**

Gene Anderson unveiled his brand new book at our Michigan Magic Day, and performed at the public show. If you're a SAM Member, did you see him on the cover of this month's MUM? Great article! Proud to call him a personal friend, and friend of our club. He was very helpful and supportive of what we did at MMD.

## **Masters Of Illusion Returns**

Magic is making a big return to television this summer starting May 20<sup>th</sup> as a new season of Masters of Illusion returns to the CW network. Aaron Radatz, originally from southeastern Michigan and many of us saw at the Canton Theatre back in December is one of the scheduled performers. Also Penn & Teller's "Fool Us" returns July 11<sup>th</sup> with a new host.

## **Practice Makes What???**

MAGIC! Magazine recently ran a survey asking folks about their practice habits. Interestingly, half of those that responded have a set practice regiment, while half do not. What about you? Do you practice any tricks on a regular basis?

As someone who does shows **not** as frequently as I wished (and I'm working hard to change that), I find that I can easily lose my edge if I don't stay on top of it. On routines with many moves, I can actually forget what I need to do! Very frustrating!

What I'm trying to do right now, is form a new habit where I pick up and work on some effects pretty much every day. It's not a full-blown rehearsal, but enough to stay sharp, and be ready when the phone rings asking, "Can you do a show for us?"

Watched a Penguin Magic lecture with Mac King recently. He was asked what advice he would give to magicians. His basic answer? "Do a bunch of shows".

The more we perform (privately, public, or practice), the better we get. Let's keep in shape, everyone!

Magically yours,  
**John Russell**

## Secretary's Report

Vice president **Mark O'Brien** hosted our April meeting, which focused on "lighthearted" magic. Before the entertainment began, two guests were introduced: **Carol Trusk and Kevin Peshick**. 7 members came prepared to astound and amuse. **Jim Folkl** started things off with a snake basket, which along with the serpent, contained his lunch....a gag fish sandwich and bottle of "spring" water. **Linda and Rich Triemer** performed a very well routined musical act, catching light at the fingertips, ultimately filling a bag with the "de-lightful" globes. **Bill Brang** presented an entire show, starting with a humorous house hunting tale that sequentially transformed a photo of a mansion, to a moderately priced home to an outhouse! Bill then followed with a clown theme, transforming a circus scene from black and white to color, demonstrating a magic coloring book depicting clowns and ending with the "Fraidy Cat Rabbit" premise using a clown figure. **Kevin Peshick** had a spectator pick a task from his "to do" list, then using his mental powers, deduced the selection. In a very visual and startling effect, **Don Osterwind** proceeded to transform a half dollar to a Chinese coin and immediately return it to its original denomination. **Ken Magee** introduced a number of matchboxes from gathered from various motels, had one randomly selected and revealed its name on the room key that had been laying in plain sight! He finished by taking a restaurant spoon and bending it through power of the mind. **Dan Jones** closed the evening vanishing a silk in a bag and producing from it two consecutively smaller bags to find the green silk reappear. **President John Russell and his wife Ronda** were absent this month, taking a well deserved vacation after organizing "Michigan Magic Days". Thanks to **George Mathis** for providing insight into our legal system (below).



A good meal sets the stage !

**Law of Public Speaking**

-- A closed mouth gathers no feet!



VP Mark O'Brien



Jim Folkl

**Law of Random Numbers**

- If you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal; someone always answers.



Linda & Rich Triemer



Bill Brang

## Murphy's Law of Lockers

- If there are only 2 people in a locker room, they will have adjacent lockers.



Kevin Peshick

Don Osterwind

## Law of Logical Argument

Anything is possible if you don't know what you are talking about.

Courtesy of Bob Goodwin: "YES, I'M A SENIOR CITIZEN!  
I'm the life of the party..... Even if it lasts until 8 p.m."



Ken Magee

Dan Jones

Patient: I'm two months pregnant now, when will my baby move?  
Dr: "With any luck, right after he finishes college"

Contributed by **Bob Goodwin: Bob Hope** on his early failures -  
"I would not have had anything to eat if it wasn't for the stuff the audience  
threw at me."

**I never run  
with scissors.**

**Those last  
two words  
were  
unnecessary.**

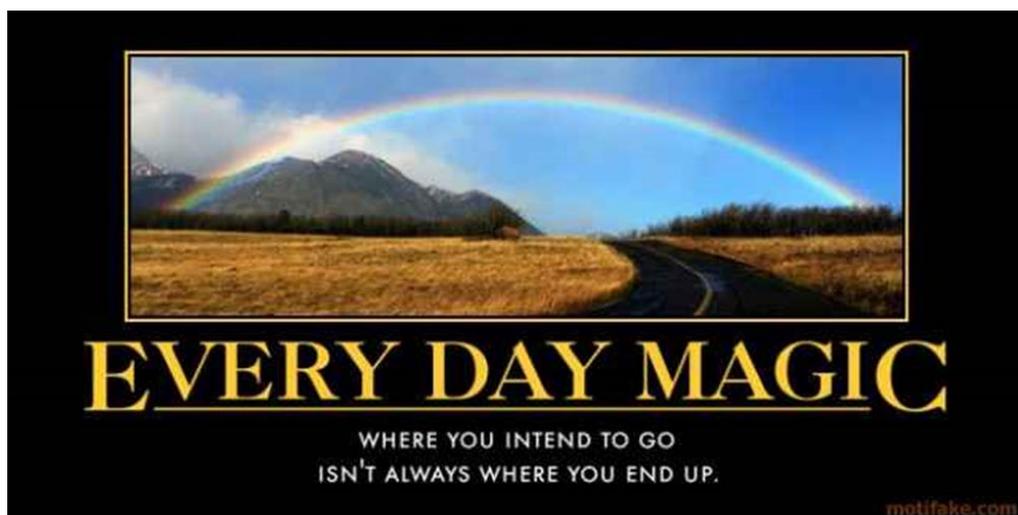
Michael Jackson wanted to do something spectacular for his live performances of the song "Smooth Criminal". So he invented a magic trick. What was it ?

**Answer at the end of the Messenger)**

**Around the Town:**

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

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



**Jim Folkl**

*Ex Libris* by **Joaquin Ayala, PhD.**

*Hello and welcome to the Ex Libris article for April, 2016! What a magical month this has been for many of us, especially since we had a wonderful turnout for our Michigan Magic Day earlier this month! The lectures and the acts for the evening show were all very good and it took a strong team to pull it off from the beginning. We did it!*

*This month I will be focusing on a book whose author had an interesting beginning himself. The book is *The Life and Times of Albert Goshman* by Patrick Page and of course, Albert Goshman himself.*

*Goshman was not always outspoken and was rather shy as a child, the oldest of five born in New York City. He was socially awkward and had only managed to perform his magic act once at a high school concert, which he would soon rather forget. After his high school years he started helping his father run their bakery, which he did until 1941. Attempting to join the military and being rejected for medical reasons, he worked in Buffalo, NY at the Curtis Wright Aeronautical Company for five nights a week. He figured if he could not be in the military, he would at least be able to help the cause in some way or another. Because the routine of getting up to work every day, eating, sleeping and repeating got old rather quickly, he became easily bored. Once he decided to explore the city of Buffalo further, he tripped across a used book store where he found his first magic book, a book on card effects by Howard Thurston.*

*Not long after that period of time and after discovering Holden's Magic Shop on West 42<sup>nd</sup> Street in NYC, he knew he was bitten by the magic bug. He quickly became a regular at*

*Holden's shop and began to hear about another one a few blocks away, that one owned by Stuart Robson. One particular Saturday he left Holden's to go and visit Robson's, only to discover the same crowd of magicians hanging around Robson's shop! Shortly after this period, Louis Tannen opened his shop and Albert found himself very busy on Saturdays with three different shops to visit. There was no going back now. From Sundays to Fridays Albert would work with his father at his bakery and on Saturdays, he would join the usual crowd of amateur magicians and make the rounds from Holden's to Robson's to Tannen's, occasionally throwing in a visit to the famous shop on West 34<sup>th</sup> Street, owned by the legendary Al Flosso.*

*After being married in 1946 and having four children, the family bakery business started to falter and things got worse. After leaving the business Albert took many other jobs to support his family, none of them successful and they always took him back to one thing: magic. Goshman had given many successful lectures over the years and he was very well-respected for his sleight-of-hand skill. Owing to this, and fast-forward about twenty years and a few jobs later, he was hired by Milt Larsen to perform at the Magic Castle Close-Up gallery as a regular basis, after Larsen had seen him performing at a Hyatt House hotel (a company that he had been working for, based in California) in Seattle. The rest, as they say, was history.*

*Albert Goshman had almost single-handedly created a new 'genre' in the close-up arena. After leaving the Magic Castle and traveling to England to perform at the British I.B.M. Convention, he became a sensation because most close-up performers were just a bunch of guys doing a collection of 'tricks'. Goshman was doing a close-up 'act' – it was something they had never seen before. Albert Goshman became famous*

*for different things over the years, not the least of which is his sponge products. He started a company, Magic by Gosh, where he developed various foam rubber products which were light years ahead of the rough hand-cut sponge items of years past. The company still exists today and is run by Albert's youngest son, Steven Goshman.*

*If anyone ever saw Goshman perform, they always saw the same stuff over and over and over. This was because Dai Vernon once had a conversation with Goshman wherein he told him, instead of trying to master many effects, pick a few and perfect those. Goshman did just that and those 'few' effects (10 of them, to be precise) became the act for which he was most famous and the act that took him around the world for over 30 years. One effect in particular really stood out to magicians and that was the Salt & Pepper Shakers, where a coin continually vanished from the hands/under one of the shakers and reappeared under another shaker. Goshman had a few other items that he became quite well-known for, including his version of Chink-a-Chink using playing cards, which was aptly named 'Cards Thru Newspaper' and his A.G. Bowl Routine, where the final load was a bagel – a nod to his days as a baker. Something else that many people remember about him was his introduction: "Hi, my name is Albert and I'm going to magish for you!"*

*The entire Goshman act, as well as a few extra items and sundry sleights are described in the book, The Life and Times of Albert Goshman. Years later there was also a video tape that was put out (and subsequently a DVD) of the same material. One of the great things about the material is that although it is a complete act, it is entirely modular, meaning you do not have to perform all of the effects in one sitting but you can pick and choose which ones to use. The book was*

*penned by a good friend of Goshman, the equally legendary Patrick Page. The book was published in 1985 and was edited by magician Kathy Diamond, along with the help of Mike Caveney, Tina Lenert and Richard Kaufman.*

*That is all for this month folks. Have a great month, get out there and share your magic with others and remember, as Goshman was told by Francis Carlyle and always said himself, "The MAGIC is YOU!"*

## **Support our local brick & mortar magic shops!**

### **ABC Magic Shop**

**69 N Walnut St, /Mount Clemens, MI 48043**

**(586) 790-3700**

**<http://abcmagicshop.com/>**

### **Wunderground Magic, Inc.**

**Phone: (248) 280-5925**

**Email: [paul@wundergroundmagicshop.com](mailto:paul@wundergroundmagicshop.com)**

**Mail: 16 S. Main St., Clawson, MI 48017**

**Web: <http://www.wundergroundmagicshop.com/>**

### **AAMC POCs**

**President: John Russell / [john@johnrussellmagic.com](mailto:john@johnrussellmagic.com)**

**VP: Mark O'Brien / [mpobmagic@gmail.com](mailto:mpobmagic@gmail.com)**

**Secretary: Jim Folkl / [folkinimagic@yahoo.com](mailto:folkinimagic@yahoo.com)**

**Treasurer: Dan Jones / [dmjones0701@yahoo.com](mailto:dmjones0701@yahoo.com)**

**Sgt At Arms: Bob Waite / [patchestclown@sbcglobal.net](mailto:patchestclown@sbcglobal.net)**

**Librarian: Dr. Joaquin Ayala / [chefayala99@gmail.com](mailto:chefayala99@gmail.com)**

**Historian: Mark O'Brien / [mpobmagic@gmail.com](mailto:mpobmagic@gmail.com)**

**Webmaster: Karl Rabe / [krabe@.net](mailto:krabe@.net).**

**Website: <http://www.aamagic.org/>**

**Michael Jackson's Magic Patent  
Patent Number 5255452 - The "Lean" Shoe**



[Magic information provided courtesy of MagicTricks.com](http://MagicTricks.com)

**Check out our Facebook Page “Ann Arbor Magic Club”**

**Have a question / suggestion / comment / contribution?  
Contact us!**

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

**The Ann Arbor Magic Club meets the second Wednesday of the month, at the Senate Coney Island Restaurant, 34359 Plymouth Rd, Livonia, MI 48150-1500 . Meetings start at 7pm.**