

Press-to!

Assembly 206 News

Calendar Reminders!

Monday June 21 - SAM 206 Monthly Meeting
 Sept. 2 - Austin's 1st Annual Street Magic Festival
 Sept. 3 to 6 - T.A.O.M. Convention, Austin

NEXT MEETING:

June 21th @ 7:00 pm at the Omni Southpark

Children's Magic

Hosted by Bertil Fredstrom

From The President: Carl Seagren

Why do you attend monthly magic meetings? Seems like a strange question, but one that I have been pondering in my mind for some time. Some would say to see old friends and get caught up on the latest news. Some might want to demonstrate their latest trick or gimmick they have acquired. While others might answer they hope to go home with some new insight to performing a magic effect.

But how many of us would answer “I attend the monthly SAM meetings with the goal of introducing someone new to one of the greatest (and oldest) hobbies/professions in the world.”? We may choose to be a “secretive” society, allowing only those few who truly desire and demonstrate a deep appreciation of the old arts to attend and possibly join our ranks.

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Or we may choose to encourage others, who express an honest and sincere interest to “check” us out, while also helping them to find a style/interest/area of magic that they are comfortable in exploring as they begin their magical journey into an exciting and rewarding new endeavor.

But this only happens if we attend monthly meetings and we look for opportunities to

From the President (cont.)

invite others to come and visit and “check” us out.

So the question this month is not what have you brought to show all of us but who have you brought to introduce to one of the greatest organization in the world, the Society of American Magicians Assembly 206. I look forward to meeting your next guest.



Until then
“enjoy the magic.”

Carl Seagren

Among our Members

by: Ron Cartlidge

BOB CARROLL recently received his degree as a Royal Arch Mason and on his recent trip to Russia, Sweden, and Denmark among other places, was able to visit many of the historical Masonic sites in these countries.

RAY BROWN is now a high school graduate. It seems like only yesterday that he was performing at our assembly as a brand new teenager.

By the way, Ray will be participating in our June Assembly meeting and had this to say about his role in the presentation (see page 6), *"Sounds great! I'm really excited. I will bring my laptop and I've got a great slide show that walks everyone through some cool branding and positioning stuff, online marketing, and also the success behind my birthday party group magic lesson add-ons. It's going to be fun. See you guys Monday!"*

TIM DIETZ was working at Opah's on South Congress doing close-up magic, but has obtained a full-time job working in a restaurant.

DOC SEATON recently took a brief trip to London, but has returned to Austin.

JACK YARDLEY was recently in a bad car wreck in Waco, but seems to be doing okay.

BRIAN BRUSHWOOD is on the west coast and has just shot twelve episodes of scam school. He will be appearing at a casino in Oklahoma in the next few days, but will be back in Austin in July.

RAMON GALINDO & ROLANDO MEDINA just returned from spending ten days in Mexico City. The main purpose of the trip was to attend Mandrake's magic convention.

Among our Members (Continued from page 2)

MICHAEL KAUFMAN (MAGICAL MYSTICAL MICHAEL) will be working on Padre Island beginning July 19 for six weeks. Michael works with a pirate ship on the island. He will return to Austin just before T.A.O.M.

RON CARTLIDGE recently performed for the Austin Independent School District's end of the year coaches' conclave. He will be leaving for the S.A.M. convention in Atlanta on June 28 and will present a lecture on Houdini, titled "Houdini's Final Tour to Texas, Do the Dead Speak to the Living," on July 2.



Ron sporting sunglasses (Danna Luther photo)

PATRICK MCKEEVER was 180 miles out on his most recent job in the gulf, but was briefly back in San Marcos this week. He says that his company is doing well, but that he just goes from one job to the next. For those of you that don't know, Partick is an off-shore drilling consultant. He wants to let everyone know that he is still alive and well.

CHRIS WALDEN will be doing a mentalism workshop on July 17th which is

a Saturday. The master of the paranormal is still hosting his growing internet "Shadow Hour" on Wednesday evenings.

I had lunch the other day with **MARK THOMPSON** in Taylor. He is with Edward Jones and has moved into new office space on 4th street in downtown Taylor. His wife Melanie works in the office next door.

SCOTT WELLS has been working at the magic exhibit at the Houston Museum of Natural Science this summer. From what we hear, this is a terrific exhibit and well worth the trip to Houston.

ARSENE DUPIN is performing in Colorado this summer. I visited him there two years ago and it is a great venue. Arsene has left us in hot Austin and is enjoying the cool weather of colorful Colorado.

JOHN MAVERICK is spending the summer working at summer camps and says that he drives about 500 miles a week.



John Maverick is thumbs up! (Danna Luther photo)

Major Deal at Texas Magic Supply**by: Cy Albertson**

Once again, Texas Magic Supply is offering to our customers a huge deal! Convention at the Capital has been one of the greatest conventions in the world. These DVDs have been a best seller for many years as they contain the magic of many great magicians.

Each DVD normally sells for \$29.95. If you walk into Texas Magic Supply, you will see them on sale for \$24.95. However, if you call (512.260-0012) or email cy@albertsonmusic.com or come into the store and say you want the special, you will get Convention at the Capital 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001 you will get all four DVDs for \$29.95.

Yes all four for \$29.95. That is about seven dollars a DVD. This is limited to the first 20 people who contact us and ask for this special. Look at what is on these DVDs:

VOLUME ONE (1998)

Gregory Wilson - Florida Keys
Kenton Knepper - EZ Torn & Restored Card
Doc Hilford - Personal Touch~
Guy Hollingworth - Waving the Aces
Eric DeCamps - Shadow Coins
Derek Dingle - Silver Quick
**Tommy Wonder - The Card in the Box/
 The Two-Second Card Fold**

**VOLUME TWO (1999)**

**Aldo Colombini - No- Palm Repeat
 Card To Pocket**
Paul Green - Tradeshow Transposition
Lee Earle - Life Force Triangle
Gregory Wilson - Body Piercing
Paul Wilson - Spellbound To Please
Chad Long - Ninja Coin & Ninja Key
Frank Balcerak - The Color-Changing Pen
Mark Strivings - Psychic Influence

VOLUME THREE (2000)

**Lennart Green - Xirtam
 (Performance Only)**
Jeffy Andrus - Miser's Miracle
Whit Haydn - Impromptu Card Code
Johnny Thompson - Vernon's Variant
Paul Wilson - Bottoms Up
**Mike Caveney - Impromptu Linking
 Coathangers**
Martin Lewins - A Sharper Sharped
Joshua Jay - Losing Diamonds
Gregory Wilson - A Fistful of Dollars
Carl Cloutier - Cards to Slimfast

VOLUME FOUR (2001)

Paul Gertner - Photocopy
Daryl - Presto Attracto Card
Rich Marotta - The Great Penetrator
David Regal - Heading North
Jerry Andrus - Acusteat
Simon Lovell - Signature Transfer
Andrew Wimhurst - Kicked in the Face
Paul Wilson - 3 Bets on the Band

T.A.O.M. Convention Update

by: Hull Youngblood

*****TAOM Contest ALERT*******\$2000 in cash prizes added to TAOM Contests.**

For the first time, up to \$2000 in cash prizes will be distributed among the contest winners by the Convention Awards Committee. **PLAN TO BE PART OF THIS GREAT MAGIC COMPETITION** and be eligible for part of the \$2000 in cash prizes. Send in your application today, to be considered for selection.

DEADLINE – you must submit your completed application and a video by JULY 15

Go to www.TAOM2010.com/contests/ and download the application and rules. Read all the rules, fill out the application, and send the completed application with your video to:

J.D. Stewart, Contest Chairman
3211 Valley Pike
Cedar Park, TX 78613
YOU MUST DO THIS BY JULY 15.

**Contest Schedule:**

Close Up Contest – TBD
Rehearsal - TBD
Contest – TBD

Stage Contest –

Rehearsal - Friday, Sept. 3, 9 am to 2 pm
Contest - Friday, September 3, 10 pm

JULY 15 is the deadline for application.
Apply to be in the contest TODAY!

For more information, contact J D Stewart:
jd@jd_stewart.com
or (512) 468-0011

Go for the TAOM trophy, and you might win part of \$2000 in cash prizes as well!

Membership Report

by: Ron Cartlidge

These members were due in May:

Bob Brown
Barbara Gray
Steve Gray
Will Mannis
Grayson Paynter
Sensei Strange

Jlm Gentil
Rik Gern
Robert Merrill
Kurt Niebuhr
Erik Nielsen
Dan Page
Heather Poggi-Mannis

These members are due in June:

Cy Albertson
Gary Braufman

These members are due in July

Bill Boswell
J. D. Stewart
Dick Todd

June Program - SAM Assembly 206 Meeting

Children's Magic

Hosted by Bertil Fredstrom

These are the performers planned for Monday's SAM meeting on Childrens Magic:

Moderator - **Bertil Fredstrom**
 Originality and creativity - **Drew Johnson**
 Marketing and Sales - **Ray Brown**
 Pricing and Value - **Bertil Fredstrom**

I am happy to be able to draw from the unique knowledge of two performers we do not see that often in the Austin area: Drew Johnson recently moved back to Austin from Oregon and Ray Brown that will shortly move to Florida to study film making.

Master of Ceremonies Workshop

by: **J.D. Stewart**

In preparation for TAOM we are hosting an MC workshop. Those of you who are participating at TAOM as MCs should definitely attend this workshop. You will find it very beneficial. If you are not participating as an MC you are also invited to participate. This workshop will cover many areas that will help your everyday life, personal and professional: leading business meetings, leading PTA/PTO meetings, social events where you may introduce someone to a group of people, or anytime you are in charge of a program.

The workshop will be June 19 at 10:00 at Stan (Doc) Seton's home, 10511 La Costa. Come just to have some fun, if no other reason.

TAOM, IBM Ring 60, and SAM 206 are jointly putting on this MC workshop.



J.D. Stewart (Danna Luther photo)

Please RSVP to JD Stewart
 (jd@jd_stewart.com) if you plan to attend.

Where: Stan Seaton's Home
 10511 La Costa Austin, TX 78747
When: Saturday June 19 10:00 - 1:00
What to Bring: Paper and Pen. (or Pencil)

See you there.

J D Stewart
 Magician Extraordinaire
 (512) 468-0011

Member Spotlight: Mary Cay Gold

I first became involved with the Austin magic community in 1984-85 after meeting a magician who could make things appear and disappear. I was fascinated. I have been active in Austin magic and with magicians ever since. Although I love watching magic and performing a few things, I am an organizer and I found that magicians need organizing. I first volunteered to work at the Austin Magic Auction in 1985, and went on to become active in the organization of the yearly magic auction and recruiter of volunteers and sometimes trainer of those same volunteers. I was part of the crewmembers that were the last ones to leave the auction site after clean up as late as 3am. I love the current auction where we all leave before dark.

Sergeant at Arms, Secretary, Treasurer, VP and President of the International Brotherhood of Magicians Ring 60 were all offices I held. During this time period Ring 60 was a very family oriented club and whole families attended the monthly meetings. We always had a theme for the month and I sent out postcard reminders of the meetings to all members so they would be prepared to perform. Meetings were held at various restaurants around town and we always had time between eating and the meeting to visit, browse the Ring magic library and visit with Scott and Judy at the Scott Magic Company's traveling magic table. There was a great sense of community.

As the Society of American Magicians Assembly 206 became reactivated, I spent a lot of time helping put together the monthly workbooks for the meetings and eventually



Mary Cay Gold

serving in many officer positions in that organization also. SAM meetings were focused on monthly workshops as meetings and like most of the Austin magic community I was very active in both magic organizations. For years every Thursday night seemed to be a magic night, either a meeting or a lecture. It was at one of the lectures that I learned my infamous penny (or quarter with inflation) effect, which I have crafted into my fund balancing effect. In the 90s I became a life member of SAM and served as the Regional VP for a year or two.

In the late 80s, Merianne Myers somehow convinced me to take over the Austin monthly magic newsletter, which I produced for over 10 years. This was just as I was becoming computer literate and found using a computer was a step above a typewriter. There was still a lot of cutting and pasting before copying. Clip art was actually "clipped" and added. I spent many evenings stapling, folding, labeling and stamping.

Member Spotlight: Mary Cay Gold (continued)

I must admit to magical spelling in the newsletter. As I would tell them at the meetings, anyone could spell “normal”.

Doing balloons with T and Merianne Myers launched me into the world of being a Balloonatic or Artiste of Inflatique. When Tom invented Pump 1, real people could blow up balloons and I had one of the first pumps. When I made my first balloon pony – I was hooked. Balloon hats, the bigger and crazier the better, are the most fun for me. My balloon art followed many a magic show and became an event on its own. Hauling my pump, a board of designs and a mirror, I performed creating balloon art at the flea market, private parties and festivals including Pecan Street and the King William Festival in San Antonio.



Mary Cay (rt.) in action (Danna Luther photo)

Kent Cummins invited me to present “balloons” at some of his first Magic Camps — not to present just the how-to of making balloon hats and animals but the art of entertainment while making balloons. Interacting with the person, little or big, that wants the balloon is what I really enjoy. I want them to feel as if I am there only for them, to fulfill their wish for the best balloon creation ever.



Mary Cay (Danna Luther photo)

The longest marathon of doing balloons that I recall was performing during Night in Old San Antonio for about six hours a night, four nights in a row. It was a blast!

During the 90s I was fortunate to be able to attend many magic conventions and saw outstanding magic by fabulous performers. By sitting in the front row, I often was picked as the person to come on stage or to the table to assist. Eugene Burger would mesmerize me with his voice and magical stories supporting his effects. When Max Maven spoke we all listened. One convention ended with everyone who performed earlier in the convention filing into the theater and onto the stage with their zombie balls floating before them. Of course it was right here in Austin, where David Copperfield appeared behind me in the audience.

After attending a few conventions, I was brave

Member Spotlight: Mary Cay Gold (continued)

enough to step up and be the Registration Chairperson for Austin's 1993 TAOM convention. The experience deepened my respect for anyone who took that job before or after my experience. During Austin's 1999 TAOM convention, I assisted with a number of the activities. The following year, I was elected to the office of Secretary/Treasurer of the Texas Association of Magicians, which I still hold today.

By day I have worked for the Texas State Comptroller of Public Accounts for the past 33 years. I maintain a small client base that I massage regularly -- did I mention I went back to school and was licensed to perform that magic? Plus, I am still an active "Balloonatic". I currently live on 20 acres named "The Gold Star Appaloosa Horse Farm" outside of Bastrop Texas with my husband Mike, 17 horses, 9 doves, 3 cats, 3 dogs, 2 parrots, a donkey and a school of fish.

Penn & Teller at the Paramount

Penn & Teller "35 Years of Magic and B.S."

Tuesday, November 9, 2010 @ 8PM
at the Paramount Theatre

They defy labels, and at times, good taste. They've performed together for 30 years; skewering the genre of magic, their sold-out audiences, and themselves -- very often all at the same time, within one mind-boggling evening.

Penn (left) and Teller



Feature Article**by: Kent Cummins**

Here's the third article about magic for children, from yet a different perspective. I found it in the New Zealand Magic e-zine, and obtained the author's permission to reprint it here. Be sure to read it before this month's meeting, hosted by Bertil Fredstrom.

**7. Why Do Kids Love Magic? - #167 - Kyle Peron**

Message by Kyle Peron (US)
 magic4u02@aol.com
 poofersgrl@aol.com
<http://www.kyleandkellymagic.com>

Why do some kids love magic so much? Well one could look at oneself for the answer. What was it that captivated you to love magic so much? What was it about magic that inspired you to want to learn more or crave more? Each of us have our own reasoning and our own stories.

We often can also recall the moment when the "magic bug bit" us. It was that moment in time when magic stopped becoming something we wanted to do and changed to something we HAD to do. But what is it that captivates us as a child and motivates our senses and instills within us the thirst and desire to want more?

It is safe to say that some kids hate magic, some could care less either way and some really are fascinated by it. One may never know the reasons behind why any of these take place, but we certainly can rationalize some possible ideas.

Perhaps it relates to the first experience/s that the child has of magic. In many cases a child learns to "like" things based on positive situations and experiences they have while growing up. A fear as an adult may stem simply from something that happened as a child. So in essence, the first exposure the child has to magic can and often does shape their whole perspective of the art.

This is why it is so critically essential that we never forget how important it is to be a professional every show we do. It is NOT OK to just "call it in" just because you are tired or not feeling energized that day. We must remember that WE have the ability to make magic something special for a child that is watching magic for the first time. WE are setting the example and creating the impression that child will have of magic.

Another aspect for why some kids love magic so much is the sheer fact that magic can take them to a world that is beyond what they can physically do. It transcends barriers and makes the impossible suddenly possible. As a

Feature Article (Continued)**by: Kent Cummins**

child you are in a world of constant learning. You crave and want to do things but physically can't do what the adults do even though you may want to. You see an older brother riding a bike and so you want to try as well.

Magic is an escape for the child from the world of "I can't" to a world of "I can". Suddenly there are things they can do that older kids cannot. This can instill a sense of empowerment that drives a child to want to learn more. The sense of being able to do something amazing and to create wonderment is also an amazing feeling.

As a child we also are always seeing and looking for acceptance. At school we seek to get a good grade from a teacher for something we do. At home we seek encouragement from our parents for doing something right or succeeding at a task. Magic can help make a child feel instantly more accepted in the world



Bertil Fredstrom (left) makes a very big mark with this young lady and her parents.



*Bertil and his properly hatted audience.
(Danna Luther photos)*

around him or her. The child can make friends more easily or can feel more important around grownups simply from the ability to "amaze" them.

Whatever the reason may be for a child to enjoy magic, we must encourage them for our art to thrive. The next time a child shows a real interest in magic, take the time to talk to them and set them along a path to a hobby they may really enjoy. Take time before every show to realize you need to always deliver every time out. There just may be a future star of magic in the audience just waiting for you to light the spark within them.

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