



NOW YOU SEE IT...

The Monthly Newsletter for the Carl Moore Ring
Ring 60 of the International Brotherhood of Magicians
Austin, TX



Issue 1

February 2007

From The President

By Bertil Fredstrom

Members of IBM Ring 60,

The passing of the gavel (handcuffs) from the old board of IBM Ring 60 took place at the annual Christmas Party last Sunday, January 28. I had several positive comments about the event afterwards so I dare to say – if you were not there you missed something.

The entertainment of the evening was, apart from Chris loosing his head in The Fantastic Kent Cumminsguillotine, Cy Albertson, Hull Youngblood, Chris Walden and Arsene Dupin, all with new acts that we have never seen in Austin before.

We also took this opportunity to thank the last year’s board for a job well done and I pinned a “past presidents” medal on Chris Walden’s lapel. The new board; President: Bertil Fredstrom, vice President: JD Stewart, Treasurer: David Rowyn, Secretary: Mark Wilson, Sergeant of Arms: Emiline Cantore, Members at large: Arsene Dupin and Richard Garriott and representative of the old presidents: Lou Hornung have already started their work for 2007.

All 75 participants at the Christmas Party gave the new board a big hand and wished them good luck.

One of the first items on the agenda for the new board was a move of meeting place for IBM Ring 60. The Brick Owen had decided that we did not bring them enough business so they basically kicked us out (with very little lead time) and we were forced to find a new place.

After having inspected several different venues we settled on the IHOP at 183 and Duval just one mile north of the old meeting place. Unfortunately IHOP already had a group meeting on the first Thursday of each month so we had to pick a new date as well and we choose the first Monday of each month. The first meeting will therefore be Monday, January 5, 2007.

Unfortunately, whenever we change meeting dates we run the risk of loosing some members that have previous engagements on that date. Fortunately, we also tend to gain some members that have previous engagements on the old date. So far I know of two members that will have to take a break from IBM Ring 60 meetings and of two old members that now can come back to our meeting on the new date as it is no longer colliding with other events.

The next item on the agenda for the board is whether we need to do something about our lectures? Some members think that we have too many, others that we have too mundane lecturers. Some think that we could sell season passes, others that we need to increase the price for each lecture. I am sure that we also have many members that are very happy with the way things are right now, but we do not hear from them, at least not yet.

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We will have a board meeting before the regular meeting on Monday, January 5, at 6.00 PM to discuss the lecture question. If you would like to have your voice heard please feel free to join the board for that discussion.

Regards,

Bertil Fredstrom
President of IBM Ring 60

From The Editor

By Emiline Cantore

Greetings All,

This will be my first time as editor of Carl Moore Ring 60's "Now You SeeIt" newsletter and I'm beginning to realize that I've stepped into a very big pair of shoes. That said, I welcome the challenge and sincerely hope to bring a bit of my own spice and humor to this issue, and all that follow, while continuing to report the news and events of the Ring in a truly objective manner that is still interesting and enjoyable to all those who may read about us. Since joining the IBM several years ago, I've searched for a way to make a really solid contribution to my ring and the Austin magic community as a whole. Now, as your editor, I am most grateful to have been given the tremendous opportunity to combine two life passions in a single expression, my love of the art of magic and my love of writing... an opportunity that gives me no end of pleasure.

Now then, enough gushing. My real duty as editor is to help ensure that the "Now You Seeit" newsletter continues to change, grow and develop to its fullest potential. This can only be done with support and contributions from each of you, the members of the ring. It is up to you to help the newsletter, and the ring, to truly blossom. A gift for words, like any other, is wasted when it is not used. So come on folks. Start talking. I'm just your reporter. Let's get the magical juices flowing! :-)) We can't keep all our goodies bottled up. Now can we?

February 5th Meeting With Special Guest Mr. Freddy Carnes

The February Ring 60 meeting is set for a new day and place. The meeting will be held on MONDAY, February 5, at the IHOP at US 183 and Duval Road in northwest Austin. The IHOP is just a mile or so north of the Brick Oven. We are sorry for any inconvenience caused by the new meeting day.

All are invited to the Board Meeting which is to precede the regular Ring Meeting at 6:00. The meeting will address the Ring 60 Lecture Program. All interested Ring 60 members are welcome to attend.

Please join us for dinner at 7:00. We will partake dinner in the party room in the rear of the restaurant, where the regular Ring Meeting will occur. You are asked to eat in this room so that the appropriate gratuities will be credited to the assigned wait staff. A menu has been designed for us which will expedite getting the food and paying the bills. A good variety is included on the menu which should please everyone. We will enjoy our mussels as the meeting proceeds. The party room is straight to the back of the restaurant.

Directions: to IHOP: from US 183 going either north or south, take the Duval Road exit. Go to the 183 southbound access road, heading south toward town. The restaurant is on the right a few hundred feet south of the Intersection with Duval Road.

We will have open mic as usual and then, as part of a planned program, the Ring is proud to have Mr. Freddy Carnes join us. He will be instructing on persona and stagecraft. Learn how to choose the character you portray in your magic performances. Learn how to take advantage of your personal traits. Your appearance. Your posture. Your gait and mannerisms. Your voice. Yes, and even those warts . . . those warts that can be used to such a great advantage.

Mr. Carnes will be instructing on the proper entry to the stage and how to depart. He will be addressing how to engage the audience, and the proper expressions and timing to maximize the impressions that are intended to be made. Learn how to get the applause and the laughs.

Mr. Carnes has been a mainstay on the Austin acting scene for over thirty years as an actor, director, producer, playwright, and composer. His first major production was *Godspell*, which was hugely successful. He directed the *Children of Light Players* for several years with numerous productions offered to the Austin community. He started a new company in 1997 aptly named *Freddy Carnes Productions*. He also performs in murder mysteries with Gary Payne's *Capitol City Mystery Players*.

A production which is of special interest is *The Magician's Curse*, which was written, composed, directed and acted by Mr. Carnes. It is a delightful musical, which was presented over two seasons. Mr. Carnes is a mentor and teacher of acting arts. Scores of budding young actors and oldsters have benefited from his skillfully lead training.

AUSTIN MAGIC AUCTION SET FOR FEBRUARY 23 & 24

The Austin Magic Auction is expecting its biggest and best auction in years. With over 1,000 consigned items in this year's auction and a talented team of auctioneers such as Kent Cummins, David Hira, Scott Wells, C. J. Johnson, and Peter the Adequate, this should be a great auction. The Collector's meeting will be held Friday evening and the actual auction begins at 9 a.m. on Saturday at the First Baptist Church which is located at 901 Trinity in downtown Austin. It is an all-day affair so plan to come early and stay late. This is the 25th annual auction making it the oldest auction in Texas.

Walden's Ponderings

By Chris Walden

I Double Dog Dare You

Are you going to do something for Open Mic at the meetings this month? OK. Maybe it's too short notice. How about next month? Well... I double dog dare you.

One of the joys that I remember from Ring 60 when I first arrived in Austin was all of the magic that was shared. Al Mann would do some of the most interesting little pieces of mentalism. Kent Cummins, Fred Donaldson, C.J. Johnson, me, Ramon Galindo and a number of others would perform at every meeting. Not all of it was great. Dan Murphy, who has gone to parts unknown – at least unknown to me – seemed to be almost incapable of performing something for our group without it going awry. We knew he could perform in other situations, but for us it always turned on him. It was funny. In the further past, president Gene Anderson would perform at meetings. Member Harry Anderson was known to do things from time to time as well.



The point is that sharing magic is an important part of our club culture. If you've been working hard on something it's great to share it with people who can appreciate it. If you are just trying to get started or improve it's good practice to do something for an audience whenever you can... and magic club audiences are pretty forgiving. It will be a lot easier for you to get pointers or ideas to help you grow if people see what you are doing.

So, at the next available meeting, I dare you to do something. I'm going to be pulling things out of Tarbell and routinizing (*it really is a word*) them just for the meetings. In future articles I'll give you ideas and challenges to share with us. Magic is a *performance* art, so perform! I double dog dare you.

Carl Moore Ring 60's Annual Christmas Party A Truly Magical Evening

By Emiline Cantore

January 28, 2007

The International Brotherhood of Magicians Ring 60 Christmas Party is held every year in January since most ring members are usually working, meaning preparing for shows or performing, through much of the actual holiday season. This black tie affair, despite the formal attire, is really an occasion where enthusiasts and performers of all sorts can gather together to perform their latest material or simply relax and enjoy a night of good food and good company. If you've never attended a party before and are thinking, "Sounds nice but why should I bother? What's so special about this party as compared to any other?" Please, let me explain. You truly don't know just how much fun you've been missing. For a small fee, any member in good standing can attend and members are encouraged to bring a friend. The evening begins with a buffet-style dinner. Announcements are made, awards are given, and then the real show begins! Still not impressed? Perhaps a quick recap of this year's Party will change your mind and even persuade you to join us in the future.

As with any show, this program is planned far in advance and no detail is overlooked. There is, of course, a theme but individual performances can still vary considerably. Large stage illusions, close-up magic, comedy and walk-around magic are all part of the evening's entertainment in one form or another. This year, the emphasis was most certainly on humor. I always enjoy every party I attend regardless of who does what throughout the show but this party was particularly enjoyable because, with each successive performance, I couldn't keep from laughing out loud and had indeed laughed myself to tears, many times over, by the end of the night.

Now, you might be thinking, "Great, but I can go to a comedy club if I wanna laugh." Well, what comedy club would have not just one but many of your good friends performing on stage just for you? Not many. Well, that's a Ring 60 party. That's true Ring 60 spirit. You're always among friends, whether you are performing on stage or simply sitting in the audience watching the show. And best of all... many of the truly magical moments don't happen on stage. They happen offstage or between performances. Come join us next year if you can. You'll see exactly what I mean.

Emergency Meeting of the IBM board January 22nd, 2007

In Attendance:

President-Bertil Fredstrom

Sergeant-At-Arms-Emiline Cantore

Vice President-J D Stewart

Immediate Past President-Chris Walden

Treasurer-David Rowyn

Past President Director-Lou Hornung

Secretary-Mark Wilson

Meeting called to order-

Called EMILINE CANTORE via speaker phone

Bertil- Three Items to discuss

- 1) Meeting Place
- 2) Party
- 3) Goals for the rest of the year

Item One - Meeting Place

(Arsene Dupin participating via proxy vote given to Bertil Fredstrom)

Bertil Fredstrom - asked for suggestions from members for alternative meeting locations.

Emiline Cantore no suggestions.

J D Stewart - Suggested IHOP corner of Duval and 183. Wheelchair accessible and they want us bad. Have wide variety of menus and will customize menu. First Thursdays booked. Mondays are open and other Thursdays. No Charge for the room. (Take care of the Waiter around \$25.00) Late Hours.

Chris Walden - BB Rovers. On 183. It's more of a cafe. Family style pub. Kids ok. More of a cafe with phenomenal beer selection. Stable sort of place. Expressed some enthusiasm. Lot's of character. Will seat about 50 people. Has full-length bar. Wants 30 people. No charge. Late Hours.

Lou Hornung His wife suggested a place near Florez Mexican restaurant called TexExpress, located at 2700 West Anderson Lane. Coffee house atmosphere with deserts. Want \$25 and hour. Also spoke with Mike Collins. Mike suggested former meeting place the Clubhouse on Lakeway drive. \$25 a night. (Emiline - may not be easily wheelchair accessible)

Bertil Fredstrom - Wants to negotiate Brick Oven for February and then change afterwards for the best of the membership.

Chris Walden Disagrees. Don't spend an evening in a place with folks who don't want you.

Bertil Fredstrom Only one week to announce new meeting place till next meeting. Is a worry.

Mark Wilson no suggestion.

Emiline Cantore - want to keep cost at a minimum.

David Rowyn no suggestion.

Bertil Fredstrom took preliminary votes on place of choice to eliminate least favorite choices.

Tex Express is out-Lou Hornung will contact and Brick Oven is Out -.

This Left IHOP and BB Rovers and Lakeway Clubhouse House meeting room as possible choices.

Unanimous vote for IHOP.

J D Stewart Motioned to close the decision to have IHOP as the new meeting place and 1st Mondays as new meeting night - Motion was 2nd by Chris Walden and passed.

Item Two - IBM party

David Rowyn - 43 last count (maybe 45) to be in attendance. (including performers)

We need 70. Chris Walden offered to sell tickets through Chris Walden magic for 3 muggles² (we need 20 more to break even). Will ask Texas Magic Supply to sell tickets.

David Rowyn doesn't want to force payment online because it may turn away potential visitors and to

have payment on line because he believes it to be wasted effort. Chris Walden decided not to volunteer his services. Chris Walden doesn't want it to be harassment. Calling can be harassment. Members decided not to call members to solicit ticket sales. Instead a more aggressive email campaign will be put into place. J D STEWART will send his email to SAM group about IBM party meeting.

Artists Cy Albertson will MC. Arsene, Chris Walden, Ian, Hull. Kent will be performing Guillotine routine to chop the head off of the old president.

Party Schedule: 5:45 start eating till 7pm. 7pm awards and then Chop Chris Walden's head. Then show about 10 minutes per performer.

J D Stewart suggested for David Rowyn to bring change \$\$\$\$.

It was decided to send out a press release to let the Austin news papers and TV channels know about the head chopping ceremony at the Christmas Party. Bertil Fredstrom to write it and Christ Walden to distribute it.

Item Three Club's Long Range Goals.

Promote camaraderie between members. Encourage members to perform. Work together.

Lou Hornung - Charity Shows - Austin State School was the initial place. We need teamwork situations to build camaraderie.

J D Stewart having shows at different places once a quarter would keep novelty going. Need to put together production team. With Producer, tech, program, etc.

Board decided to appoint task force. Lou Hornung will head up appointment of talent. Take nominations. Each team will be coming up with a 45 minute show. (Could be several performers or one) Team will include several members. Final outcome will be charity show(s) TBD.

Monday Feb 5th next meeting Meeting adjourned.