



The Servante

Official Newsletter of the Alliance of Illusionists Bruce Chadwick SAM Assembly 138

Volume 2020 - Number 1 - January 2020

Next Monthly Assembly Meeting Thursday January 9, 2019 - 7:00 pm
Annual Installation Banquet (note date and location change)
Mexican Inn - 1625 8th Ave, Fort Worth, Texas 76104

ANNUAL AWARDS *Installation* BANQUET

The Assembly's Annual Installation Banquet will be held on Thursday January 9, 2020. Note that this year's installation has been moved up a week from the third Thursday to the 9th so as to not interfere with the SAM national convention in Las Vegas. The banquet is scheduled to be held at 7:00 pm once again at the Mexican Inn located at 1625 8th Ave, Fort Worth, TX 76104. Those in attendance will order and pay for their meals directly from the restaurant. A nominal \$5 cash per person admission will be charged to help defray Assembly costs. Assembly members, family and guests are invited.

Entertainment for the evening will be by Ian Richards, a popular Dallas comedy magician. Before he moved to Dallas Texas, Ian Richards lived in Tennessee. However he speaks with a real southern accent because he is from Australia.

Ian became interested in magic late in life after learning a rope trick to provide the entertainment for a kite flying birthday party, that never happened. For the last twenty years magic has been an Ian's obsession. So much so that Ian's wife Maria thinks they should sell their condominium and buy a house to store all of Ian's "valuable magical apparatus", i.e., magic junk.



He performs standup magic regularly at "Comedy and Magic For All Ages" at the Improv Comedy Clubs in Arlington and Addison, and at the "Magic in the Living Room" in Richardson. Ian also performed at the Texas Association of Magicians convention in Dallas in 2013 and "Carnival of Magic" in Plano in 2018.

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER MEETING



What a fun meeting we had for the December 19, 2019 Annual Christmas Party of the Fort Worth SAM Assembly 138 Alliance of Illusionists! A large group of members and guests met at the Illusion Warehouse and feasted on a pot luck dinner with spiral ham, pulled pork, lots of side dishes and desserts. The food was simply excellent! President Joey Byers led the meal with an invocation, and his prayer was that our Assembly would continue to grow both in size, fun, and fellowship for the next fiscal year.



After the meal and a few announcements about upcoming Assembly sponsored lectures and notable magicians playing in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, the Assembly elected its new officers for 2020. President will be Cindy Bighorse, Vice-President Jack McCoy, Secretary Bruce Chadwick, Treasurer Mark Bynum, Sergeant at Arms Joe Rotio, Historian Joey Byers, and Member at Large Al Fox.

Bruce Chadwick was then elected as the first “Dean of the Assembly.” This new honorary position also makes Bruce the first Honorary Life Member of the Assembly. The Assembly then did a quick gift swap and then President Byers and Sergeant at Arms Cindy Bighorse handed out appreciation certificates to many of the Assembly members who have shown exceptional service to the club during 2019.



Then it was on to the magic performances for the evening. Our new Dean Bruce Chadwick and well-known fairs and exposition magician Jeff Martin performed a fun-filled evening of magic. Working in tandem, the two interspersed comedy magic, incredible card effects, fine club-sized feats, a monster guillotine, and whimsical volunteer routines. The show concluded and everyone left the Illusion Warehouse magic shop full of smiles and the Christmas spirit!

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DECEMBER 19, 2019

President Joey Byers called to order the December Executive Committee Meeting of the Alliance of Illusionists on Thursday December 19 at 6:00 pm. A quorum was present with President Byers, Secretary Bruce Chadwick, Treasurer Lisa Fulce, and Member at Large Jimmie Fulce in attendance. Member in good standing Mark Bynum was also present. Not in attendance were Vice-President Mark Jones or Historian John Hale.

The minutes of the November Executive Committee Meeting as published in the December 2019 issue of The Servante were approved. Next Treasurer Lisa Fulce gave a Treasurer’s report showing \$1,537.31 balance in our Operating Account. This reflects a \$51 change from last month’s report, which was the club’s recent payment for corporate franchise tax. Joey Byers gave a quick report from the 2020 TAOM Convention Planning committee stating many of the performers for the convention have been contracted. Convention Registration Chairman Cindy Bighorse reported that 105 TAOM registrations have been received.

Joey Byers reported that the Nominating Committee will recommend to the club at the December meeting the following officers to represent the Assembly in 2020. These include President – Cindy Bighorse, Vice-President – Jack McCoy, Secretary – Bruce Chadwick, Treasurer – Mark Bynum, Sergeant at Arms – Joe Rotio, Historian – Joey Byers, and Member at Large - Al Fox. Byers also reported that Chris Angel will be appearing in the DFW area on February 11, and that the Assembly will host David Stone on Sunday February 9. The Stone lecture will be free for AOI members who have paid their 2020 annual Assembly dues prior to February 9. Others may attend by paying \$15 per person at the door. The club has chosen Sunday January 12, 2020 at 2:00 pm, at the Illusion Warehouse, for the Assembly’s Annual Business and Planning Meeting. With no further business, the committee adjourned.



Here we are, already in a new year, and AOI is gearing up to explore new territories. We know beyond a shadow of a doubt that the Alliance of Illusionists, Bruce Chadwick SAM Assembly 138 Inc is hosting the Texas Association of Magicians

Convention this year and you have a layman as Club President. Yep, this is all new ground for AOI. But we can do more. That will be determined after the Annual Business & Planning meeting.

A Layman President?

You may wonder why a layman would want to lead a magic club. It's a well-known fact that spouses/partners often join as associate members to support their loved one, but not necessarily to lead. Well, this is easily explained. Your new president likes to be entertained. That's it! Nothing more than that. Correct me if I'm wrong, but other family members likely feel the same.

Over the last few years, I've observed several clubs. It's always the same cluster of people who serve on the executive board and are the head billing for public shows or meetings, year after year. I know there is a lot more talent out there than those handful of members. Clubs need to change their goal from demonstrating a trick to mentoring magicians at the monthly meetings. AOI has members with potential and we need to nurture that and help give the act its flair it deserves. This year our focus will include engagement.

If approved by the board, AOI will be offering mentoring to our members. Why? Well, The TAOM 2020 Workshop Convention hosts contests for Junior and Senior magicians. Categories are Close-up, Stage/Club, and Comedy. These mentoring workshops will help prepare you for the contests.

I look forward to seeing you (and your family) at the Installation Banquet on January 9 at the Mexican Inn on 8th Street in Fort Worth.

The TAOM 2020 Convention – The Workshop Convention

This convention boldly changes the format of past conventions. Most noticeable is the registration. AOI recognized that the cost of attending a convention broke the budget of most families. Therefore we chose to offer a Workshop Registration package for the magician and a Basic Registration for family members. This strategy lets the family enjoy together the entertainment portion of convention. The additional cost for the Workshop registration affords training to the magicians with hands-on experiences in the workshops, and each attendee will leave each workshop with much of the apparatus needed to perform the tricks in the workshop.

AOI also recognized that expensive hotels were a financial setback for most families. As if increasing room rates were not enough, the daily costs for parking, Wi-Fi, and availability of dining added more strain to the family budget. So AOI chose a very nice medium range hotel that eliminates the costs of parking and Wi-Fi, and yet will provides quality rooms and amenities. Also navigation between convention activities is much easier this year with all the activities of the convention located on one floor and in one area of the hotel.

There are 63 different restaurants in a 3-mile radius, a handful are within walking distance. Attendees with Basic Registration can pick up an Adventure Package at the registration desk and explore Fort Worth and nearby communities while workshops are in session. Register today! We allow for 250 registrations and about half of those are sold out! Don't delay! Go to <https://taom.org/2020> to reserve your spot today.

In service to you, Cindy Bighorse

AOI Member Spotlight

CINDY BIGHORSE
2020 AOI SAM 138 PRESIDENT
More than you ever wanted to know . . .

Cindy Bighorse is a native Texan and the oldest of three kids, one brother and one bother (in other words, he's too mean to qualify for the first "R" in the relationship). "Bighorse" you ask? Yep, she's an Indian. "American Indian, as in Casino's not call centers, feathers not dots" says Cindy. Her heritage is Osage, part of the Sioux nation. Cindy attends the summer dances when she can, but loves making the regalia for her daughter Kori and granddaughter Zoe (photo below). Cindy's Osage name translates to "Woman Looking at the Eagle," a name often given to First Daughters, meaning Peace Maker/Peace Keeper.



Growing up on a farm, playmates were primarily the livestock on the farm. At an early age, Cindy learned the value of "putting up" the harvest. She became adept in making butter, jellies, butchering game, and canning, but her passion was bread. Well, that was her father's passion. He didn't allow store-bought bread in the house, so new recipes were frequently tested and approved.

In high school Cindy was active in 4-H, an honor roll student, and the valedictorian of her class at Liberty Hill. After graduation, she attended school in Georgetown. She was accepted to Central Texas College where she studied Drafting and Design. Her first job landed at Alamo Steel in Waco, Texas. Now she is a 23 year retired Senior Engineer from Lockheed Martin. At Lockheed, Cindy was a lead engineer for electrical wiring systems on military aircraft such as the F-111, F-16, F-22, and F-35.

While at Lockheed, Cindy volunteered for numerous Robotic Competition organizations. She served as head referee, engineering judge, robot inspector, engineering coordinator and any other tasks that could utilize her skills. It was through one of these competitions that she met the love of her life.

MATE ROV is an underwater robotic competition. At one event, scuba was necessary and Cindy signed up for her Open Water Diver certification. It was at the last lessons where she met Bruce Chadwick. Bruce was a Divemaster for the scuba class. Swimming on the surface across the lake, Bruce asked Cindy her name. Then he asked if she was married. Hesitantly she replied, "Ah, well no." Bruce took a bold step and comically suggested, "Good. I'll ask you out sometime." Cindy reluctantly responded, "Yeah, right."

Two years later, Bruce and Cindy were married. To celebrate their initial scuba meet, and also to be totally cool, their ceremony was held twenty feet underwater while scuba diving in the Florida Keys at a dive site called Christ of the Deep. At the end of the ceremony, "The kiss the bride" part was pretty darn quick" says Cindy! Since then Bruce and Cindy traveled world-wide to many different dive destinations and have logged hundreds of dives.



As a retiree, Cindy enjoys spending time with her granddaughter, teaching her many skills she learned as a child. Zoe is learning to quilt, make jams, dehydrate her favorite foods, make bread, and bake. They've experimented with pasta and cheese resulting lasagna for Zoe's mom's birthday dinner. Cindy teaches Food Preservation for the Senior Education Program at Tarrant County College. She's in her second term as a City Councilwoman for Saginaw and serves as an officer of the local Rotary Club. In her copious amounts of spare time, she loves to assist with construction of magic at the Illusion Warehouse or traveling with Bruce to his shows.

A HISTORY OF ABBOTT'S MAGIC COMPANY

written by Percy Abbott in 1957

There have been many stories from various walks of life on starting from scratch and building a successful business. This is my own personal and intimate story in that respect and I trust that you will find in it not only a general interest, but the knowledge that there are always heights to climb. There are many times in life when through what we accept as an unfortunate occurrence, if rightfully used, can become our greatest asset. I believe this to be true with most misfortunes of life, if we know how to make use of them.

This occurrence in my life was not misfortune or merely a change in my way of life, but one that required adjustment. I had been in show business for many years, had traveled over much of the world's surface seeking not alone business and money, but adventure and knowledge as well. Then suddenly, my life changed and another person became important in my scheme of things.



In a small village in Michigan where I had gone for a lazy carefree fishing trip, I met the lady who was to be the future Mrs. Abbott. We were married two years later. After our marriage for a period of nearly five years, we were quite content to work a few shows (she became part of the act) in not too distant pastures and to return again to the home town. Money was not an easy commodity to obtain for these were the depression years but we were happy and healthy and there were few requirements. Then, I learned that I was to become a father! Needless to say, this was a responsibility that would require more effort, time and money, so what was "papa" to do.

Show business was all I had ever really known and I was convinced that I did not want to attempt the difficult task of raising a child while trouping. Neither did I wish to leave what was now my world to travel around alone, missing much of the companionship which I had enjoyed.

It has always been my habit, when required to do any deep thinking, to play around with ideas in Magic. For me, this has been a beneficial way of clearing my mind. So, having something to think through, I went alone to our bedroom and there proceeded to look over an accumulation of odds and ends bits of string, rope, playing cards, thimbles, and safety pins all those little gadgets with which all Magicians are familiar. Suddenly an idea struck! I saw the idea for a new trick in fact, a new principle in Magic. Hurriedly I set about constructing the thing. It soon emerged in a very crude state. Now to try it out. My good wife was of course the chosen victim for this ordeal. If I could fool her, I really had a good trick.

I located her in the kitchen preparing a meal and I am certain that when I suggested she cease her labors to look at a trick, she could have gleefully thrown straight at me the skillet which she was holding. However, being a fairly amicable individual, she stopped and watched the miracle. AND SHE WAS FOOLED! My conversation went something like this, We're going to start a magic business, manufacturing tricks, and THIS is the first one. The trick was named Squash. It consisted of the instantaneous disappearance of a glass of liquid.



Thus, a business was born. Our bank account was well under a hundred dollars and I could see many future bills looming, but in small quantities we purchase the needed articles to produce the little trick. Another and another trick was added from my mental storehouse. (Now I knew the reason for the many years of traveling the world, of seeing Magic in India, China, of going into out-of-the-way places to see Magic never seen by white men before.) This coupled with the kindness of other people made it possible for us to hold on until the business started to build up.

The business had been started only a short time when a young man, interested in this strange thing called Magic, came to me and asked to toss in his lot with mine to further the interests of this new venture. Thus, the partnership between Recil Bordner and myself got its start, and together, without ever an argument or a critical word, we have operated this unique factory for twenty-three years. His patience and ability have been a great balance wheel for my rather stormy and rapid-fire nature.



CELEBRATING 75 YEARS

The Workshop Convention

\$100 Basic Registration

**Includes Three Full Evening Shows - Pro Close-Up Show
Contest Shows - Dealer's Room - Classics of Magic Show**

\$225 Workshop Registration

**Includes all the Basic Registration Events Above
PLUS Twelve Hands-On Hour-Long Workshop Sessions
PLUS Bonus Speed Workshop! Less than \$10 per session!**

\$109 Radisson Hotel in North Fort Worth on I-35W

**Radisson Hotel Fort Worth North - Fossil Creek - Free Parking
2540 Meacham Blvd, Fort Worth, Texas 76106 - 877-612-4486
Ask for Texas Association of Magicians Rate - Expires 07-27-20**

Registrations are Limited to 250 Attendees!

September 4 - 7, 2020 - www.TAOM.org

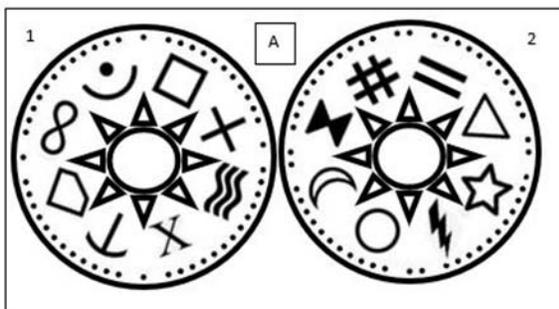
Bruce Chadwick SAM Assembly 138 Alliance of Illusionists Inc



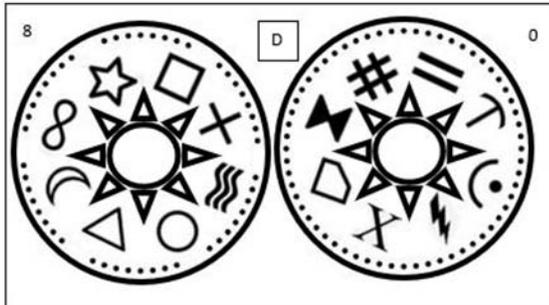
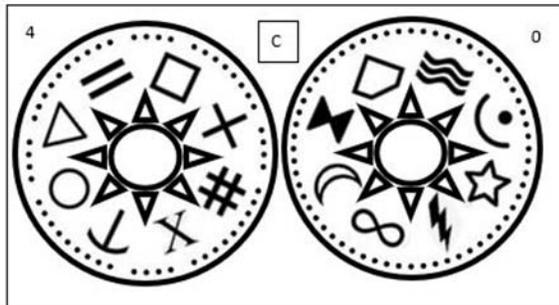
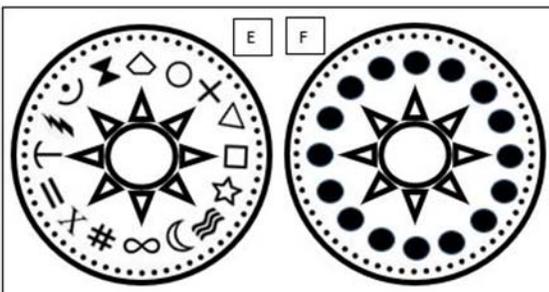
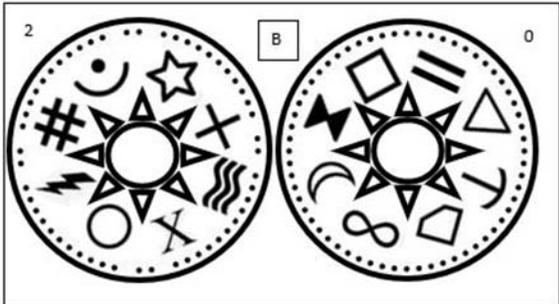
When I was young I cut a magic trick off the back of a cereal box, probably Trix or Lucky Charms. It was an old and still fascinating math number trick which I'd bet you once had. The standard fare is someone thinks of a number between 1 and usually 32 (sometimes 64 or other variable) and then looks over a set of number cards, keeping those that have their number written and giving back those which don't. The magician then almost instantly reveals their thought of number! I'd always loved the method but never cared for the eliminating aspect. Once I began understanding binary movement within a range, the following & card packet version were born and

which I named 'Mentalarium'. You didn't think I was done with binary just yet, did' ya? I promise next month will be something entirely different.

Mentalarium Discs: 6 discs are dumped onto the table. Disc E is handed to a spectator who is instructed to look around it and mentally choose a symbol. Afterwards they are to place it on the table with the symbols side down (blank side upwards). The magician turns away and instructs them to look at 4 symbol discs and stack together on top of E with sides that has their chosen symbol facing upwards. Finally, they place disc F on top of all with its printed side down. He / she is told to lift and flip all 6 discs over and place back onto the table. The magician turns back around and picks up the stack. After a little concentration he moves his finger around the 16 symbols displayed on disc E and stops on the selected one! In the following diagram, the rectangles A, B, C, & D show both sides for each disc, E & F are just one sided. Sorry for the close spacing, cut them entirely apart. I painted wooden nickel blanks with black acrylic, stick glued the stickers and with a light layer decoupedged their tops & edges for ruggedness. Make sure to glue each pair (A, B, C, & D) to the same disc for the principle to work.



Secret: Around each disc is a border of dots. Some sides of the 4 double-sided discs have dots that are isolated, either 1, 2, 4, or 8. The circles without any isolated dots are nil (value 0). As the magician is concentrating, he slightly angles the discs where their black dotted borders are visible and adds the isolated dots. Looking at disc E, starting with the circle as one and counting clockwise, the symbol at the number equal to the combined dot total is their selection!



2020 OFFICERS

1. PRESIDENT:	Cindy Bighorse	cabighorse@gmail.com	817-846-4062
2. VICE PRESIDENT:	Jack McCoy	magicjack@charter.net	
3. SECRETARY:	Bruce Chadwick	chadwickillusionist@yahoo.com	817-832-6062
4. TREASURER:	Mark Bynum	mark.bynum12@att.net	817-437-8936
5. SERGEANT AT ARMS:	Joe Rotio	jrotio@yahoo.com	941-375-9657
6. HISTORIAN:	Joey Byers	jbyers@us.ibm.com	972-837-8543
7. MEMBER AT LARGE:	Al Fox	alfoxmagic@hotmail.com	817-845-0419

DFW AREA MAGIC HAPPENINGS

FORT WORTH SAM ASSEMBLY 138 ALLIANCE OF ILLUSIONISTS

Meets on the third Thursday of each month, 7:00 pm at the Illusion Warehouse magic shop located at 3917 McCart Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas 76110. Contact communications@allianceofillusionists.com or go to <http://sam138.com/alliance/> or Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/162025544420781/>



FORT WORTH MAGICIANS CLUB INC AND REN CLARK IBM RING 15

The two clubs meet concurrently on the first Thursday of each month, 7:00 pm at 4055 International Plaza, Fort Worth. See their Facebook group for other details.

MID-CITIES MAGIC CIRCLE

Meets monthly. See the Mid-Cities Magic Circle Facebook group.

DALLAS MAGIC CLUB, SAM ASSEMBLY 13 AND IBM RING 174

Meets monthly at 7:00 pm, Crossroads Christian Church, 2425 Parker Road, Carrollton, www.DallasMagic.org.



IMPROV COMEDY CLUBS IN ADDISON AND ARLINGTON

Both comedy clubs periodically host weekend comedy magic shows. For more details go to either www.ImprovArlington.com or www.ImprovAddison.com.

MAGIC IN THE LIVING ROOM

Periodic magic shows every 1st Tuesday at 7:00 pm at The Line Public House, 940 E Beltline in Richardson. See www.MagicLivingRoom.com for more information.

