

Press-to!

Assembly 206 News

Calendar Reminders!

Saturday May 17 - IBM Ring Clinic
 Sunday May 18 - Bob Sheets Lecture
 Monday May 19 - SAM 206 Monthly Meeting

NEXT MEETING:

May 19 @ 7:00 pm at the Omni Southpark

IAN VARELLA

One of the nation's leading ventriloquists:

From The President: Hull Youngblood

One of my favorite things about being involved in magic, is the opportunity to meet so many interesting people that are drawn to this art. For example, I recently had a chance to meet and talk with Wesley James. Now if you are a hard-core card magician, you know the name Wesley James. He has written several books on esoteric card moves, some of which are so complex they would scare off a dis-jointed centipede. He knew and knows a lot of the great card men, like Vernon, Marlo (Wesley called him "Eddy") and Fulves.

Part of our discussion was about Wesley's latest project, which is a 7 DVD set on all the moves, tricks and history of "Expert at the Card Table" by Erdnase. It regularly sells for \$99.00 plus postage, but Wesley sells them for \$75.00 (and that includes postage). Wesley gave me the following website if you want to know more about his Erdnase DVD project:
<http://www.themagicshop.com/dvds/expertcardtable.html>.

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New Members
 Bob Sheets
 Schave and Reilly
 Ring 18 San Antonio
 Gattitown
 Texas Magic Supply

You can contact Wesley directly at "wjames@ pipeline.com" and arrange to buy the DVD's, or you can contact him by snail mail at Wesley James, 2900 Saint Theresa Ave, Apt 3-I, Bronx NY, 10461.

Wesley and I kept in touch by e-mail on a few topics after our meeting, and I finally confessed to him that I was an avid amateur (avid in the sense of interest, not technical skill) and that I did not have the natural "hands" to do the really sophisticated card work that he usually

President's Page: Hull Youngblood

writes and lectures about. He was not surprised by my admission. But he did say:

The great majority of "serious" sleight-of-hand workers were/are amateurs. Jacob Daley was a Plastic Surgeon. Ed Marlo was a Machinist, and later supervisor in a machining company. Slydini was a Tailor. As you may know, your fellow Texan, Gary Plants, is a Teacher. Thus, being an amateur need not be a deterrent to excellence in sleight-of-hand. Moreover, as I tell my guys in NY, one doesn't have to play Liszt to make beautiful music. If you enjoy card technique, have fun with it and if you have the opportunity you can perform for others using the best technique of which you're capable. You needn't use the most difficult techniques.

It reminds me that some of the legends that we hear about, and that we know, are really amateurs; not full time professionals. For example, our own Ramon Galindo is one of the most award winning magicians most of us will ever meet, and he was a tailor (just like Slydini). David Luther is mentalist of the highest order, but is a lawyer by profession. My point is, Wesley James, who makes his living writing and lecturing on a type of magic that most people will never do, makes it a point to promote magic by amateurs. Sure they are his customers and audiences, but he also knows that is who is doing most of the magic out there.



Hull Youngblood and Richard Turner at last month's SAM meeting.

I can't cook like Emeril Lagasse, or play the classical music of Franz Liszt, but I can entertain folks with a few card tricks and jokes and I should make them as good as I can at my skill level. That was Wesley's point. We amateurs can make beautiful "music/magic" without playing the oboe or doing a flawless back-palm. We can perform entertaining magic at any skill level. Just make it as entertaining as you possibly can for the audience. Others of us have the talent of being able to appreciate the great magic performed by others. For me, I think I will go to Esther's this month and appreciate some great magic.

ASSEMBLY 206 REPORT:

by: Ron Cartlidge

The magic in Austin has been unbelievable the past few months. First, we hosted the grand opening of the S.A.M. Magic Center Foundation office on March 18. It was a huge success with an over-flow crowd and I'm sure you have read all about it, as a report was in the last issue of M.U.M.

The next month on April 12th, we enjoyed the annual Austin Magic Auction. This 26th edition was called the "best ever" by many that attended. Our profit from the auction was about \$2,000 after checks were written to the First Baptist Church (\$400+) and the S.A.M. Magic Center Foundation (\$800+).

The estimated attendance was about 110 with a large number coming from out-of-town. We are currently looking at the third weekend in April for the 2009 auction.

We hosted more folks that wanted to visit the S.A.M. Magic Center at the end of April.

Most of the officers of the S.A.M. attended a tour of the office on the afternoon of April 24th. Among those in attendance were Bruce Kalver, President Elect; Mike Miller, First Vice-President; Mark Weidhaas, Second Vice-President; Vinny Grosso, R.V.P. North Atlantic; and John Apperson, PNP. There were many glowing comments on the new office by those present.

Ron Cartlidge, Kent Cummins, and Opie Houston attended the National Council meeting in San Antonio on April 26. Ron was the Assembly 206 rep and a board member of the foundation, Kent is the

R.V.P. South Central and also a member of the foundation board, and Opie is an appointed member of the board representing the veterans program. Ron presented a check for \$800+ and added sixty dollars in cash that he received as a tip while performing at the Long Center in Austin. All three attended a reception held by President Maria Ibanez.

On the afternoon of April 26, Kent Cummins brought assembly reps from Houston and San Antonio as well as PNP Ed Thomas, and current President Maria Ibanez and her husband Jay to Austin for a visit of the Magic Center Foundation office.

A wine and cheese party was held in Maria's honor and she was given a tour of the facility. The group spend over an hour in the board room, visiting and enjoying the plush surroundings of the Magic Center.

Past President, Doc Seaton, presented Maria with a dozen roses from the Austin Assembly.

Our assembly meeting in April featured the magic of Richard Turner, card magician extraordinary. He has performed for Assembly 206 on numerous occasions, but this time gave a lecture to the group. He showed us his classic deals, taking cards from the second location in the deck as well as from the bottom and middle. He dealt cards just about any where that he wanted to!



Richard deals with assistance from Heather Lloyd

Among Our Members: Ron Cartlidge

Bet you didn't know that TAMMY DIETZ works for KLRU Television.

RON CARTLIDGE & TIM DIETZ performed at a recent networking event that was hosted by the Austin Chamber of Commerce. Both brought their best close-up magic, although Tim was seen to produce a dove from time to time during the evening. Ron received a sixty dollar tip at one table that was presented to the S.A.M. Magic Center Foundation. Other news is that Ron will have a knee replacement on May 6.

Where did HULL YOUNGBLOOD learn all that nifty magic that he performs? The truth is out. Hull has been performing for years and earned money while in college at Baylor University. He has also worked at Six Flags over Texas and get this, he won an audition to perform at Six Flags in St. Louis, but turned it down. His replacement? None other than THE Mark Wilson of television fame.

Probably the best show that this reporter ever saw on hypnotism was performed by our own DAVID LUTHER at a small theater in Georgetown. The comedy of this event had me rolling in the aisles.

RAY BROWN is at it again! His summer schedule is filling up fast and he has a repeat engagement at Splash Town in San Antonio.

MICHAEL KAUFMAN will be the featured performer at the next Ring 60 work shop. If you haven't seen Michael work, you need to. We understand that he will be talking about one of his signature tricks,

the card in the orange.

RAMON & PAULINE GALINDO attended the World Magic Seminar in Las Vegas this past week. Also among the Austin group were RAY ANDERSON, Ron Cartlidge, & BOB CARROLL. The word is out! If you need a loan, don't ask Bob. His results at the casino were like most that try their luck in Vegas. However, Bob and I enjoyed a one-hundred dollar breakfast one morning thanks to his losses. On the other hand, you might ask Ray as his stay in Vegas was extremely successful!



Smile Ranger Bob!

RICHARD GARRIOTT continues to spend a lot of time in Russia in prep for a space shot in October. If you wonder why you haven't seen him at our assembly meetings lately, he is working hard to make this a very successful flight.

HEATHER POGGI-MANNIS took a recent vacation from work. Word that she was seen sun bathing on the beach in Honolulu, Hawaii is simply untrue. Heather took two days from work to finalize the totals from the Austin Magic Auction. Thank you Heather for a wonderful job as usual.

Among Our Members: (cont.)

ARSENE DUPIN is back from working in Arizona. He is back, but he is still working. Arsene spends a lot of time at the One World Theater doing his cups and balls act along with various other magic at the west Austin theater.

DOC SEATON and **Hull Youngblood** are busy working on a special web site for the assembly. **Todd Gates** has been working on the site, but the real web master for the project is our own **Ray Brown!!!** Look for the grand opening of this site soon.

Congratulations are in order for our own **BOB GALLOWAY!** Wasn't that first issue of our newsletter a beauty? Thanks Bob! For those of you that don't know, Bob is also the source behind the S.A.M. Magic Center Foundation finding an office location in Austin and another tid-bit is Bob leads a Bible Study for coaches at Austin High School!

MARK THOMPSON has announced that he is moving!!! That's right, our own Mark Thompson is buying a home in Taylor, Texas and opening an Edward Jones office in that city. According to reports, Mark is not moving his magic membership to that city. It has no assembly and he is only about 38 miles from the Omni Southpark and will continue to serve as an officer of our club well into the future!

Ron Cartlidge



Richard Turner deals with help from Heather Lloyd and Eddie Boswell



Everyone was amazed by Richard Turner at last month's SAM meeting.

May Program: IAN VARELLA

Did you enjoy the January, February, and March meetings? Well it just keeps getting better!

IAN VARELLA, one of the nation's leading ventriloquists, just happens to live in San Marcos...and he has agreed to put together a fascinating meeting on the "allied arts" this month. Be sure that May 19 is circled on your calendar, and be prepared to laugh, applaud, and cheer as Ian introduces such subjects as ventriloquism, puppetry, juggling, fire eating, pool playing, tattoo artistry, fire eating, sword swallowing, hypnotism, story telling, clowning, music, balloon sculpture...well, I don't think he can cram ALL of those into one meeting, but you get the idea. It will be a blast!

MONDAY, May 19, 2008



April Meeting fascination

So how could June possibly top that? Ask our talented members from San Antonio! The last time they put on a show for us, it was possibly the best meeting of the year! Also, we expect to have a VERY special guest visit us in June....

7:00 pm, Omni Southpark Hotel

Environmental Magic is Back!

Way back in 1994, Chris Walden and Kent Cummins created the Environmental Magic Kit for what was then the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (now Texas Commission on Environmental Quality). The kit, which included "6 Tricks for Improving the Environment" was designated a "Model Project" by the Environmental Protection Agency.

The kit became immensely popular, so much so that Kent was brought before the SAM Board of Ethics for "exposing secrets!" (The Board ruled in Kent's favor, noting that those who used the kit had to make an investment of more than \$150, far more than the best magic sets available at toy stores at the time.)

Earlier this spring, the kit was put back into production when the Gulf Coast Water Disposal Authority purchased 17 kits to support the River, Lakes, Bays 'N Bayous Trash Bash event on March 29 in the Houston area. Additionally, Kent and Chris have been booked to speak, teach, and perform at the annual conference of the North American Association for Environmental Education in Wichita, Kansas this October.

With the renewed interest, Chris put together a website to support the program:

<<http://www.EnvironmentalMagic.org>> . The site is less than a month old, but keep an eye on it as the program expands.

Spencer's Spellbind Austin!

by: Ron Cartlidge



Paramount Theater Marquee

The Spencers Theater of Illusion visited the Paramount Theater for two shows on May 3. Kevin & Cindy Spencer did a masterful job of entertaining the near sell-out crowd at the 4 p.m. show that I attended. The Spencer's opened with a zig-zag, using a long knife that was thrust into the box so that Cindy could not wiggle into a space that many of the magicians thought she would. Kevin then showed his personality with a torn and restored Austin American Statesman. Apparently, Kevin did not know that the local newspaper is not a favorite with many Austin citizens.

Two of the more enjoyable tricks for me were Houdini effects. Kevin had seven or eight cement blocks locked into a box and then proceeded to walk through the wall as Houdini did on the stage of the Hippodrome in New York City. His second effect was the Milk Can Escape. The can was filled with fifty gallons of water and Kevin, handcuffed, entered the can. With a member of the audience calling out time as he watched a stop watch, Kevin burst from the container that was behind a curtain in just over one minute and thirty seconds.

Another bonding moment for Kevin was when he showed the Australian Pom Pom. This effect has been around for a number of years, but Kevin made it come alive with a terrific routine. He received howls of approval from the audience.

After the one hour and thirty minute show, Kevin and Cindy returned to the stage after signing autographs and took pictures with members of Assembly 206. Kevin took great pleasure when he saw friends Kent Cummins and Brian Brushwood in the group. After the photo shoot, Kevin returned to the dressing room to ready himself for the 7:30 show. At the end of that show, the Spencer's were headed to California for their next date.



Local magicians pose with Cindy and Kevin.

Member News:

New members to Assembly 206:

Daniel Page from Austin.

Daniel Page from Austin. In addition to magic, some of his other hobbies include playing guitar and coin collecting. His first magical experience was in 1958 when his uncle performed close-up magic. He has been collecting tricks made from books.

He also has audio and video production skills.

Kurt Niebuhr from Houston

I know there are other folks who have wanted to sign up but I haven't seen their applications as yet. I look forward to receiving their applications either at our monthly meetings or via regular mail - 5913 Rickerhill Lane, Austin, TX 78739.

Cheers! - Heather Poggi-Mannis

MAY 18 LECTURE - BOB SHEETS

From Brad Henderson:

Bob Sheets, one of the funniest men in magic, will be making a special lecture appearance in Austin, Texas. If you saw Bob at the TAOM in San Antonio a few years back, you are already hitting reply to reserve your spot. If you didn't, then hit reply so you don't miss out.

Bob Sheets will be lecturing in Austin on May 18th at:

Genuine Joe's Coffee Shop

2001 W Anderson Ln
Austin, TX 78757
(512) 220-1576

Plan to arrive at 3 for a start time of 3:30. As Genuine Joe has been so gracious to allow us use of the room, we do ask that you buy a little coffee or snack while there to support them and thank them for their kindness.

Lecture admission: \$20

Finally, if you might be interested in a small group "three shell game" hands on seminar, let me know and I will put it together.

Brad's e-mail: Mrbradman1@aol.com

FUNDAMENTALS: ART OF PHYSICAL COMEDY AND CLOWN

SATURDAY JUNE 14 1PM-4PM

Location:

NiaSpace

3212 S. Congress

512-443-3013

www.niaspace.com

Cost: \$125.00

Registration:

schaveandreilly@yahoo.com

www.schaveandreilly.com

www.myspace.com/schaveandreilly

News: (cont.)

What's Happening In San Antonio Magic
A Report by Michael Tallon,
Ring 18 President

There is a lot of magic happening in San Antonio during the month of May! We have two lectures coming up: Eric Anderson on Wednesday, May 7th (7:00 PM at Weichert Realtors), and Bob Sheets on Friday, May 16th (7:00 PM at the Alzafar Shrine Temple).

Our Ring 18 meeting will be held on Thursday, May 22nd, at Beethoven Halle. The theme for the evening is "Number Magic." We will also have a Swap Meet, and our meeting will end with a Teaching Table by David Cook.

The Ring 18 Talent Show will be held on Sunday, May 25th, at 3:00 PM at the Alzafar Shrine Temple. This event, which is free and open to the public, will showcase some of the finest magicians in San Antonio! A flyer with more information will be available soon.

Preparations are also underway for the Ring 18 Magic Show for Assembly 206 in June! I will have more information about this show in next month's newsletter. Stay tuned...

There is MAGIC at GattiTown!

The Kent Cummins Magic Camp continues to provide magic performances and lessons on Thursdays at the new GattiTown at Southpark Meadows. This month the dates are May 1, 8, 15, and 22,

from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. (May 29
features Abrakadoodle art projects.)

There is no charge for the magic, other than the entry requirement to "buy the buffet."

In addition, The Kent Cummins Magic Camp provides MATH MAGIC every month for Gatti's "Fraction Field Trips," in which magic and pizzas come together to teach math principles to elementary-aged students. For more information on any of the Gatti programs, contact kent@magiccamp.com.

Celebracadabra Sundays, 9 p.m., VH1

VH1's magic-reality show has announced the following schedule:

April 27th - Introduction/Street Magic
May 4th - Children's Magic
May 11th - Comedy Magic
May 18th - Strolling Magic
May 25th - Cabaret Magic
June 1st (pre-empted)
June 8th - Escapes
June 15th - Road to the Finale
June 22nd - The Finale
June 22nd (also) - Magician's Special

Hot Items at Texas Magic Supply!

by Cy Albertson

Next month, Texas Magic Supply will celebrate its third year in business. Our store is booming with business and we can't thank you enough for your support. Please stop by and meet Johnny our newest magician behind the counter. Johnny is from the valley and is a master with cards.

Now for some new hot items:

COINVEXED! After signing a coin the spectator experience something extraordinary as the signed coin bends within their own hands. The spectator can then keep the coin as a souvenir that freezes the moment of magic forever. No switches! The coin that the spectator has signed is the same coin that bends. Only the coins and the sharpie are seen and the sharpie is perfectly normal. No special chemicals! just a diabolically clever gimmick that hides in full view. Retails for \$150. TMS price: \$125.

POINT BLANK by Michael Ammar. A clever young guy by the name of Jordan Cotler visited Michael and shared with him this fun card trick he came up with. The effect is the best kind: Simple and straight-forward: Any spectator names any card, and every other card instantly turns blank. It immediately resets for a repeat performance! It's a special deck that can be handled in a totally normal way. It's simple procedures that produce maximum impact! TMS price: \$20

THE WISDOM OF SOLOMON book by David Solomon. The Wisdom of Solomon has over 50 effects succinctly written by David Solomon and Jeff Siegfried in a manner similar in style to past Marlo writings. There are over 200 photos to clearly illustrate all sleights, layouts, and procedures. At the beginning of each effect the reader is treated to David's personal reflections in the section aptly titled, "Solomon'sMind." TMS price: \$49.95



Arsene Dupin (center) and Hartt Sterns (One World Theater director) and Cy Albertson (right) at last month's SAM meeting.

REMARKABLE CARD MAGIC BY BORIS WILD. 3-DVD SET. FISM award-winner Boris Wild is one of the most renowned French magicians in the world. From Hollywood and Las Vegas to Monte Carlo, Sydney, Tokyo and beyond, Boris' original and creative approach to card magic has taken him to some of the most prestigious venues on five continents where he has received standing ovations. TMS price: \$100

NICK TROST'S SUBTLE CARD CREATIONS book. Nick Trost is well known for his simple, easy-to-do card magic. He uses subtle moves and principles rather than difficult sleight of hand to produce entertaining card effects. The entire set of volumes contain his best card effects, plus variations by his fellow magicians. Many of these card creations came from his series of notebooks and most have not been published previously. This volume alone contains 11 chapters describing over 100 tricks. TMS price: \$45

We get new items in each week. Please stop by and say hi and lookaround! Thank you again for your continued support!

Cyrus Albertson

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