



The Servante

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

Volume 2019 - Number 4 - April 2019

Next Monthly Assembly Meeting Thursday April 18, 2019, 7:00 pm
Illusion Warehouse, 3917 McCart Ave, Fort Worth, Texas
Three blocks north of Seminary Drive/Across from Rosemont 6th Grade

APRIL MEETING TO FEATURE THE MAYOR OF WYLIE

The April 18th meeting will feature a presentation by "The Magic Mayor" Eric Hogue. Eric is the mayor of Wylie, Texas, a professional magician, a renowned public speaker, and acclaimed author. He is personally responsible for publicizing magic in north Texas with magic week of the Wylie Magic Festival.

Eric will bring his unique brand of magic to the Illusion Warehouse with performance. He will also bring an update regarding House Resolution 698, "Recognizing magic as a rare and valuable art form" and host a short Q and A session on the topic.



SPECIAL NOTE FROM MARGARET CLAUDER



With Mayor Eric Hogue from Wylie updating the Alliance of Illusionists on the state of HR 698 at the April meeting, the status of declaring magic as an art form, we received the following note from Margaret Clauder:

As you know I've stayed in contact with the Texas Commission on the Arts with regard to this subject. Their management told me in the past that TCA will NOT recognize magic as an art form until the NEA (National Endowment for the Arts) recognizes magic as an art form. The most recent National Budget proposed by President Trump completely eliminates ALL funding for the arts.

If we are to EVER get magic recognized as an "art form" then we must as a magical community advocate for the arts in general. Here is a direct link to send our representatives our own letter advocating for the arts to remain part of our national budget. We ALL need to become "arts advocates!"

<https://www.votervoice.net/ARTSUSA/Campaigns/64228/Respond>

UPCOMING MONTHLY ASSEMBLY MEETINGS

MAY: The May 16 Monthly Assembly Meeting will feature Rotating **PROFESSIONAL CLOSE-UP!** The meeting will feature several top close-up performers performing incredible close-up magic. Audience members will assume seats at one of several close-up stations, and then 4 to 6 close-up performers will rotate between stations and repeat their 15 minute close-up acts.

JUNE: The June 20 Monthly Assembly Meeting will be **OPEN MIC NIGHT.** Members and guests are encouraged to bring whatever they would like to perform. Whether it is close-up, an act, or a single trick, members are encouraged to come and share with the group. For those who are interested, this will also be an opportunity for Assembly members to audition for the July Public Show.

JULY: July 7 we will be hosting the **HAL MEYERS WORKSHOP.** Also in July the Assembly will host its first ever Public Show at the Illusion Warehouse Party Room and Magic Shop.

MARCH 2019 AOI MONTHLY ASSEMBLY MEETING REPORT

Thirteen people were in attendance for the March 2019 Monthly Assembly Meeting of the Fort Worth Alliance of Illusionists SAM Assembly 138. Bruce Chadwick gave a quick pre-meeting preview of some of the items for sale from the late Cameron Ainsworth magic estate. President Joey Byers then officially started the meeting with a few brief announcements.

The Assembly discussed the possibility of an upcoming magic auction or swap meet perhaps held in conjunction with the Dallas Magic Club. Other announcements included information



about the “most new members” membership contest, the April Meeting to have Wylie, Texas Mayor Eric Hogue, the May meeting to feature a night of Professional Close-Up, the possibility of a public show in July, and a lecture by Hal Meyers also in July. Medical updates about Assembly members Rick Burcher and Hal Hudgins were also given.



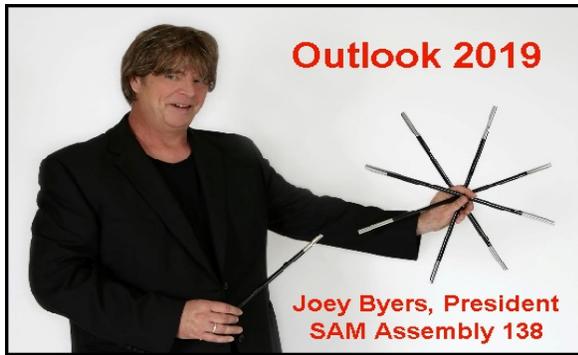
The AOI was happy to have 40 year magic veteran and visitor Joe Rodeo at the meeting. Two AOI candidates then presented their Qualification Demonstrations to fulfill their AOI membership application. Lonnie Orlander from Waco was up first with a very unique “New Deck Order” card effect. Next was Mark Church who performed a “23rd Card in the Deck” routine. The Alliance of Illusionists welcomed these two gentlemen into AOI membership with Sergeant at Arms Cindy Bighorse presenting them their name badges. John Hale then presented a rope routine that was light, comical, and very well done.

The group then moved into the workshop facilities of Chadwick Illusion Fabrications at the Illusion Warehouse magic shop. Bruce Chadwick presented an hour-long lecture called Stagecraft 101. He presented an



array of workshop tips and tricks, building and refurbishment ideas. Bruce demonstrated everything from metal polishing, information about tapes and adhesives, lubricants, coin cleaning, building materials, basic geometry, how to keep rope from fraying with heat shrink tubing, sanding, paints, wood putty, and even how to properly mount a hinge. The lecture was unique and very well received.





Hello again friends and family of S.A.M. Assembly 138 / Alliance of Illusionists!

I hope this edition of Outlook 2019 finds you well. It's April and we just moved into the second quarter of the year. Wow! It is flying by my friends. Don't let it get away from you without seeing some great magic - either at the club or one of the venues in the DFW area. See the Servante for magic options around town.

Our March meeting was both fun and at the same time informative, which is not always the case in magic. If you can get both at the same time, learning a lot WHILE you are having fun, you should seize the opportunity!

Bruce Chadwick's March lecture, entitled *Stagecraft 101* included a tour of the Illusion Warehouse workshop. If you have never seen a real workshop where stage-sized illusions are built, you should have been there! Those of us who were present not only toured the shop, but we spent the entire lecture time in the shop where we were able to experience first-hand all the things Bruce lectured about! He shared secrets for keeping props looking new and fresh, and he showed how to mend, repair, and augment existing props to get the most out of them. Often times that meant thinking outside the box and doing things in unconventional ways. It was amazing how big of a role that mathematics plays in prop-building and repair, but it wasn't addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, as much as it was knowing how to use tools, combined with mathematical concepts to create perfect circles, arcs, angles, and corners.

The setting for the meeting was informal, so we were able to enjoy our snacks and beverages, and to come and go at will while Bruce demonstrated the concepts. As soon as Bruce grabbed an electronic screwdriver and fired it up, you could see him glowing. You knew that he was in his element in that shop! No topics were off limits and Bruce took on all questions. All in all, I think everyone learned at least several tips on how to properly care for or maintain some of their props, and some of us took away advice on how to fix some of our personal problem areas. For example, Bruce showed us how to clean the corrosion from old copper so that it shines like new!

Did any of you catch Penguin MAXX last month? Wow - what a great time! It was a mini-convention - for all practical purposes, packed full of headline-caliber performers. Nick Locapo emceed the entire event - which was primarily two evening shows and a ton of workshops 30 minutes apart, non-stop. Dan Harlan, Michael Weber, Losander, Brent Braun, Garrett Thomas, Chad Long, The Other Brothers, Nick Locapo, Michael Kaminkas, and Diamond Jim Tyler performed, lectured, and shared stories and experiences. The dealer room was populated by many of those same people. Everyone I know who attended said they spent more than their planned amount, which is a good sign that the effects presented and taught were top-notch.

Funny that it was so successful . . . Because . . . this format reminds me of what our Texas Association of magicians Planning Committee has in store for the 75th TAOM convention. SAM 138 will be hosting the convention in 2020 and it will be known as "The Workshop Convention." It will run on a similar schedule that you experienced at Penguin MAXX. So, if you liked MAXX, you'll LOVE the TAOM 2020!

For more on the Penguin MAXX event, check out Scott Wells' podcast The Magic Word at this link: <https://www.themagicwordpodcast.com/?offset=1553176800758>

What is going on at the Alliance of Illusionists? Remember you can always find out what to expect for any upcoming meeting by stopping by our website at www.sam138.com. From almost any screen on the website, you

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can check out the **Next Meeting** pane on the right side of the screen and get the rundown on the upcoming meeting for the month. At all of our meetings now, remember that Ava, Cindy, and Denise have something yummy cooked up (or baked up) for snacks at a low cost.

The **April 18th** meeting will be feature a presentation by The Magic Mayor. In addition to serving as the Mayor of Wylie, Texas, Eric Hogue is also a professional magician, a highly demanded motivational speaker, and an author. Eric and the city of Wylie host The Magic of Wylie festival each year during Magic Week in October.

Eric will not only treat us to a performance, he will educate us on the status and progress of House Resolution 698, "Recognizing magic as a rare and valuable art form." He will do a short question/answer session on that topic as well, so be sure and bring your questions about magic and its official recognition as an art form by the US House of Representatives.

The **May 16th** club meeting will be Rotating Close-up! The meeting will feature several top close-up performers doing close-up magic in contest-style. I was in touch with a couple of them today to make sure they were still planning to perform. This is where our audience of club members will assume seats at one of several close-up stations, and then 4 to 6 close-up performers will rotate between stations and repeat their 15 minute close-up act. This format enables every spectator to see every close-up performer...close up - so to speak. The performers will be announced next month, but trust me that this meeting will be talked about all year long, and club members will demand a repeat in 2020!

The summer meetings are not yet finalized, but here is a sneak peek into the summer. **July 7** we will be hosting Hal Meyers for a workshop. I will tell you more about Hal and this event in the months to come, but if you watch Jeff McBride's manipulation videos, look at the scrolling credits at the end and you most likely will see Hal's name with the words "Special thanks to" in front of it. I saw Hal do this workshop at last year's S.A.M. convention, and it was one of the best I've ever participated in (emphasis on the word participated). Hal will provide some props, and he will coach you through the learning process so that when you go home, you will have been thoroughly trained on several impressive, new skills that you can add to your routine.

Also, in **July**, we will be putting on our first public show in several years. Yay! The purpose of the show is to raise funds for our club. We will do the first show at the Illusion Warehouse in July, and then subsequently graduate it to a location that will be a bit larger and a bit more public, possibly involving another organization in the community. If you are interested in performing at our July fund-raiser, please let me (Joey Byers) know as soon as possible. We may have auditions, depending on the number of people who are interested. I'm hoping that our **August** meeting will be a special treat for all of our kids' performers. More on the summer plans as the year progresses.

Okay - that is it for this month's update. If you think of someone who used to attend the club that we haven't seen for a while, give them a call, tell them we miss them, and let them know that great things are going on that they don't want to miss.

See you all at the March 18th club meeting!

Joey Byers, Your 2019 President



TAOM 2019 NEWS

The 2019 annual convention of the Texas Association of Magicians will be held in San Antonio, Texas next Labor Day Weekend, Friday afternoon August 30 through Monday morning Sept 2. Current convention stars include Richard Turner, Oscar Munoz, Nick Lewin, Scott Pepper, John Cornelius, Stuart MacDonald, Joe Givan, Carol Lee Massie, James Dimmare, Mahdi Gilbert, Chris Capeheart, and Earl Nelson.



The convention will be held at the beautiful Hilton Palacio del Rio, set on the banks of the San Antonio River Walk. Use the discount code TAM for the special \$149 room rate. Also the hotel is just down the street from the Magik Theatre where the evening shows will be held. Seating is according to registration date. For more details, <http://taom.org/2019>

APRIL ISSUE OF MUM MAGAZINE

Editor Alan Howard begins his "Preshow" column this way: "Being an April issue, thoughts of April Fools' Day were at least in the back of what passes for our collective mind as we put this magazine together. It's traditionally a time for pranks, jokes, tricks, and hoaxes -- a day that many magicians and entertainers think of as just a normal day. Hopefully you will find something in this issue that you find amusing." Sadly, Alan then transitions from foolery to sympathy as he notes the passing of two magic icons: Marshall Brodien and Johnny Thompson.

This month's cover features "Frederick Eugene Powell: Master of Magic and Mystery," the second Dean of the Society of American Magicians, in a well-documented article by Tom Ewing, national historian for the SAM. Ewing takes us center stage with information from his new biography of Powell by the same name. Don't know the name Yasuo Kiga? You will after reading "The Magic of Yasuo Kiga" by Arie Vilner. He offers a fascinating interview with Yasuo, who was friends with and studied with Shigeo Takagi, Tenkai, Dai Vernon, Slydini, Derek Dingle, Jerry Andrus, and others. Sessioning with those names should get your attention.

"Routines and Moves from Yasuo Kiga" explains a Rabbit and Wolves routine, his Half-Pass Undercut, and his Ultra-Mental Deck routine. Hawaii-based National SAM President Ron Ishimaru reports from Los Angeles this month in his "From the President's Desk" column. He begins with a report on attending KAX-LA2019, the Conference of Variety Family Performers, offers a quick Q&A on Cabalistic Questions, then concludes with comments about the Midyear National Council meeting held at the Brookledge Theater. SAM Dean George Schindler devotes this month's "The Dean's Diary" to stories about his friend Michael Ostaski, better known to you as Mickey O'Malley. You'll learn how he used his magical and artistic talents throughout the magic world.

When it comes to how you market yourself, David Corsaro in his "No Smoke, No Mirrors" column writes that it's the little things that matter. He examines three things that make a big difference when talking to a prospective client. "Magic in a Bottle" columnist Mr. Bottle, a.k.a., Kien Meng Wee, offers some excellent advice on asking for feedback about your performance and presentation. Sometimes difficult to listen to, it's a positive step toward improvement. He concludes with his rendition of the Hat Tear, almost a must for kid show performers.

Cinde and Dal Sanders delve into how to deal with stage fright in this month's "TV or Not TV" column. Brian T. Lees in his "Taking the Stage" column makes the point that announcing each trick is not the best, or only, way to move through your performance. "ShopTalk" is always a go-to column in every M-U-M, and this month our well-posted reviewers evaluate five tricks and one DVD to help you make the best buying decisions.

Bruce Kalver is M-U-M's "Tech Tricks," "Norman Beck on books, and "Diversions" is not to be missed this month. "Basil the Baffling and Chloe," member news, the SAM's "National Council Minutes," "Broken Wands," "Correspondence," Assembly Reports and other columns round out this month's April issue of MUM magazine, one of the finest magic magazines available to the magic fraternity.



No Spectator Necessary

(aka. In the Land of Favorites)

This trick was an assembly of two self-working principles and appeared in my first book 'Impossibilities'. It's a solo type of thing but can be presented over the phone or online as a magic mystery with just a little spectator management. Like other 100% self-workers, a downside of this trick is the magic 'buzz' might be only temporary should anyone reenact it. They'd soon discover the magician has

nothing to do with it but some sneaky card / math thingy is going on. I also recommend 2 self-working solitaire mysteries by the professor, Dai Vernon, and can be found in the back pages of 'The Vernon Chronicles – Further Lost Inner Secrets, Volume 3'.

1. Grab your favorite deck and remove a favorite card of yours, whichever card it might be. It can be any card, but must be considered your favorite, true or not. It's required by the deck. Go ahead and remove that card and place it face down onto the table. Square the rest of the cards and hold them in your left hand with the faces pointing downward, just like you're about to deal, and which you are.

2. I want you to now think of a number between 1 and 10, it can even be 1 or 10, or any number in between. Begin dealing cards one-at-a-time off the top of the deck and on top of your favorite card, equal to your favorite number. For example, if you're favorite number was 5 you would deal five cards, one at a time, on top of your favorite card. I'll wait for you to do so.

3. Are you done? Good. Now, pick up the entire stack from the table and return it on top of the deck. Get the cards all nice and straight.

4. Now, still holding the deck face down, I want you to spell the following 3 words, ' M Y N U M B E R I S ', dealing one card per each letter, onto the table in a nice stack.

5. On top of that group, deal more cards this time equal to your favorite number. Count to it, don't spell it. The deck can count vibrations. Finished? O.K., now pick up the entire pile and place back on top of the deck. You may not believe this, but the deck now has an idea what your favorite card just might be. Sound crazy? Why yes it does, doesn't it? But humor me if you will. The deck needs just a little more 'favoriting'.

6. For this last part, I'd like you to consider something; if you had another favorite number, but this time between 11 and 19, which would it be?. Got one in mind? Great. Let's call this you're new and superior favorite number, a double-digiter this time. Please deal the cards one at a time, onto the table into a nice stack and equal to your new superior and favorite double-digit number. Example, if you chose '14' you'd deal 14 cards into a pile on the table. Now pick up the whole stack and place it on top of the deck.

7. One last thing, think about your superior favorite number. It consists of two digits, so let's reduce it to a single digit by adding both digits together to arrive at a single number. In other words, if you were thinking of 14, you would add 1 plus 4 which totals 5. Pleas deal cards off the deck, one at a time, equal to that single number, onto the table. Pick up the pile and drop it onto the deck. Peace and coexistence now exist within the deck, love and tranquility for all the favorites, small and large.

8. To show its appreciation, the deck will do a card trick for you. "Abracadabra! Alakazam! Presto-Riseo up to the topo! Now, take a gander if you will of the top card. "Tadaa, and now I'm your favorite!" said the deck!

Note: You might recognize steps 6 & 7 to be an old number force. I learned it from a small booklet of various simple magic tricks that came with a magic kit. The first principle could be related to the clock principle or similar methodology. Each time the cards are dealt, their order is reversed, which is an underlying necessity in both principles. After step 5., the card is 10 down from the top of the deck. The '10th card force' does the rest. Either can be used individually.

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DFW AREA MAGIC HAPPENINGS

BRUCE CHADWICK SAM 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. Contact President Geoff Grimes for more details at ggrimes1@aol.com or phone 972-740-3125.

MID-CITIES MAGIC CIRCLE
 Meets monthly at the Humperdink's Restaurant located near Six Flags in Arlington. Guests arrive at 7:00 pm for dinner with an informal meeting at 8:00 pm. See Mid-Cities Magic Circle on Facebook or <https://goo.gl/uDQdQa>

DALLAS MAGIC CLUB, SAM ASSEMB 13 & 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 with headliners such as Mike Williams, Mike Squires, and others. For more details go to their respective websites at either www.ImprovArlington.com or www.ImprovAddison.com.

MAGIC IN THE LIVING ROOM
 Periodic magic shows at The Line Public House, 940 E Belt-line in Richardson. www.MagicLivingRoom.com



BRUCE CHADWICK'S

Magical Wisdom

The moment a person performs, he becomes an entertainer. Whether or not he is a good entertainer is another matter.



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