

ASSEMBLY 206 NEWS

November/December 2007

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DAVID REGAL

Monday, January 21, 2008 Meeting, Omni South Park Hotel, Ben White & IH 35, 7:00 PM

David Regal will perform. DAVID Regal will lecture. DAVID REGAL will be at our meeting.

Pay your dues, and get in free!

Did I mention David Regal?

We have a tradition at Assembly 206 to have a serious magic lecture at the January meeting to get the New Year off and running. Michael Ammar, Cody Fisher, Daryl and Shawn Farquhar have started that tradition. David Regal will keep this tradition alive and flourishing, and you need to be there to see it. And make no mistake about it – you will be fooled. You will be laughing, but David Regal will fool you.

If you know who David Regal is, you have already marked your calendar, told your boss you are leaving work early that day just to get a

good seat, and you are in your car with the motor running waiting for January 21 to arrive. (Maybe you should open the garage door while you wait?)

If you don't know who David Regal is, then look him up, read his books (if you can find them – most are sold out and unavailable), watch his DVDs or buy his effects. He is a prolific producer of practical prestidigitation.

David Regal is a television writer and a creator of a wide array of magic effects. His background is live comedy, as a member of the main company of Chicago City Limits. Since moving to the Los Angeles area he has served as head writer for Nickelodeon's Rugrats, and has written for many sitcoms, including multiple episodes for Everybody Loves Raymond.

David produces useable approachable magic that runs the gamut from entry level to extremely advanced stuff. His book "Star Quality" was an instant best seller, as was his two-book set "Constant Fooling". He has dozens of effects marketed by Meir Yedid, and he regularly performs to astounding reviews at the Magic Castle. His marketed effects are doable and always leave an impression on the audience.

David lives in California and is coming to Austin just for this lecture. This is not a tour stop. This is not "just another lecture". This is real, make your audience drop their drink, laugh till they hurt, and spit beer through their nose magic. With David Regal's magic you can make every audience a bunch of clumsy, laughing, beer snorters. What more could you want?

IT'S FREE IF YOU PAY YOUR DUES. If you are a member in good standing of the Society of American Magicians, and Assembly 206, you get in free. So, if you pay your dues, the paperwork is done for the year and you get to enjoy the David Regal lecture for free. If you are not a member in good standing in SAM, and Assembly 206, we will have all the right forms for you to fill out, and will gladly take accept the full payment of your SAM and Assembly 206 dues, so that you can attend the lecture. We accept cash, checks and credit cards.

DO NOT MISS THIS LECTURE. – Hull Youngblood

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

I attended Travis Elementary School in San Antonio. It was near our house. But when it came time to go to Junior High, I went to Longfellow Junior High that was 15 miles away. NONE of the people I knew from elementary school would be there. I would know absolutely no one in the whole school. I did not want to go to Longfellow Junior High. Not at all.

Going to Jr. High the first few mornings was the worst thing on the planet. I hated it. I despised it at a cellular level that is hard to describe. But my mother made me go every morning, despite my yelling, screaming, scheming, and trying to prove I had a fever by putting the thermometer on a light bulb while she wasn't looking (Can't do that with the digital models – can you Boz!). On the third morning of this torment, which was without doubt the absolute worst possible situation that could have ever been heaved upon a 13 year old, I met Norman Dugas.

None of you know Norman Dugas. He's been my dearest friend for 40+ years. Why on earth am I writing about Norman Dugas? He's not a magician and likes magic only because I do. What has my meeting Norman Dugas at Longfellow Junior High 40 years ago got to do with Assembly 206? Just hold on.

I have asked Doc to help with a few projects this year. Some are near and dear to him, like the membership committee and the mentoring program. Some will be new jobs, like writing for the newsletter. When I asked him to write a column for the newsletter, he paused and hummed, drummed his fingers on the table and thought for a few minutes as to whether he would. What I heard on the phone was not really if Doc was deciding if he SHOULD write a column, he was trying to decide if he COULD write a column. Well, I know he can. And I told him that. And after a few more minutes of thinking about it, he agreed to write for the newsletter, so look for his articles.

I am going to ask lots of you to take on some new jobs for Assembly 206. Newsletter, Website, Contest, Auction, Programs, Teaching Magic,

Master of Ceremonies, Community Events, Marketing, 2010 TAOM, Christmas Party, and New Member night. And I am going to call you to talk about these projects. When I do, think about Doc and his agreement to write for the newsletter, and the fact that he is trying something new. He is branching out. No, it's not an assault on Mt. Everest, but it is something he would not ordinarily do.

You should do a job for Assembly 206 this year too. You should try a piece of one part of a project. You may not think you can do it, or maybe you don't think you will like doing that sort of thing. Well, before you say that . . . try it. Try something out of your cocoon. Try something different. You might find you like it. You might find a new talent, and maybe, you will meet some of the members of Assembly 206 you don't know. So go on, try it. You might even meet your own Norman Dugas. – Hull Youngblood

OTHER COMING LECTURES

The Ring lectures are being held at the IHOP at Mopac and Bee Caves Road. They are happy to have us, we have our own meeting room, and you can order whatever you wish off the menu. We usually arrive one hour prior to the lecture for dinner and visits with friends. That said, here is our scheduled events:

WENDESDAY, JANUARY 9: BARRIE RICHARDSON

This great lecture is being sponsored by Richard Garriott so you can thank him for free admission to Ring 60 members, that is, if you dues are current with the IBM and you pay your local dues for 2008 which are \$15. Assembly members who are not members of the Ring pay \$10, IBM/SAM members who are not members of either the Ring or Assembly pay \$15, non members pay \$20. This is your first benefit of the new year to being a member of Ring 60.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6: DUANE AND MARY LAFLIN

This dynamite duo is from Troy, Montana and probably needs no introduction. It is a change of pace from our usual lectures as Duane is very accomplished in stage and parlor magic. The fee for this lecture is \$10 for both Ring and Assembly members. The remainder of the fee structure is the same as under the Barrie Richardson lecture.

The two Wednesday lectures begin at 7:00 p.m. with dinner and visiting at 6:00 p.m. – *Ron Cartridge*

AMONG OUR MEMBERS

KENT CUMMINS will again be teaching magic classes at the University of Texas this spring so watch out for the schedule.

GREG JOHNSTON has been very active in searching for a location for the Society of American Magicians' Magic Center. Greg is looking for something other than a temporary location.

BOB GALLOWAY has made a generous offer to the Magic Center Foundation who has accepted temporary office space at Bob's firm. Look for a grand opening sometime in January.

RICHARD GARRIOTT continues to prep for his space flight some time next year. If you haven't noticed, Richard has lost a lot of weight.

TIM DIETZ now has four videos of his various magic acts on YouTube.

RAMON GALINDO recently won first place in the stage competition at Mexico City at 86 years of age.

ARSENE DUPIN is now engaged to be married. The wedding will take place in January.

HULL YOUNGBLOOD recently played the part of the Godfather at Angels over Austin at the First Baptist Church. In addition, Hull and CODY FISHER worked a banquet for kids from the Gardner House at First Baptist Church.

BERTIL FREDSTROM has been re-elected as president of Ring 60.

RAY BROWN was the producer of the recent stage show at our annual Christmas banquet. What a nice job Ray did.

Also, how about DEBBIE COSTA who was in charge of the banquet and had a great deal of help from CHRISTINE BROWN, HEATHER POGGI-MANNIS, and SHARON CARTLIDGE. In addition, Christine picked up a first place for her fudge.

DOC SEATON recently picked up a couple of items for himself at the trophy shop when he was getting awards for our banquet. He purchased a beautiful shirt and business case which have a top hat, gloves, and Society of American Magicians, Assembly 206 on both of these products. They are really nice!!!

RON CARTLIDGE has been active the past couple of weeks after winning a third place in the close-up competition in Mexico City. He attended the John Calvert Tribute in Las Vegas, gave a speech and performed at the state capitol, and performed for a journey group of the First Baptist Church.

At last report, BOB CARROLL was working on losing weight and had dropped 14 pounds.

ROBERT CASTILLO will be taking over in March as the lecture chairman for Ring 60. He will take the place of Ron Cartlidge who has been lecture chair for the past twenty-six months. - *Ron Cartlidge*

UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP

T Myers Magic, Inc. has a new owner!

After some twenty years as the leader in the novelty balloon business, Tom Myers has decided to retire. At first, he thought the business would close, but along came Gus Davis ("Gusto the Great!") and his family, and Gus will be the new owner, effective January 1, 2008. The signing ceremony was conducted at 9:00 am Wednesday, December 19, at their location on Thomas Springs Road in Southwest Austin.

All of the things that you liked about the business will remain, and Gus has some new ideas up his sleeve to provide even better support to the world of entrepreneurial entertainers.

www.tmyers.com – *Kent Cummins*

SAM NEWS

Life time membership in the SAM has just increased to \$1,500 according to the minutes of the recent National Council meeting. It was \$1,000 so this is an increase of \$500.

The National Council has voted to increase the dues for members of the SAM. This dues increase will take place in 2008. However, you can still enjoy the current low dues increase by paying for your membership three years in advance. This means that you pay \$150 and your dues are paid up for a three year period.

The most important news at the recent National Council meeting was that office space should be open for the SAM Magic Center in December and not January 2008 as expected. Here is why we expect that earlier date: A motion was made by Second VP Mark Weidhass stating that the National Council supports the efforts of the SAM Magic Center Foundation to establish a national headquarters. It was seconded by Dick Blowers, current National Administrator. Current National President, Maria Ibanez offered concerns and did not want a vote taken on the motion. Her reason was that she wanted a feasibility study first. After much discussion, Austin friend Dick Blowers called for the question. National President Ibanez then made a motion to have a secret ballot which was seconded by Artie Kidwell. It was quaffed. The final vote was 14 FOR, 2 against, and 1 abstaining.

A second motion was then made to open a temporary facility in AUSTIN, TEXAS and asked the National Council's support in fund raising efforts, and in an orderly transition of certain resources from current SAM locations to the new facility. The motion was made by 2nd VP Weidhaas and seconded by 1st VP Mike Miller. National President Ibanez again made a statement in the discussions that this must be done in a legal manner. In a landslide vote, the final tabulation was 15 FOR, 2 against, and 3 abstaining. I will look forward to reporting to our membership those voting against a temporary location in Austin in the next issue of our

newsletter and will also try to find out who the abstaining votes were.

In a related matter, the national council accepted the resignation of Tom Jackson as National Administrator of the SAM. He had been on board since the summer convention in Dallas. A motion was made to hire Mrs. Manon Rodriguez as the new administrator. During the discussion, current President Ibanez asked if moving to Austin would be a condition of the hire. She was told that moving to Austin will NOT be a condition of a hire. At any rate, the vote was 13 for, 3 against, and 5 abstaining. Manon is believed to be ready to jump on board and should take her office on January 1, 2008. -

Ron Cartlidge