

ASSEMBLY 206 NEWS

March 2007

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MARCH MEETING NOTICE

Monday, March 19, 2007 – 7:00 PM – Omni SouthPark
Hotel

**Magic with Cards & RICHARD TURNER
RETURNS !**

Be at the March meeting for a cast ofseveral. Paul
Mims, Doug Gorman, the brutally handsome Hull
Youngblood

and some surprise performers will be demonstrating,
lecturing, and teaching.

Card tricks, flourishes, suggestions on books and DVD's, tips, moves and sleights will all be part of the program.

Paul Mims will be doing some of his legendary card effects. Doug Gorman will be demonstrating his Nate Leipzig Sympathetic Card routine that stuns his audiences at his monthly show in San Antonio. He has promised to not only do the routine, but lecture about his techniques and insights that make this such a killer effect.

BUT THE FINALE is the return of the KING!!!!!!!!!!!!
The return of King Richard Turner – the greatest card man on the planet.

As you may remember, Richard absolutely destroyed the members with his gambling expose routine last year. Now watch him do some card effects that will leave gasping for breath. Richard, from San Antonio, is a new member in SAM 206, and is known around the world as the greatest card manipulator alive. I am not kidding. Lennert Green may complain about that title, but there is no question that it belongs to Richard Turner. You may think that you have a reason you can't be at the meeting on March 19. You may think you have an excuse. You may have to rotate the air in your tires, or sit up with your cat who is afraid of the dark. Well, don't let that stuff keep you home.

If you saw Richard last year, you will be at this meeting. If you missed Richard last year, leave your flat tires like they are, turn on some lights for your psycho cat, and get to the meeting in March. IT WILL BE ONE OF THE BEST THIS YEAR!!!!!!!!!! – *Hull Youngblood*

AUSTIN MAGIC AUCTION BREAKS RECORD FOR PROFIT!

Although we did not have a record in sales, and were far short of that, we did break the 25-year record for the Austin Magic Auction in gross profit and perhaps, net profit. There were almost 100 bidders who attended the auction with about forty coming from Assembly 206. The gross sales passed \$16,000 and we are currently in the process of finalizing the 2007 auction. For those of you who want to read the real story on the Austin Magic Auction, simply check-up the next issue of your M-U-M as there will be a featured story on our auction in that issue. – *Ron Cartlidge*

NATIONAL COUNCIL TO HOLD MEETING IN AUSTIN, TEXAS

The Society of American Magicians will hold their spring meeting in Austin, Texas on March 30 & 31 of this month. This is a time when you will be able to watch your National Council in action. We hope to have a large crowd from Assembly 206 that will spend Saturday morning, March 31st, at the Omni Hotel and attend the National Council meeting. It begins at 9 a.m. Other events scheduled for that weekend include the National Caucus which only board members are allowed to attend, the Board meeting for the National Magic Center, Esther's Follies which we will be attending on Friday night and any club member is welcome to attend with the National Council for the discounted fee of \$10, and the Assembly show and banquet on Saturday afternoon and evening. It should be a great weekend to show off Assembly 206!!! – *Ron Cartlidge*

AMONG OUR MEMBERS

DOC SEATON attended his 40th or is it 50th boy's basketball state tournament in early March. It is a family tradition to attend every game of the tournament which this year has been increased to 18 games.

THE AMAZINING RAY is now the AMAZING RAY BROWN. Ray has picked up his last name and added it to his web site and advertising.

If you are wondering who that young lady is in our group, it's STEPHANIE

GORSS, who is not a University of Texas Co-ed. A comment the other night was make that Stephanie doesn't get picked on as much any more. She comments that she really misses that. So, when you perform, don't forget to pick Stephanie as an assistant!!!

We had a small group attend an excellent lecture this week by LONNIE CHEVRIE. His was probably the most practical lecturer that we have had in the past two years. Lonnie has two terrific bill switches among his various effects. Attending from Assembly 206 were: RON CARTLIDGE, BOB CARROLL, DOC SEATON, GREG CURTIS, C. J. JOHNSON, ARSENE DUPIN, LOU HORNUNG, RAMON GALINDO, and OPIE HOUSTON.

RON CARTLIDGE used at least three props that he

purchased in the Austin Magic Auction during his four parlor shows at Oak Springs Elementary School last Saturday.

ARSENE DUPIN is currently on tour, but had time to stop by the lecture the other night. He will be in Austin for two days and then it is on the road again.

CODY FISHER has agreed to MC our Assembly show that will be featured during the National Council meeting in Austin at the end of March. Cody called from San Francisco to accept the gig as a local member of Assembly 206.

BOB CARROLL has been working on his golf game at Onion Creek and was in a tournament on the 24th of February. No mention of where Bob placed in the tournament.

KENT CUMMINS is gearing up for his classes that he teaches at the University of Texas. He teaches both magic and juggling, but not at the same time. That allows you the opportunity to attend both classes should you choose to do so.

BERTIL FREDSTROM is doing a great job as President of Ring 60 and has held board meetings prior to the last two meetings of the Ring. PETER THE ADEQUATE gave a talk at the recent Ring meeting on how to get the best out of your show. Incidentally, Bertil is trying to put together a trip to Branson for members of the Austin Magic Community, probably during the

summer. Several have expressed interest in going on such a trip.

CHRIS WALDEN has just returned from a business trip to Moscow, Russia where it was 14 degrees. It probably got colder than that, because Chris fessed up to having to buy a new coat over there.

We have heard that JOE VITALE has been ill so we wish him a speedy recovery!

RAMON AND PAULINE GALINDO traveled to Las Vegas and the World Magic Seminar a couple of weeks ago. I'm not sure how many that is in a row for the two of them, but they have been attending for a long time. They were able to catch the Steve Wyrick show while in Vegas.

Just wanted to mention that HEATHER POGGI MANNIS has been doing a bang-up job as our new Treasurer. She really was under fire with all the money that came in for the Austin Magic Auction and now has to figure out the totals and payments for the twenty-one sellers at the auction. –
Ron Cartlidge

MAGIC CAMP GOES NON PROFIT...ON PURPOSE!

As of January 1, 2007, The Secretary of State has designated The Kent Cummins Magic Camp as a nonprofit Texas corporation. The application for 501c3 status from

IRS is being submitted this month, so that all donations will be officially tax deductible.

Kent Cummins, who founded The Magic Camp in 1993, explains, "This new status will provide a platform for an increased scholarship program, growth of our Austin camps, and expansion outside of Austin." The initial Board of Directors consists of Kent Cummins, Stan ("Doc") Seaton, and Gus Davis.

"I didn't start the camp as a way to make money," explains Kent. "1993 was the year that I turned 50, and I realized that it was time to give back to the Austin community. It seemed to me that a new generation of children might benefit from the things that helped me as I was growing up: puppetry, juggling, and of course MAGIC!" In addition to these subjects, the camp has evolved so that the curriculum includes ventriloquism, balloon sculpture, clowning, and various circus skills.

But as Cody Fisher, who served as Camp Manager during the early days of the camp, pointed out, "It's really a life skills camp!" Very few campers actually become performers...they just become better citizens! Puppetry helps the shy, reserved children break out of their shells, as well as providing a craft component to encourage artistic expression. Juggling helps the athletic children improve their physical skills, while providing self-confidence to those who are not gifted athletically (like Kent!). And learning to perform magic makes it much easier to give a book report in school, dramatically increasing self-esteem.

Gus Davis, perhaps better known as "Gusto the Great," was actually a camper at the first camp, and wound up attending virtually every camp session ever held! He soon became a Counselor in Training, then a Counselor, then

Curriculum Coordinator, and finally the Assistant Camp Director, a position which he will hold this summer. The Kent Cummins Magic Camp has scheduled five two-week sessions for the summer of 2007, all at Concordia University in Peter Hall. (The name of the facility is ironically satisfying, since Peter the Adequate was Kent's original partner when the camp started, and continues to consult for the camp from his home in Branson.)

The Kent Cummins Magic Camp has also become an advocate for children with a wide variety of special needs, being a mainstream camp that believes in inclusion. There have been successful campers with cerebral palsy, ADD, ADHD., OCD, bipolar disorder, Down Syndrome, Tourette's Syndrome, Asperger's Syndrome, various learning disabilities, juvenile diabetes, high-functioning autism, sensory integration disorder, mental retardation, severe emotional disturbances, vision impairment, hearing impairment, and much more. Many of these children labeled as having "special needs" have gone on into the counselor program.

Kent explains: "A child with special needs must have individual attention, a customized curriculum, opportunities to have fun and succeed, and the basic love and respect from those around them. Come to think of it, that's what everyone needs! Our policy at The Magic Camp is that all children have special needs."

Kent says that he is proudest of their Youth Leader Training Academy, which evolved as The Magic Camp grew and needed an effective way to train dozens of teens for their counselor program. Today, every teenager who is accepted into the counselor program takes 40 to 50 hours of life skills training each year, beginning in January. Subjects

taught include goal setting, time management, teaching skills, anger management, celebrating diversity, customer service, communication skills, teambuilding, and much more. There are nearly 100 teens, all former Magic Camp campers, currently enrolled in the Youth Leader Training Academy.

The Austin Magic clubs have supported The Kent Cummins Magic Camp from its inception, providing donations of magic, books, magazines, and cash for the scholarship program. (Last year the camp awarded nearly \$10,000 in scholarships to those families needing tuition assistance.) In addition, Austin magicians have actively been involved as guest teachers and performers. Dozens of magicians have participated, but Doc Seaton, Bertil Fredstrom, and Chris Walden have taken the extra effort of participating in counselor training and attending the first "Magic Camp for Grown Ups!"

The Magic Camp for Grown Ups, originally one of the countless creative ideas from Peter the Adequate, was put on by Gus Davis and his junior staff (all of whom had been campers) to provide a life-changing weekend for the adult staff of the camp, as well as various "Muggles" (non-wizards, according to the Harry Potter books). The Magic Camp for Grown Ups is also used by Kent and Gus as a teambuilding retreat for corporations and professional associations, including Dell Computers, Goodwill Industries, International Sematech, and The International Brotherhood of Magicians Board of Directors.

Additional information about The Kent Cummins Magic Camp is available at www.MagicCamp.com, or by calling Kent at (512) 288-1596. As Jim Caldwell, father of two former campers and a member of both Austin magic

clubs put it, "It's the funnest summer ever!" – *Kent Cummins*

THE MAGIC CONTINUES AT GATTI*TOWN!

Magic Hotline, with help from The Magic Camp, has presented more than 100 special programs using MAGIC for Gatti*town during the past few years. At the present time, there is Magic at Gatti*town on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, as part of their Kids Creative Series. The Kids Creative Series, which is free of additional cost to customers who purchase the low-priced Gatti buffet, provides a variety of special activities for children between 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm every Tuesday. (At the present time, Magic Hotline is alternating with the Dougherty Arts Center in providing these activities.)

The Gatti Magician performs strolling magic between 6:00 and 7:00 pm, then performs a magic show in the Cartoon Room at 7:00 pm. Following the show, there is a Magic Camp beginning Magic Class in the Card Room.

Gatti*town will continue to operate in their original location at the "Y" in Oak Hill until July, at which time a newer, bigger store will open at Slaughter Lane and IH 35.
– *Kent Cummins*

MAGIC & JUGGLING CLASSES SCHEDULED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS!

Kent Cummins will once again teach his popular classes for UT Informal Classes, beginning in April.

"You Can Do Magic!" (Course # 3645.601) will be held on four successive Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 pm, starting April 3 (and not conflicting with any of the local magic club meetings!) Many experienced magicians as well as beginners have taken these classes, and all have called them valuable for their structure of the learning process, as well as fun because of the wide variety of kinds of people who take the classes. Kent has been teaching these classes at UT for over twenty years, and says that it's one of the most rewarding things that he does all year.

"Yes, You CAN Juggle!" (Course # 3647.601) will be taught on four successive Thursday evenings, also from 7:00 to 9:00 pm, starting April 5. (And now that IBM Ring 60 has moved their meetings to Mondays, there is no conflict here, either!) Kent is a Certified Juggling Instructor, and GUARANTEES that everyone who takes the class will learn to juggle, or improve their juggling skills if they already know the basics.

To sign up for either (or both) of these classes, call 23-CLASS or go to www.informalclasses.org. The cost is less than \$50 per course. – *Kent Cummins*

MAY MEETING AND CLOSE UP CONTEST

Society of American Magicians, Assembly #206

2007 Close-up Magic Competition

Date: Monday May 21, 2007 – regular meeting
day

Place: Meet at the home of Millie and Doc
Seaton

10511 La Costa
Austin, TX 78747
512.280.3519
sseaton2@austin.rr.com

Time: 6:00 pm - Free Buffet Dinner
7:00 pm - Competition Begins

NO ADMISSION CHARGE – BUT Reservations are required !

Seating is VERY limited!!!!!!

**Reserve Your Seats TODAY
For this Premier Close-up Event.**

For Reservations Contact:

**Heather Poggi-Mannis 512.301.1298
hpmannis@hotmail.com**

2007 Close-Up Magic Competition

****Prizes ** Prizes**

1st Place

\$500.00 Cash & Merchandise

2nd Place

\$250.00 Cash & Merchandise

**People's Choice "Great Scott"
Award**

\$500.00 Cash & Merchandise

**Hosted at the Onion Creek homes of Assembly 206
Members:**

**Millie and Stan Seaton, MD
Patrick and Alice O'Shea
Wayne and Kim Gayer**

**Be there for Great food, Great
fun, and
A Great night of magic!**