



The Servante

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

Volume 2024 - Number 11 - November 2024
Next Monthly Meeting - Thursday November 21, 2024 - 7:00 pm
Illusion Warehouse, 3917 McCart Ave, Fort Worth, Texas
Three blocks north of Seminary Drive/Across from the Public School



THANKSGIVING MAGIC

The Thursday November 21 monthly meeting of the clubs will be a potluck Thanksgiving meal and show. Cindy Bighorse will provide the ham and the Illusion Warehouse will provide the drinks. Andrew DeRuiter and Susan Williams have donated the dinnerware. The club asks that each family in attendance provide a covered dish to augment the meal.

Entertainment will be the "Magic of Past Presidents" show with Gary Poe as emcee. Performing will be Jack McCoy, Bruce Chadwick, Mark Jones, Bernie Trowbridge, and Joey Byers.

Please note that the Executive Committee will meet at 6:00 pm at the Illusion Warehouse immediately prior to the monthly club meeting. All officers should be in attendance and all members in good standing (2024 dues-paid-up members) may attend as well. Visitors may not attend Executive Committee Meetings.

ANNUAL DUES ARE DUE

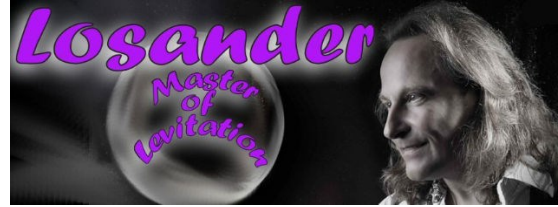
Annual dues for club members are due and payable in full before January 1, 2025. Annual dues are only \$25 per person. Members pay their dues online via the Dues page of our www.SAM138.com website. Members have the option to be a member of the national SAM organization, which gives them membership in both the SAM Assembly 138 and the Alliance of Illusionists, or individuals can join just the Alliance of Illusionists without national SAM membership. Please note that the Assembly no longer collects national SAM dues from Assembly 138 members. SAM members in our Assembly are fully responsible for paying their own national dues direct to the SAM as the national offices sends statements.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PROPOSES 2025 SLATE OF OFFICERS

The 2024 Executive Committee has proposed the following slate of officers to serve for the 2025 club year. Tentative 2025 candidates include Gary Poe for President, Joey Byers for Vice President, Bruce Chadwick for Secretary, Lonnie Olander for Treasurer, Jack McCoy for Sergeant at Arms, Hare Evison as Historian, and William Weebo for Member at Large. Club members may add additional nominations at the November and December Monthly Clubs Meetings. The Clubs will then close nominations at the December meeting and the Members in Good Standing at the December meeting will vote. Officers will then be installed at the January Installation Banquet.

OCTOBER MONTHLY MEETING REPORT - DIRK LOSANDER LECTURE

The Thursday evening October 17 monthly meeting of the Fort Worth SAM Assembly 138 was a lecture by the one and only Dirk Losander! He is of course the master of levitation magic, and his magic has found its way into the repertoires of many magicians. The lecture was held in the party room of the Illusion Warehouse magic shop with 20 members and guests in attendance.



Dirk wowed our group with a very nice Multiplying Ball routine performed to music. He also did some wonderful rope work with an incredible combination of Professor's Nightmare, cut and restored, and blending the ropes into one long piece.



His version of the Hindu Rope trick where the rope became animated and almost "snake like" was incredible to see, and his thumb tip work of vanishing a silk hank and making it appear in a wallet was smartly done. His Chain Breaker version of the Thumb Tie was very unique, where his first finger and thumb were taped together and yet a locked piece of chain and a chair were penetrated onto the "loop" of his fingers.

He performed a really unique floating glass effect that seemed impromptu in nature, with a wine glass and dinner napkin. And of course Losander performed a number of his classic effects with floating soap bubbles and his Zombie Bubble routine. He finished his lecture with his ever famous Floating Table routine, which was climaxed with the table vanishing under a large cloth.

Holy mackerel! It was wonderful seeing such beautiful, elegant, and original routines by one of magic's most dynamic performers. Thank you Dirk Losander! You were incredible.



MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

President Jack McCoy called to order the October 17, 2024, Executive Committee meeting of the SAM Assembly 138 and the Alliance of Illusionists at about 6:18 pm in the Illusion Warehouse museum room. A quorum of four officers were present. Absent were Member at Large Lisa Fulce, Sergeant at Arms Jimmie Fulce, and Vice President Lonnie Olander. Also in attendance were members in good standing Gary Poe, Mark Jones, and Joey Byers.

Treasurer Bernie Trowbridge delivered the club's Treasurer's report. At the time of the last report, the clubs had a balance of \$1029.21. Since then, the clubs have brought in \$227.07 from 2025 dues, cash received from guests attending the Losander lecture, and a transfer of all funds from the Club's PayPal account. The club had one expense, the monthly \$13.86 MailChimp charge. This leaves the club with an ending Operating Account balance of \$1242.42.

Minutes of the September Executive Committee Meeting were approved as printed in the October edition of the SERVANTE newsletter.

New Officers were discussed for 2025. Jimmie and Lisa Fulce have emailed, "Lisa and I thoroughly enjoy our membership in the club. However, because of personal reasons, we have decided that we do not wish to be on the Executive Committee at this time. Please remove us from consideration in the nomination process."

Also 2024 Officers who have indicated they would not be available to serve in 2025 include Cindy Bighorse and Bernie Trowbridge.

Tentative 2025 officer candidates include Gary Poe for President, Joey Byers for Vice President, Bruce Chadwick for Secretary, Lonnie Olander for Treasurer, Jack McCoy for Sergeant at Arms, Hare Evison as Historian, and William Weebo for Member at Large.

According to the club's Bylaws, other Officer nominations can be announced from the floor during the October, November, and December monthly club meetings, with the election proper also at the December Monthly Club Meeting.

November meeting will be a potluck Thanksgiving meal and show. Cindy Bighorse will provide the ham. The show will be the "Magic of Past Presidents" with Gary Poe as emcee. Performing will be Jack McCoy, Bruce Chadwick, Mark Jones, Bernie Trowbridge, and Joey Byers.

With no further business, the meeting concluded at about 6:40 pm to start the club's Losander Lecture at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce Chadwick, Secretary





Happy November,

Here we go, winding down a successful year for our club. I will admit, from a personal note, this is a big relief for me. Before retirement, I was a manager / supervisor of a bottle production facility who produced over 3,000,000 bottles a day for all the major filler groups (Coke, Pepsi, Dr. Pepper, Ozarka, etc.). In fact, I invented the 1st Deja-Blu bottle for Pepsi, the grip Prego jars for Campbells in Paris, Texas (32 and 64oz.), and the first 1 liter Sparkling, and lightweight .5 liter water bottle for Ozarka. They've changed since then and fill in their own facilities but back then, if you bought any of those products, you were holding a bottle I invented the blowmold process for, not the bottle's full design but turning a preform (basically a plastic test tube) into their bottle and their specifications. But, enough of that, I'm depressing myself as it was a strenuous 26 years for me and a curse for years afterwards since I couldn't escape them every time I was in a store, felt weird too that everyone holding said bottles is by the person who made it possible. My kids loved telling people about me, usually with a patronal nod, sometimes not caring whatsoever.

You'd think I'd be comfortable and not like a fish on land in front of people, but there's a big difference between employees and magic audiences. My employees basically just didn't want to hear something that involved a complaint or asking for mandatory voluntary (yes, a real thing) extra work days, which in the bottle business meant the holidays and pre-summer months, filling our customer's pre-holiday and pre-summer inventories. Coke Waco, one of our largest customers had enormous warehouses whom we produced all their Powerade bottles (I was a key player in creating as well), and all Gatorade bottles for Pepsi Arlington. Magic audiences don't want to be disappointed in what they're eager to witness, similar to say a movie or play. Magic audiences want to get in, work employees want to get out. It's downhill with 2 fun-filled, open mic, open everything club meetings which will be a breeze for me and the committee.

I do feel bad for those who missed the great Losander's lecture last month. This was my 3rd time meeting and talking to him and can only say that he is one of my all-time favorite professional, big-time magicians. He's simply a great guy, very personable, very caring of the art, doesn't want anyone disappointed. Magicians at his level don't have to be that way, and I can tell you from personal experiences it's a rare thing. Magicians are performers, just like any other form of entertainment, and similar egos if you will happen to many high leveled magicians. it's involuntary due to their often narcissistic attitudes. If you met Losander anywhere off the stage you'd have no idea who you're talking to as far as famous magicians go. The fact our visitors could pay just \$5 more and for that not only get a stunning lecture that brought gasps over and over, but an application to get a year's membership with the AOI as well! That and the donation box method for our public show both worked well and exceeded expectations monetarily for the club. Yay team!

I'm looking forward to seeing you at our Magic Thanksgiving party. Details are in this newsletter, maybe an excuse for you to read the whole thing if you normally don't. I hope to see you if you've missed the last one or few meetings. We've got a classic magic family condition happening with our club, well worth the once a month effort. Hopefully soon we'll be able to afford it more.

Jack McCoy
President AOI & SAM138

ALICE JEAN HALLBERG (1960 - 2024)

Alice Jean Hallberg, age 64 of Church Hill, Tennessee, went home to be with her Lord and Savior on Tuesday, October 22, 2024. Alice was born on July 3, 1960, in Brownsville, PA to Russell and Nellie Cadman. On May 1, 1982, Alice married her most cherished friend, Jeff Hallberg, and after 42 years of a beautiful life together, he survives.



Alice was a devoted wife, mother, sister and friend. She and her husband spent several years in Fort Worth. Together they were actively involved with the Fort Worth Magicians Club, the IBM Ring 15, and the SAM Assembly 138. They spent many years raising doves, and she loved all animals. Her daughters will always cherish the time that their mother spent with them.

From playing Rummy 500 and baking cookies at Christmas, those moments will live on in their hearts for eternity. Alice loved cooking and gardening, and she was a proud Trekkie. Education was important to Alice, and she instilled the love of learning, reading, and going to museums into the lives of her daughters. Alice's caring heart and kind spirit will be missed by all those who know her.



Alice was preceded in death by her parents; and one sister, Roberta Keeney. Those left to cherish her memory are her husband, Jeff Hallberg; two daughters, Rev. Jennifer Hallberg, and Alyssa Hallberg; two sisters, Louise Corbett, and Leona Harris; sister-in-law, Susan Ventola and husband John; two brothers-in-law, John Hallberg and wife Eileen, and James Kray; and many loving nieces, nephews, family members and friends.

STEVEN SCHNEIDERMAN (1958 - 2024)

Steven Schneiderman, of Dallas, Texas, age 66, passed away on October 19, 2024. After battling cancer for almost a year, he died peacefully in his sleep at the T. Boone Pickens Center of Faith Presbyterian Hospice.

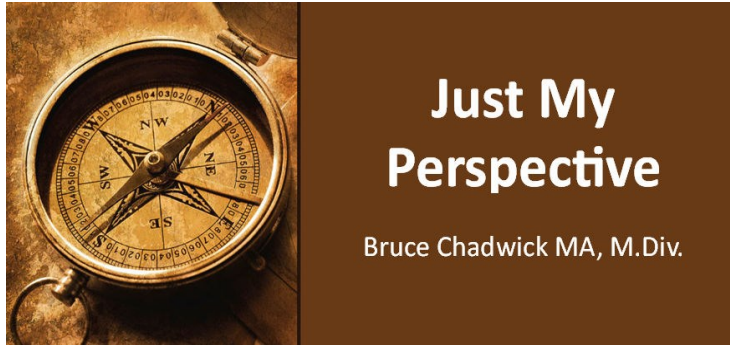


Steven was born on October 3, 1958, in the Bronx, New York to Marvin Schneiderman and Anita (Speier) Schneiderman. He attended primary and high school in Queens and graduated from Queens College in 1981 and 1983, respectively, with a BA and MA in creative writing.

He taught English at Queens College as a second language for three years. He then ventured into his own companies and computer consulting before going corporate in 1986. He worked for Wiltel, which transitioned to WorldCom starting in 1993 and relocated to Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he met his wife Amy and raised their two children, Alexaundra and Christian. In 2018 Steven took a job with Microsoft and relocated to Dallas, Texas. He loved working for Microsoft. He often said it was his "dream job."

Steven was also an avid magician and highly respected in magic, especially in the magic collecting world. He had a vast collection of rare magic and found great enjoyment in collecting old magic apparatus.

Steven is preceded in death by his parents, Marvin and Anita Schneidman. He is survived by his loving wife, Amy of Dallas, his children, Alexaundra of Seoul, South Korea and Christian of Tulsa, Oklahoma, along with several extended family members.



COMEDY IN THE MAGIC SHOP

Our Fort Worth Illusion Warehouse magic shop is approaching its 29th year. There have been some very comical things that have happened in our time. Early one Saturday December morning, a lady and her husband came into the store. They were both very dignified and smartly dressed. The lady was probably in her late 40's or perhaps early 50's. She was very respectable looking, but also buxom. In fact, she was one of those fortunate women to have the prominent "valley" in the middle of her chest, and her button-down blouse augmented the fact.

The couple explained that their grandchild had become interested in magic tricks and they were shopping for some magic Christmas gifts. I began showing them an array of effects that I knew would be satisfactory. It was then the lady spotted the Roxie Raccoon spring puppets hanging on the wall. She inquired about them and so I grabbed one and began to manipulate it. I made it look around, hide its face, cause it to "eat" out of my hand, and of course the "animal" tried to run up my arm a couple of times.

As I finished the demonstration, I sprang the raccoon into the air toward the lady in an attempt to startle her, something I had done to other customers many times before with great success. However as I catapulted the animal upward, it did a perfect arc and a near vertical nosedive right into the top front of her blouse. The animal stuck upright like a telephone pole!

The poor lady began to scream and dance around in a startled panic. The spring animal's tail swung back and forth like a Trump flag in the wind. Her husband was laughing so hard, I thought he was going to have a heart attack. It was then that the lady recomposed, pulled the animal from her burrow and exclaimed, "Oh you!"

What was I to do? I hadn't planned for the animal to dive into never-never land. Frankly I didn't know what to say. The husband simply replied, "We'll take it!"

On another occasion, one Friday afternoon right around lunchtime, the Illusion Warehouse bell rang. I usually don't eat in front of customers, but I had half a sandwich in my hand as I opened the door. I quickly recognized the customer, and I apologized for eating in front of him.

"Oh, that looks really good," said the customer. He said it in a way where it was apparent that he was hungry.

Please understand that I am not the type of person who avoids helping people, and especially someone who needs food. I consider that an integral part of who I am. I simply replied, "Can I fix you a sandwich?" "I would love a sandwich!" said the man.

I immediately went out the "Employees Only" door, walked around to our kitchenette, and quickly made the man a ham and cheese. I brought it out and gave it to him along with a can of soda.

As he began to ravenously devour his unexpected meal, I said to the man "So you didn't get a chance to eat lunch today?" The man explained that every Monday morning his wife gave him lunch money for the week. It was then that he explained, "But I always skip lunch so I will have money to buy magic tricks."

And that my friends are the types of customers the Illusion Warehouse always needs.

JACK
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E M C C O Y
A A O P A
T R I T Y
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Clarification in last month's trick- The trick I posted last month (October, 2024), reading the newsletter I may have been vague in one of the steps. Substitute this explanation for step D. in that trick if it isn't working:

D. Now, for the 1st time peek beneath the 3 pairs and see which one has the red ace. Leave it where it is and switch the 2 black pairs with each other. The red ace pair isn't moved. My apologies.

When I think about a magic principle, I don't see numbers or sleights the way most people do. I see things in places, groups, and x,y, axis. If you catch me looking up or slightly off and moving my hands in the air in different places, especially if I'm yapping, my brain's arranging what I'm talking about in my head, it's the only way I can function sometimes. It was an embarrassment in my school years with kids being kids and all.

Effect: A spectator cuts a smallish chunk off the top of a shuffled deck. A card is selected and lost inside. The spectator's name is spelled by dealing cards to the table, one per letter in their name, after which the remainder still in the hand is dropped on top. The stack is picked back up. The word 'Miracles' is now spelled using the same dealing / dropping process. Lastly, the spectator says a lucky word; any word at all. That word is spelled and the remainder dropped on top. Although the magician didn't know their name nor lucky word, the selection is shown to now be on top, or it is counted to!

Method: When I first learned this, I remember it was explained with a math formula, pretty sure it was Martin Gardner, so go figure. I can't see the principle in that fashion as I know very little about advanced mathematics and such. Here's my brain's interpretation of the reason the trick works, and routine which it can be utilized.

- A. Double-turnover for selection, double-turnover again, remove the top card and bury inside the packet. The selection is secretly retained on top though they believe it buried inside somewhere. The packet is counted by the magician, *to verify the packet having more cards in it than the person's name (wink wink) has letters.* It's a innocent and logical method for gaining knowledge of the total number of cards in the packet plus it puts the selection on the packet's bottom. Don't forget the number of cards that's in the packet total.
- B. His / her name is spelled per the dealing method previously explained and the remainder dropped on top, therefore the selection is now directly above the number of letters in the name from the packet's bottom.
- C. A larger in spelling word is spelled and the remainder dropped on top, thus reversing the packet. I chose 'MIRACLES' as it has 8 letters which is more than most names. If their name is larger, a creative bigger word will be required, the word 'IMPOSSIBLE' for example. What's important is the selection is dealt to the table during the spelling process and not still in hand once the spelling is complete. The selection is now from the packet's top one spot further than the person's name.
- D. The lucky word is spelled, thus eliminating off the top. If the lucky word is equal in number of letters as their name, the selection is now on top! If it is less, the difference equals the selection's location counting from the top. If the lucky word is greater than the person's name, the selection is one again where it was in step B, basically you reversed the packet again, the remainders dropped on top is irrelevant in amounts.
- E. You'll have to be creative here in how you reveal the selection. For me, if it's 2nd or 3rd from the top, a double or triple turnover is perfect. If it's further down, any word that is 1 less than it's location counting from the top is used as my lucky word which I spell and show their selection now on top! To determine it's number from the packet's top, simply subtract the person's name from the total number of cards in the packet.

2024 OFFICERS

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5. SERGEANT AT ARMS:	Jimmie Fulce	fulceagency@aol.com	214-478-4432
6. HISTORIAN:	Cindy Bighorse	cabighorse@gmail.com	817-846-4062
7. MEMBER AT LARGE:	Lisa Fulce	fulceagency@aol.com	214-478-4432

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 party room and magic shop located at 3917 McCart Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas 76110. Contact chadwickillusionist@yahoo.com or go to www.sam138.com. Also 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 <https://fortworthmagiciansclub.org/>

MID-CITIES MAGIC CIRCLE

See the Mid-Cities Magic Circle Facebook group.

DALLAS MAGIC CLUB, SAM ASSEMBLY 13 AND IBM RING 174

See www.DallasMagic.org for meeting information.

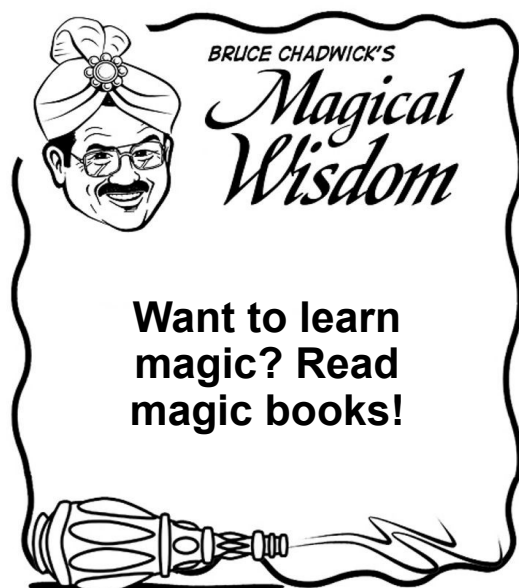


IMPROV COMEDY CLUBS IN ADDISON AND ARLINGTON

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.



"For my next trick, I'll need a volunteer."