

Magic Messenger

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

October 2015

President's Corner

Magical greetings everyone!

Are you as good as you can be? I'm speaking in a magical sense, of course.

I've been doing a lot of reading lately about this, and thinking about it too. Am I as good as I can be? Do I accept a mediocre performance, or do I learn from my mistakes, and improve?

Unfortunately, there's only two ways I know how to improve (*And no, it's not buy more equipment! That's how you get better at golf!*): Practice and Rehearse. Arghhhh!

During my show, I do the changing spot card *with* explanation. I start by sharing the first of two "rules of being a magician". First, Practice! Practice! Practice! I go on to explain "not to go home and immediately show this to your friends and family. You need to get all the moves down before you try to amaze them, *even though the moves aren't difficult!*"

Of course, that's not how I tend to do it, do you? I rip open the package, play with it a few minutes, and say to my wife, "hey look! Here's my new trick!", and then I do a terrible job demonstrating my new toy.

When it comes to public performance, it's different, and especially now that I've been doing all this reading and studying. I hope you work on your magic before you share it in public!

Practice, I've read, is working on the moves and techniques required to perform the effect. Rehearsal is working through the routine as you plan to show it to an audience. Yes, they can both get tedious and monotonous. But it's something we must do... it's not an option!

The three books I've been reading are all highly recommended. They are: "Illusion Show Know-How" by Ken Griffin & Roberta (available as a download from Abbott's), "The Stein and Day Handbook of Magic" by Marvin Kaye, and "Maximum Entertainment" by Ken Weber.

Let me encourage you to put in the work and reap the rewards!

Upcoming: Lot's of things happening in the next few months. Elections for club officers, our annual banquet on March 6th back at Weber's, Nathan Kranzo lecture coming up, and of course, Michigan Magic Day April 8th & 9th at Washtenaw Community College. And don't forget our monthly meetings!

This Month: It's "Holiday Magic"! Pick a holiday, any holiday, and bring some magic appropriate to the season! And it doesn't need to be 4th quarter holidays! Bring a star-spangled-banner effect if you want! Plus, Jack & Shirley Marley will be joining us from Indiana. They always have some interesting things to share. See you soon, and Have a Magical Month!

John Russell, President

Secretary's Report

Our October meeting was a fantastic success. Billed as a "Homecoming Event" designed to attract inactive members (and new ones too), a free lecture was offered to all. 5 guests were

introduced; **John Luka, John Pullum, Gene Fogel, Linda Triemer** and mystery guest “**Clem Cladiddlehopper**”. Then the magic began!

Michael Mode, a nationally known pro from Michigan, was booked and he did not disappoint. With a full house of past and current AAMC members and guests, Michael presented hard hitting commercial routines well within the abilities of the group. His presentation was casual with a heavy dose of quirky humor. It was great! Included in the lecture were 12 very practical effects, featuring his new card mystery “Red Handed”, In fact, this was the venue at which it was introduced to the magic community. Michael got everyone’s attention, opening with his “Bowling Pin Production” and proceeding through two hours of solid entertainment’. Along the way, he interspersed the puzzling magic with gags, “bits of business” and interesting anecdotes from his professional experiences. Michael went to great lengths in the explanation of his material and thoroughly answered questions from the audience. A highlight of the evening was his in depth discussion of the development of the “The Napkin Rose”, a beautiful and innovative creation. Michael also offered insights into the psychological aspects of handling and treating audiences. He rarely does lectures and in fact has presented only a handful over the last decade. Hard to believe, as I found it to be one of the best I have ever seen. The power of the material presented was reflected in the activity at Michael’s vendor table during a break and after the lecture.

As an added attraction, **President John Russell** crowned royalty for the evening; duel **Queens Mrs Pam Smith and Mrs Linda Treimer** with attending **King Bill Brang**.



A full house



The Opening!



"Eye Drops" w / Linda Triemer



"Red Handed" w / Karl Rabe



The Balancing Bill



"Princess Card" Banner



**“Napkin Rose”
Jim Placido**



**“Bill in Orange”
Mark O’Brien and Linda Triemer**



The Orange...



The Bill !!!!!



Pam Smith, Bill Brang, Linda T.



Time To Buy!

Funny Business

A child returns home from his first tuba lesson ... "How did it go asked his father?" Great, said the child, I learned how to play a "C". Next lesson, the child told his father he learned to play a "G". The following week, the boy didn't return home until 2AM and his father was frantic! "Where the heck have you been shouted his father?" I had a gig said the son

Guffaws from the desk of **George Mathis:**

The fattest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Circumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.

No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.

Two hydrogen atoms meet. One says, "I've lost my electron". The other says "Are you sure?" The first replies, "Yes, I'm positive."

A vulture boards an airplane, carrying two dead raccoons. The stewardess looks at him and says, "I'm sorry, sir! Only one carrion allowed per passenger."



This gentleman's contributions in the magic world included the books T.K.O., Gaffed to the Hilt, and Paradox; DVDs like The Poker Chip Video, Gaffed to the Hilt Card Making, Six Pack, and The Pass (Shifts & Lifts); as well as numerous articles for industry magazines and lectures at various magic conferences. From his bio, "If **Ed Marlo** bumped into **Brother John Hammond** you'd get this master cardman"

?

Answer at the end of the Messenger

From the desk of yuckmaster **Dan Jones**:

Jokes about German sausages are the wurst.

They told me I had type-A blood, but it was a Type-O.

Haunted French pancakes give me the crepes.

I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.

October was a month of charitable activities

Ann Arbor LIGHT THE NIGHT

4 of AAMC's finest "represented", on the U of M campus, entertaining the crowd with amazing close up magic. John Russell, Joaquin Alaya, Scott Kindschy, and Jim Placido contributed their talents to this annual event.

Magical Fun @ Guardians For Animals Expo, Madison Heights

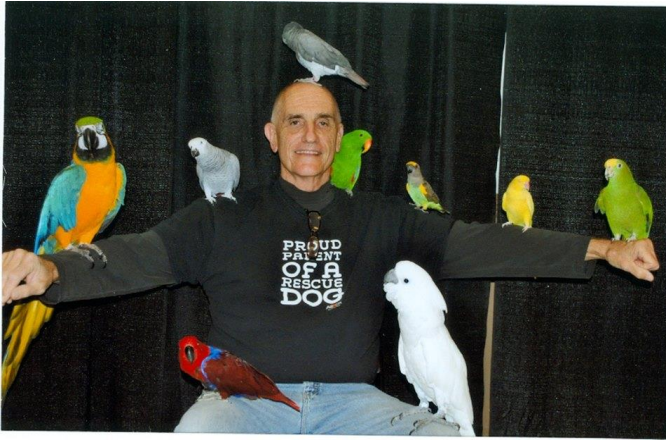
***** 32 Adoptions *****
(pets not magicians)



Jim Molnar and Dan Jones, two noted magical raconteurs and all around comical roustabouts, entertaining an appreciative audience. They are frequently found wherever mirth and merriment abound.



**BREAKING NEWS:
Spectator transformed to rabbit @ GFA Pet Expo!"**



Jim Folkl



Bob Goodwin

performing dueling bird productions

"Optimism is going after Moby Dick in a rowboat and taking the tartar sauce with you!"

Around the Town

For a complete listing of magic events in Michigan, visit **John Luka's** site <http://www.johnlukamagic.com/mi/events.html>

Jim Folkl

Support our local brick & mortar magic shops!

ABC Magic Shop

69 N Walnut St, /Mount Clemens, MI 48043

(586) 790-3700

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**Have a question / suggestion / comment / contribution?
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Bring a guest to a meeting! Perform! Join a Committee!