

Press-to!

Assembly 206 News

Calendar Reminders!
 Monday November 17th - 206 Monthly Meeting
 Thursday November 20th - SYM Meeting
 Monday December 15th - SAM 206 Christmas Banquet

NEXT MEETING OF S.A.M. ASSEMBLY 206
 November 17th @ 7:00 pm at the Omni Southpark
SPACE MAGIC AND
NEW MEMBER NIGHT

**From The President:
 Hull Youngblood
 Lot's Happening**

I seem to write these articles while I travel. That is probably because I don't have to focus on my day job so much while I am on airplanes, and I can focus on my "fun" job – SAM 206 projects. So, as I write this, I am on a plane again, and I am thinking back over the last week or so. There have been a lot of magic related events recently and there are more coming up.

First, Richard Garriott has flown in space – and done magic in space. Now for the first time, we all know someone who has traveled in space. That may be the coolest magical thing that has happened this year. I can't wait to hear him talk about this adventure of a lifetime. He is scheduled to do just that at our next meeting – November 17 at the Omni South Park Hotel - 7:00 pm. You would be nuts to miss this.

Second, the Magic Camp fundraiser held on Sunday October 26, sponsored in part by Ring 60, was a lot of fun.

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Kudos to Bertil Fredstrom, President of Ring 60, and all the other Ring members (most of whom were also members of SAM 206) for being part of such a fun event.

Third, J.D. Stewart (who is now President Elect of Ring 60) has taken over the day-to-day operations at Texas Magic Supply. He has scheduled an Open House (with 10% discounts on everything in the store and special orders) for Monday November 10.

From the President (cont.)

You should be there and see all the new stuff demonstrated. I just can't resist 10% off the books. Expect to see more happening at TMS.

Fourth, it has just been confirmed that we will have a VERY special guest at the January 19, 2009 meeting. Legendary street magician DANNY GARCIA will lecture at the January meeting. CJ Johnson and Danny are good friends, and CJ invited Danny to be our guest lecturer. If you have been awake in the last couple of years, and seen anything related to magic, then you know that DANNY GARCIA is about as HOT a magician as there is right now. I have seen Danny work up close. He will fool you, and fool you badly. On January 19, 2009 you will have a chance to see, and learn from, one of the really great magicians around today. The lecture is free to SAM 206 members who have paid their dues. YOU CAN ONLY SEE DANNY GARCIA IF YOU PAY YOUR DUES! So, bring your check book on January 19, 2009, pay your dues, and see the legendary DANNY GARCIA.

Here is a link to a short youtube video that shows Danny Garcia doing a linking rubber band effect that will make you crazy.



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=syI7FbWh8nc>

Fifth, the Christmas Party is December 15, 2008 at First Baptist Church (same place as last year). Debbie Costa is planning another great event. Plan to be there, bring a dish, contribute a prize, be part of this fun night for friends and family, and see the entertainment of our magical compeers from the Houston Association of Magicians. It will be a GREAT night.

My plane is landing, and the laptop police are telling me to shut down, so it must be time for me to close this letter, with a reminder to everyone. We are the most fortunate civilization on earth. We have more, do more, and receive more, than any people in history. Be sure to give something back this Thanksgiving season. Giving money, effort, compassion, or time to someone in need this Thanksgiving, will do you, and them, more good than you know.

Blessings to you all,

Hull



Assembly 206 October Meeting Report**by: Ron Cartlidge****SCOTT HOLLINGSWORTH WOWS AUSTIN GROUP**

The October meeting was opened by vice president Kent Cummins with a welcome to the thirty-five members and guests who were in attendance. The special treat for this evening would be a lecture by current T.A.O.M. president Scott Hollingsworth.

Greg Johnston then introduced the guests and announced that November would be new member night at the assembly.

Doc Seaton then announced that the slate of officers for 2009. (See page 9) The proposed officers that will be voted upon at the Nov. 17th Assembly Meeting. Note that Ron Cartlidge would serve in a new position of 2nd vice-president and be in charge of membership.

Kent then announced that a new event would take place on Sunday October 26. It is called the Magic of Austin Youth and is an event to raise scholarship money for the Kent Cummins Magic Camp. It will begin at noon with free entertainment and continue throughout the day with the final event being "a little night magic" that will feature sophisticated sorcery and Branson magician, Peter the Adequate.

The annual assembly survey was passed out to those in attendance. Hull Youngblood also announced the formation of a new assembly, #17210, which is the exact speed of the space station where assembly member

Richard Garriott and S.A.M. member Greg Chamitoff are now stationed. Both of these S.A.M. members were having the initial meeting of the assembly at that very moment making S.A.M. the first ever all universe society of magicians.

Assembly member Judy Donaldson was recognized as now living in the Houston area and was available to register members for the T.A.O.M. convention in 2009.



Left to Right - Judy D., Scott H., and Hull Y.

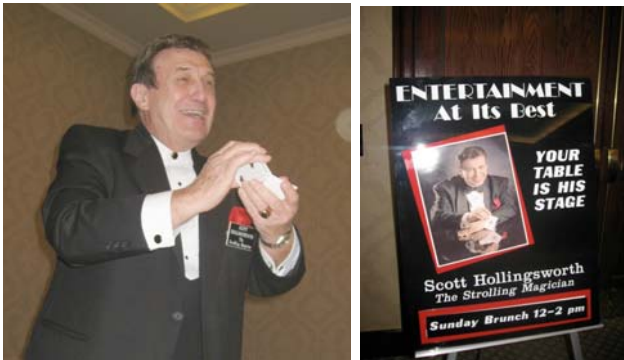
Scott Hollingsworth opened his lecture on close-up and strolling magic with a performance of three effects: The Bermuda Triangle, a stunning Happy Birthday card trick, and a beautiful presentation of the Ring and the String.

Scott has been the resident magician at the Magic Island in Houston for 27 years.

He said that the most important thing in doing close-up and strolling magic was that everyone feels that the time was well spent.

Assembly 206 October Meeting Report (Continued from p.3)

Close-up magic is where the magician is normally seated and in strolling magic, the magician walks around doing magic. In both cases, the magic needs to be visible and colorful and when strolling needs to easily reset.



Scott in action and his Lobby Card

Scott also likes to use a name badge so that he is easily identified as the magician and usually uses a lobby card to advertise his show.

Scott finished the second half of the lecture with string & ring, yellow feather through a signed coin, a card in wallet, and oh baby (a copper silver transposition).



Diane Klinetob (left) and Cy Albertson (center) of Texas Magic Supply with Judy Donaldson

Assembly 17,210 October Space Meeting Report

Assembly 17,210 held its first organizational meeting on October 20, 2008 at 17,210 feet above the earth. Here are the officers elected by astronauts Garriott and Chamitoff:

President – Hull Youngblood
 Vice President - Andy Dallas
 Secretary - Bruce Kalver
 Treasurer - Stan Seaton

Garriott and Chamitoff are Initial Founding Members (there are only two.) If you are a member in good standing of S.A.M. you can become a member of this Assembly:

Founding members - \$200.00 –receive membership card, certificate and special item from Richard Garriott.

Charter members - \$100.00 – receive membership card and certificate. **Member** \$10.00 – receive membership card. Memberships are tax deductible.

Net revenue is divided between **S.A.M. National Magic Center Foundation** and **The Society of Young Magicians**. Send name, address, membership number and check to: Hull Youngblood, President Assembly 17,210, 100 Congress Ave, Suite 900, Austin, TX 78727

Among Our Members:**by: Ron Cartlidge**

J. D. STEWART sold his business and now has time to play. He has been hired as the manager of Texas Magic Supply. Now what kind of job is that? He gets to play with magic all day.



J. D. (left) and Eddie (right)

EDDIE BOSWELL has not only been learning a lot of new card tricks, but has been teaching them. Eddie was the featured lecturer at the Saturday morning (held once a month) teaching session that is a combination effort between Texas Magic Supply and Ring 60.

Bet you caught **RICHARD GARRIOTT** on the front page of the Austin American Statesman newspaper in a recent issue. He would have been hard to miss in his space suit, that is, if you picked up the paper. Richard is doing tests at the space lab and is due home shortly. I imagine that he will receive plenty of time at the next assembly meeting to give us an update on his adventure in Russia and space.
FLASH: Richard has successfully returned to earth!

RON CARTLIDGE is being published in the New England Magic Collector's book that is an annual production. It is a book on the history of magic and is the second time that Ron has been published in this magazine.



Ron Cartlidge

This article is on the world smallest mentalist, Hope Eden. Ron Cartlidge has also written a "History of Assembly 206". It is available at www.sam206.com.

ARSENE DUPIN won a championship in a Petanque tournament. What's that you ask? I've seen it played, because Arsene practices every week that he is in Austin. He plays at the French Legation. I would say it is something like lawn bowling, but you might want to get Arsene to explain it to you.



Arsene (first row on the right)

Among Our Members: (Continued)**by: Ron Cartlidge**

TIM DIETZ & TAMMY CANTU tied the knot in a sacrament of holy matrimony on October 18, 2008 at the Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church in Austin. There was a solid group of magicians from assembly 206 who showed up to support the couple. When this reporter questioned Tammy on if the couple would be at the Monday night meeting of the assembly, Tammy said, "No, and we won't even be thinking about you!"



Tim and Tammy

We seldom mention non-members of assembly 206 in this column, but **David Hira** sometimes seems like a member. If you will recall, David is one of our three auctioneers at the Austin Magic Auction.

David performed at the recent Yamboree in Gilmer, Texas and was the lead-in on a story in the Tyler Telegram that weekend.

The newspaper gave a glowing review on David's work.

Our own **RAY BROWN** had his first television appearance in early October to plug his performance at Treat Street

which is located at Market Square in San Antonio. He participated with the host and his magical dog in a card trick. Unfortunately, Ray will have appeared on Stage 2 at the event on October 25th and this report will be in before that date. Perhaps we can give you an update in the next issue. Also, Ray has a new E-book out. It is mainly for parents and is titled, 5 Ways to make your Child's Birthday the Best Ever. Copies of the book are said to be free so if you want one, be sure to ask Ray about it at the next assembly meeting. By the way, Ron Cartlidge's new piece titled, "History of Assembly 206" is part of our effort to update and expand our new website. Ray Brown is heading up that website effort. If you have ideas or suggestions for the new website contact Ray at Ray@raybrown.com.

BERTIL FREDSTORM was able to attend a meeting of the Swedish Magic Circle while in Stockholm and was able to catch a performance of Shawn Farquhar. It seems that Shawn is performing almost every place that Bertil goes. It has now become a running joke between the two magicians.

CARLOS SANTILLAN has been nominated for the office of treasurer of the local Ring. Congratulations to Carlos.

LARRY JOHNSON was seen at the recent assembly meeting sporting a mustache. Larry's truck is also showing off his new advertising boards that announce that Grandpa the Magician is driving the truck, so, watch out!!!

ROUTINE OF THE MONTH**by: Diamond Jim Tyler**

The following routine is graciously furnished by Diamond Jim Tyler from his new book BAMBOOZLERS.

TEXAS NOTEPAD

GAG: When you are paying for a small ticket item pull out what everyone thinks is a checkbook. Actually it's a notepad made up of genuine dollar bills. You peel out the necessary amount and pay for your item(s). The person taking your money and those in close proximity will look at you as if you are from another planet.

SECRET: Go to your local bank and purchase some new one dollar bills. The new bills are crisp and should line up perfectly. I typically like to get a stack of 30 bills or more. While at the bank you may want to ask for a checkbook cover, unless you have an extra one at home. When you get home, sit down at a desk with the checkbook cover, a pair of scissors, some rubber cement, a notepad, and some baby powder.

Cut out a dollar-sized piece of cardboard from the back of the notepad. Place this dollar-shaped piece of cardboard behind your stack of bills. Align the bills with the cut-out cardboard.

Place some rubber cement onto the top edge of the stack. As the glue is drying sprinkle some baby powder onto the cemented edge of the stack. Typically, I'll repeat this procedure one or two more times. This creates a flexible rubber material (like those used on traditional notepads). Once the cement dries your stack of bills will function like a notepad or checkbook.

**Fig. 1**

Slip the Texas notepad into the checkbook cover and imagine the fun you'll have the next time you pay for something in cash! I'll ask "*Will you accept...*" as I pull the checkbook from my pocket, "*cash?*" Just as they are prepared to say no for taking a check they will see the cash and do a double-take. As you peel off the money to pay them, be sure to keep a straight face.

Magically, Diamond Jim Tyler

Pre-order DJ's new book BAMBOOZLERS now at www.diamond-jim.com/originals

Deck the Halls:**by : Debbie Costa**

Be sure to mark your calendar for December 15th. Bring your friends and family to share in a fantastic

night of celebration and appreciation for our S.A.M. Assembly 206. It is sure to be a night of Magical Surprises, Great Food and Fun.

I am happy to announce that this year we will continue a favorite project of mine in adopting a charity for our event. This year the focus is on the Safe Place Organization here in Austin, Tx. Their website is Austin-safeplace.org should you desire more specific information. Please note that your donations are strictly voluntary and greatly appreciated. I will be sending out a copy of their wish list in a couple of weeks.

This year we have phenomenal door prizes, special entertainment and more of my little magical gifts in store. Due to our tight schedule, we will not be having a dessert contest.

The buffet will continue as in years past where members bring their fabulous favorites. Heather may suggest a category for you to help balance the buffet.

ENTERTAINMENT: We will be treated to some special magic this year. The HAOM (Houston Association of Magic) will provide the entertainment this year. Scheduled to perform are "Little Red" (aka John Trower), Phil Kampf, Dick Hatch, John Star,



Artwork by a Safe Place survivor.

Rachael Dunn (2008 TAOM stage winner), Rick Hebert and the legendary Trixie Bond. Scott Wells will be our MC. It will not be the "same old show". **YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS ONE!**

VERY IMPORTANT: Please be sure to bring your food "**READY TO SERVE**" as we are extremely busy and it is difficult to warm up, slice up, etc. things coming in. We will have electrical outlets for those needing to plug something in.

SPECIAL REQUEST: When you RSVP to Heather, if you could please note if there will be any children under 12. If so, please share how many and approx. ages. We would like to make this a remarkable night for them as well.

Please accept my personal invitation to join us on December 15th. It will be such a SPECTACULAR night. More information to come!

Debbie Costa
dcosta@txwinet.com

Member News:**by : Kent Cummins****November Meeting**

What was it like, doing MAGIC in space?

Richard Garriott, a.k.a. Lord British, Austin's highly-publicized game meister and now space traveler, plans to give us some of the "inside stories" from his recent trip in space.

Not only that, but it is our soon-to-be-famous New Member Night, hosted by Greg Johnston. Same time, same bat station. Don't miss it!

From the Treasurer:

Reminder that the local dues of \$12/person are expected to be paid at the January meeting.

Thanks! - Heather

Proposed 2009 Officers:

The following roster of proposed officers for Assembly 206 was announced at the October Meeting. These officers will be voted upon at the November Assembly meeting:

Please note that the list is very similar to our current slate of officers who have so successfully led our Assembly for this past year and have gladly signed up for another tour of duty. Many thanks to their willingness to serve and their commitment to excellence for 206.

The Magic of Austin Youth

Nine of Austin's best magicians (including Peter the Adequate from Branson) performed on Sunday, October 26, at Austin's One World Theatre as part of a full day fundraising gala for The Kent Cummins Magic Camp. Kent reports that out of his 7 goals for the event, 8 were actually achieved! (You'll have to ask Kent.)

President: Hull Youngblood**Vice-President – Carl Seagren****2nd Vice-President – Ron Cartlidge****Secretary – Sue Caldwell****Treasurer – Heather Poggi Mannis****Sargent At Arms – Will Mannis**

Feature Article**by: The Great Bandini****THE OLYMPICS OF MAGIC?**

Photos by: Donna Band

One person who has helped me to understand people and their perception of cultural things is the world famous fine artist Bob Wade. Bob is a graduate of UT with an MFA in painting. He taught me to understand that if you have ten different people look at the very same exact thing they may all see it differently. Because of this phenomena I often competed in competitions. I wanted to find out just what art was in a post modernist's world. When we do something well in a competition we know we are on the right road even if we do not know where it is we are going. In Italy, the Roman Catholic Church awarded famous contracts for cultural projects to people who won their competitions. The works made for these competitions are both timeless and priceless. Often, second and third place winners from these challenges are phenomenal pieces of art history that will be treasured for all time by man.

While it can be argued that everything we do as a human being is egocentric in nature and that is why we really compete, it has been argued that justification for our egotistical action can come in a variety of forms. If you do a trick and no one appreciates it you do not feel the same way you do when everyone claps. If you do a great show and get stiffed on your fee you do not feel the same way you do if you are paid promptly and get an additional bonus for a job well done. Think about it? It makes sense. We have needs and we go after them.

A friend of mine by the name of Travis Walden

recently gave me a copy of "Harper's" magazine, dated July, 2008. In the magazine was a long article entitled, "THE MAGIC OLYMPICS" by Alex Stone, "With Tricks Explained!" Alex writes in his story about the famous FISM contest. He tells us that he is a member of SAM and about his entry into FISM. I won't spoil it for you in case you want to read it for yourself. Alex also shares his conclusion that it is OK to expose magic. His claim is that after magic exposure magic sales go way up. He mentions the TV series with the masked magician as his case study.



*Penn giving
the secret
of the
bullet
catch to
Bandini*

Remember, he did the 1800s bullet catch? Now, you and I know that Penn and Teller often expose magic in their show but in a very delightful way. After a little show and tell on how the trick was just done, they do the very same trick again and it is a very entertaining thing to see. We also know that Penn brags that no one knows how they do their double 357 Magnum bullet catch.

Bandini Article (continued from p.10)

Well, I know how they do it! They do it twice a night for \$89.95 a seat and they do it very well. Please don't tell them I ratted them out or I will lose my credibility with them.

Now, the only reason I mention any of this is because at the dinner party, people have complained that I do not reveal a lot of magical secrets. I seldom even do a trick at the party unless there is a birthday or some special kindness, like Travis bringing me the magazine. I need no accolades or ego boosting at the expense of the craft to feel good about myself as a man. I am, after all, rotten to the core and that is that. I often explain that there are many ways to do the same illusion and leave it at that. In fact, I use my membership in SAM as a reason not to spill the beans and be a better person for it. Isn't that why we are SAM? I often tell the members of that wonderful party my magic slogan of, "We never tell, we always sell!" Then I add, "Show me the money!" and everyone chuckles a bit. I think this is much more in keeping with the truth behind the magic community's behavior.

OK, it is true that we talk shop as professionals and gifted amateurs. We gab over the internet and in our magazine we share both ideas and magic history. We talk in a brotherly way to preserve the craft, its history and to produce a better show for the world. I ask Opie stuff all the time. I do this because he knows everything. As members of the oldest magic organization in the US and as members of #206 "The best magic club in the world!" and the second largest in the world, shouldn't we see the public as a little different proposition? I do a lot of shows every year and often get the

typical question from the audience, How did you do that? I answer in a very nice way, "Very well, thank you! Did you enjoy it?" and that usually ends the probe. Sure, you can go on the internet and see some prepubescent child teaching everything he just purchased at the magic shop. Is it ethical? Well, it's a kid for goodness sake! What do you expect? To do the same thing as a member of SAM would probably not be the thing to do. The whole truth is that ten people will see the exposure of magic in ten different ways. What more can I say? I think I could say lots more!



Bandini giving the secret of the bullet catch to Teller.

Now, a magician good enough to go to FISM is a better magician for it. The public needs to know about this great contest. Just to get to FISM is a very big deal. It is extremely expensive to make the journey. On the other hand, are the rules of SAM valid? Is it a good idea to talk out of school? If so, please set me straight! If on the other hand we decide, like Alex did, that it is OK to talk to the public for personal reasons then SAM needs to change the bylaws. All in favor of telling everything you know, say "I"! If this passes, lets become a tell all group and go on the talk show tour next season!

Bandini Article (continued from p.11)

Perhaps then we will need to change the name of our beloved magazine from MUM to BLAB. It is, after all, just a matter of how one sees one's ethics. To look at ethics, let's look outside the world of magic. Let's see how others treat ethics when they want something for nothing from magic? OK?

Just the other day I read about a company that said that they could not afford a magician for their retirement center. They just needed some kind hearted magician to "Save the day!" They needed that magician to donate his time, his props, his patter, his hours of rehearsal, his gasoline, his vehicle and his effort to help out these poor old shut in folks who need a little bit of jolly entertainment before their sad judgment day comes. Are you crying yet? No, not yet? I will keep going! I used to get these calls all the time for free magic when I started my advertising campaign. Everyone had a great reason why I should work for nothing. After a short investigation into this recent retirement center request, me being the sympathetic and kindhearted magician of the twenty-first century that you know me to be. I found out that this request came from a very select place for the well to do to live out their retirement years in luxury.

It was an organization that catered to a very well moneyed and famous clientele. Their population pays a lot of cash each and every month to live out their golden years with dignity in this haven for the successful. We ain't talking ghetto here boys! This organization brags that they have as much acreage as a good sized black land truck farm and right in a prime location of a modern city.

The site is a multi million dollar facility and it is there to make a buck. I can only guess, looking at the photos of the place, what they are charging their residents to stay there? Are you crying now? I sure am! Some news man once wrote about the promoter P. T. Barnum and quoted him as saying, "A sucker is born every minute!" Now, does a for profit organization have ethics if they want something for nothing? I guess ten different people will see it ten different ways? Let me offer an alternative to the idea that we love to work for free as magicians. Maybe we should answer these requests by telling everyone that we will be happy to provide a "free show" for them if they will only make a small \$200 donation or more to our "SYM" program to help our "at risk kids" learn magic. We can put some of our time with that money to help those kids produce and do the show. Sounds WIN-WIN to me? Think about the pride that a SYM member will have knowing that they did the show and made some money for their wants and needs. Makes sense to me!

Mum's the word!

I am your servant.

Bandini POOF!