



# The Servante

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

Volume 2021 - Number 3 - March 2021

Next Monthly Assembly Meeting Thursday March 18, 2021 - 7:00 pm  
Illusion Warehouse, 3917 McCart Ave, Fort Worth, Texas  
Three blocks north of Seminary Drive/Across from Rosemont 6th Grade

## THE MENTAL MYSTERIES OF MIKE INCE

The March 18, 2021 Alliance of Illusionists Monthly Assembly Meeting will be held as usual on the third Thursday. This month's meeting will be on February 25 at 7:00 pm, the Illusion Warehouse, 3917 McCart Avenue. Brenda Dolenz-Helmer will make some exciting announcements and then Bruce Chadwick will perform a Broken Wand Ceremony for the late Dr. Bernie Dolenz. There will be a teach-a-trick segment and some other unique performances.

The main core activity for the evening will be a lecture and performance by Mike Ince. A creative communicator with training and experience in writing and audio/visual media production, Mike is also an phenomenal actor who has appeared in local commercials and independent films. He is also a renowned mentalist who combines suggestion and psychology to create the illusion of a sixth sense. **You will not want to miss Mike's wonderful lecture and presentation, free to 2021 dues-paid-up members of the Alliance of Illusionists.**



## 2021 DUES ARE NOW PAST DUE

In an effort to help AOI club members with rising costs, at the September 2020 Monthly Assembly Meeting the Alliance of Illusionists instituted a new system to help members pay their 2021 annual Assembly and national Society of American Magicians dues.

Members pay both their AOI yearly dues and national SAM directly to SAM Assembly 138 using the payment portal or PayPal button on the club's website. The Alliance of Illusionists will then forward each member's national SAM dues to the national SAM office. To pay 2021 dues, simply go to [www.sam138.com/alliance](http://www.sam138.com/alliance) and click on the Dues/Application tab.

**Please note that as of March 1, 2021 only dues-paid-up members and guests are eligible to attend Monthly Assembly Meetings.** As per the publication date of this month's newsletter (March 15, 2021), the following members have paid their 2021 dues:

Bighorse, Cynthia  
Byers, Ava  
Byers, Denise  
Byers, Joseph  
Bynum, Mark

Chadwick, Bronson  
Chadwick, Bruce  
Clauder, Margaret  
Davis, Michael  
Fox, Albert

Fulce, Jimmie  
Fulce, Lisa  
Dolenz-Helmer, Brenda  
Hinze, Richard  
Jones, Mark

Marler, (McCoy) Kailyn  
McCoy, Jack  
Ng, Enoch  
O'Lander, Lonnie  
Perry, Kevin  
Trowbridge, Bernie



## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

### MARK BYNUM 2021

You are seeing a different face here in this article from last month. Jack McCoy felt it best to resign as president for health reasons and I have been duly elected in the February AOI meeting as his replacement. We will carry on with many of Jack's programs for this year. All our best to Jack and we will see him soon at our meetings. Cindy Bighorse was elected to fill my old position as treasurer. The Executive Committee is full again and energetically taking care of business.

One of our main goals is to get the membership back to our live monthly meetings. We have been meeting live all through the Coronavirus episode by maintaining the CDC protocols, and we will continue to maintain our social distancing while at the Illusion Warehouse. Several of our members have been vaccinated. So don't let that stop you from attending.

We are going to offer a free door prize at every meeting as another means of drawing members back to the meetings. The Sergeant-at-Arms will give you a ticket along with your name tag as you arrive. We will call out a ticket number at the end of the meeting for a \$10 gift certificate for the Illusion Warehouse magic shop. Remember, YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN!

I want to emphasize that we have time at every meeting for individuals to present a magic illusion or anything out of the 'Passport' booklet. This is some of the most fun we enjoy and, after all, we are a magic club! We should have plenty of tricks to see at every meeting, both amateur and professional. This is your time to improve your skills on an old illusion or try out a new trick. You can ask for a critique from the audience on how to improve, or not. It is entirely up to you. No one is 'on the spot' to do a perfect routine. Practice of your best tricks will help the club later on in the year when we will do a Public Magic Show to raise funds.

Every meeting will have a segment of either "Magic from the Past" or "Teach a Trick" presented by Bruce Chadwick. We have done this during the last two regular meetings and it is very educational as well as entertaining.

For those members that just can't make it or out of town, we will continue to offer Zoom as a means to stay in touch with the meetings. Our dues structure has changed but it is really in favor of the member. I know that it is a bit confusing but just contact us or come to a meeting and we will clear it up for you.

Our next meeting features a mentalist. We have not had this branch of magic presented in many years and I am personally looking forward to it! Hope to see you there!

Happy Magic Learning and Fun,

Mark Bynum

## MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY MONTHLY ASSEMBLY MEETING

Almost two dozen face-to-face and Zoom members and guests attended the Fort Worth SAM Assembly 138 Alliance of Illusionists February Monthly Assembly Meeting. Vice-President Bernie Trowbridge called the 7:00 pm meeting to order at the Illusion Warehouse party room and magic shop. The club elected Mark Bynum as the new 2021 President to replace the reigns previously held by Jack McCoy who had to resign due to health issues. The club also elected Cindy Bighorse to replace Bynum as Treasurer. The club also discussed special accolades soon to be bestowed upon Brenda Dolenz-Helmer.



The monthly door prize and raffle process was explained. New President Bynum talked about Mark Wilson and performed the magic milk pitcher as part of the explanation about the club's new "passport" booklet that some members will follow. Secretary Bruce Chadwick was up showing his display of cups and balls, and then performed his whimsical and entertaining cups routine. Enoch Ng then performed a couple of his unique card effects.

The main core activity of the meeting followed with Pix Smith giving a very entertaining and funny lecture on audience management. Pix talked about the importance of respecting one's audience, positioning, and how to condition an audience. He emphasized the importance of proper speech, pronunciation and enunciation. Included was great information on the importance of being congruent and how to take compliments. Afterward Al Fox won the month's door prize and the meeting adjourned with a lot of happy smiling faces.



## NEW ILLUSION WAREHOUSE COVID GUIDELINES

As most people know, Governor Greg Abbott issued an Executive Order lifting the mask mandate in Texas and opened all businesses and facilities 100 percent. This order went into effect March 10th.

Abbott states, "With the medical advancements of vaccines and antibody therapeutic drugs, Texas now has the tools to protect Texans from the virus. We must now do more to restore livelihoods and normalcy for Texans by opening Texas 100 percent.

Make no mistake, COVID-19 has not disappeared, but it's clear from the recoveries, vaccinations, reduced hospitalizations, and safe practices Texans are using that state mandates are no longer needed.

This announcement does not abandon safe practices that Texans have mastered over the past year. Instead, it's a reminder that each person has a role to play in their own personal safety and the safety of others. With this executive order, we are ensuring that all businesses and families in Texas have the freedom to determine their own destiny."

With this in mind, the official policy of the Illusion Warehouse is to follow Governor Abbott's direction. With this in mind, the Illusion Warehouse no longer requires masks to be worn in the party room and store. However the Illusion Warehouse still recommends that masks be worn and that social distancing guidelines be followed. The exception to this is when performers and other speakers are making presentations during party room events.

The Executive Committee of the SAM Assembly 138 Alliance of Illusionists is free to declare other guidelines for its Monthly Assembly Meetings at the Illusion Warehouse. The Assembly has announced that it will continue to include Zoom operations for members who are still not comfortable with face-to-face gatherings. The Zoom link can always be found on the home page of [www.sam138.com/alliance](http://www.sam138.com/alliance) under the "Next Meeting" tab.

# MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Vice-President Bernie Trowbridge called to order the February 25 Executive Committee Meeting of the Alliance of Illusionists sharply at 6:00 pm at the Illusion Warehouse. All officers were in attendance except President Jack McCoy.

The minutes of the February Executive Committee Meeting as recorded in the February issue of the SERVANTE assembly newsletter were approved. Treasurer Mark Bynum provided the monthly Treasurer's Report showing a 4,596.97 balance in the club's Operating Account. Secretary Bruce Chadwick gave a Membership Report showing 17 dues-paid-up members so far for the 2021 fiscal year.

Club Historian and TAOM Vice-President Bronson Chadwick gave a quick TAOM meeting report stating that two different hotel properties are under current consideration for the Fort Worth 2022 TAOM Convention. Mark Bynum reported on his work along with Bernie Trowbridge on establishing a monthly door price and instituting a June 17 raffle that complies with the state of Texas regulations.

After explanation, Bruce Chadwick made a motion that special accolades be presented to Brenda Dolenz-Helmer, along with a Broken Wand ceremony at the March AOI Monthly Assembly Meeting. The motion was seconded by Joe Rotio and approved by the committee.

Mark Bynum and Cindy Bighorse reported on their work meeting with Edward Jones on how to invest the money donated by Dr. Oz and Brenda Helmer. The committee voted to move forward with the investment, with the officers of President, Secretary, and Treasurer being listed as the "board of trustees," as required by Edward Jones.

Cindy Bighorse and Mark Bynum were assigned the role to secure a Zoom account using the assembly's Operating Account credit card.

It was announced that Mike Ince will present a mentalism performance and lecture as the main core activity for the March Monthly Assembly Meeting. Bruce Chadwick will be responsible for contacting Ince and setting-up the details. The committee agreed that a check for \$150 be given to Ince as an honorarium.

It was also announced that the March meeting would be "April Fooling," with an open mike night for members to perform.

The last order of business was the announcement that President Jack McCoy submitted his resignation as President for health reasons. The committee recommended that Treasurer Mark Bynum take over as President, with Cindy Bighorse moving into the Treasurer's position. It was agreed that Vice-President Trowbridge call to order a Special Executive Committee Meeting at the February Monthly Assembly Meeting and make the recommendations to the club. The motion was made by Bruce Chadwick and seconded by Joe Rotio.

With no further business, the meeting was concluded.



## Monthly Treasurer's Report to the Executive Committee Alliance of Illusionists SAM Assembly 138

Month: Feb Year 2021

Previous Report Balance: \$ 9637.78

### Receipts since the previous report:

Description	<u>Banquet Cash</u>	Amount	<u>\$ 80.00</u>
Description	<u>Donation</u>	Amount	<u>10,000.00</u>
Description	<u>Paypal-Memberships</u>	Amount	<u>675.76</u>
Description	_____	Amount	_____
Description	_____	Amount	_____
Description	_____	Amount	_____
Description	_____	Amount	_____

(Plus) Total Receipts: \$ 10,755.76

### Disbursements since the previous report:

Description	<u>Mailchimp, 1/21/21</u>	Amount	<u>10.65</u>
Description	<u>Paypal</u>	Amount	<u>43.28</u>
Description	<u>Debit Card-Zoom- 1 mo.</u>	Amount	<u>15.92</u>
Description	<u>1022- Convention Reimbursement</u>	Amount	<u>450.00</u>
Description	<u>1023- Meeting Facilities-2021</u>	Amount	<u>220.00</u>
Description	<u>1025- Banquet Entertainment</u>	Amount	<u>100.00</u>
Description	_____	Amount	_____
Description	_____	Amount	_____

(Minus) Total Disbursements: (\$ 796.57)

Ending Balance: \$ 4,596.97

### NOTES:

Total Convention reimbursements outstanding=\$1020  
Outstanding Cks.: #1024, \$6.50

JACK  
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A A O P A  
T R I T Y  
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**Devil's Bellhop**— The name isn't as sinister as it might seem. It's a reference to the 'Devil's Elevator' plot, originally devised by Dai Vernon and Bruce Cervon which this is a version of. Very basic sleight-of-hand is required.

Effect: The 5 lowest denomination cards (ace – 5) debate on the ace's true position, whether it's the lowest or highest in rank.

Method: Remove the ace through 5 of one suit. Arrange them in order with the ace on the face, the 5 on the back.

1. Hold the packet face up in right hand biddle fashion. Display all cards in the following biddle peel / steal process.

A. Peel the ace into the left hand.

B. Return and peel the 2, stealing back the ace under the right's packet. Keep a thumb break between it and the packet.

C. Return and peel the 3, stealing back the ace below it. Catch a tiny pinky break below the 3 before it merges flush.

D. Return and peel the 4.

E. Return and peel the 5.

In this simple displaying of the packet, you've secretly switched the positions of the ace & 2 and have a pinky break 3 down.

2. Remove the cards above the break with the right hand. The ace will be visible in the left hand, so all the other cards are assumed to have been removed.

3. Rotate both hands which revolves both sets face down. Place the right's packet on the table, perfectly squared. Grasp with the right hand the left's card(s), let go with the left hand, revolve palm up and the right hand places them into it. Remember, this is only supposed to be 1 card so keep them perfectly square. All should be face down at this point.

4. Remove the top card off the packet and place it under the left's double. They think it's the 2. Snap your finger and turn over the top card. The 2 appears to have penetrated the ace to the top! Place the 2 face up on the table beside the stack.

5. Remove the next card off the pile and place it on top of the left's card(s). Sweep the hand downward to suggest a magical action, then turn over the entire packet. The 3 is on the bottom, apparently penetrating the ace the opposite direction. Remove the 3 and set it face up on top of the 2. The ace shows in the hand so all looks fair.

6. Revolve the held double face down and set it on top of the remaining face down card on the table. Pick all up. It looks like you place the ace on top of the 4 & 5 and picked the trio up. You can flash the bottom card if you so choose.

7. After a magical gesture, turn over the top card to show the 4 has magically travelled to the top! Quickly spread all 3 cards and rotate the hand where the ace and 5 are visible. Revolve back and square up, creating a pinky break below the ace (middle). Remove the top double with the right hand and pantomime inserting it from the back between the ace and 5. Actually, the pair goes to the bottom.

8. Spread the packet which shows a face up 4 between 2 face down cards. Since they saw the 5 on the bottom not long ago, they'll assume it to still be there when actually it and the ace's positions have been secretly switched. Place the spread on the table. After a magic moment, turn over the top card to show the 5 now on top. Remove it and the 4 and drop them on top of the tabled stack.

9. Turn the remaining held card over to show the ace and slide it below the table stack, thus ending with the ace - 5 once again in order.

**More**—It shouldn't prove too difficult to align patter with the stages going on in the trick. Basically, the 2 shows it has power over the ace. The 3 proves superiority in a different fashion. The 4 shows it's power as well. In an effort to keep the 5 from winning the debate, the 4 moves between it and the ace to make it more difficult for the 5 to accomplish. The 5 succeeds thus the ace ending the lowest rank of all, thus bringing an end to the debate.

## 2021 OFFICERS

1. PRESIDENT:	Mark Bynum	mark.bynum12@att.net	817-437-8936
2. VICE PRESIDENT:	Bernie Trowbridge	berntrow@sbcglobal.net	214-998-0352
3. SECRETARY:	Bruce Chadwick	chadwickillusionist@yahoo.com	817-832-6062
4. TREASURER:	Cindy Bighorse	cabighorse@gmail.com	817-846-4062
5. SERGEANT AT ARMS:	Joe Rotio	jrotio@yahoo.com	941-375-9657
6. HISTORIAN:	Bronson Chadwick	bcillusionist@yahoo.com	432-413-6816
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](mailto: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

Meets on the first Thursday of each month, 7:00 pm. See their Facebook group for 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

The Addison Treehouse, 14681 Midway Rd, Addison, Texas 75001 , [www.DallasMagic.org](http://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](http://www.ImprovArlington.com) or [www.ImprovAddison.com](http://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](http://www.MagicLivingRoom.com) for more information.

