

# MAGI-GRAM

Official Newsletter of IBM Ring 50 --The National Capital Ring

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*Al Cohen*



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Of Magicians Ring 50  
The National Capital Ring**

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## Time to pay your annual dues

Ring 50 dues for calendar year 2004 are due. The annual fee is \$15. If you have not yet paid, contact Treasurer, Rucj Uffelman. Checks can be sent to his home address at 1808 Horseback Trail, Vienna, VA 22182. Otherwise, come prepared to pay at our March meeting.

**SPECIAL GUEST--Al Cohen, a long-time magic dealer and performer, will be a special guest at this year's Magi-Whirl.**

## 2004 Magi-Whirl to bring out stars of magic world

An hour-long "Legends of Magic" interview with former long-time Washington magic dealer Al Cohen will be one of the highlights of the 2004 Magi-Whirl one-day convention May 1 sponsored by Ring 50.

Al Cohen is known as perhaps the best magic demonstrator since Percy Abbott. On the same day he is being spotlighted here, he will be receiving the Academy of Magical Arts' Lifetime Achievement Award at The Magic Castle in California.

Steve Beam will present a close-up magic lecture and show at this year's Magi-Whirl. His lecture features some of the finest in comedy platform and close-up sleight-of-hand in the business. Another featured attraction will be well-known children's magic lecturer Dan Garrett from Atlanta. He has been performing magic professionally for nearly 30 years throughout the United States and in more than a dozen other countries. He was national president of the Society of American Magicians (SAM) in 1994 and 1995.

The location for this year's Magi-Whirl will be the Sheraton College Park Hotel in Beltsville, Maryland.

## Master magician ready to lecture

This is your chance to meet and learn from John Calvert, one of the great and unique magicians of history, who will lecture at the March meeting of Ring 50. The lecture is free to all paid-up Ring 50 members and \$15 for all others at the door.



*John Calvert*

Often called the last of the great old-time stage magicians, at 93, Calvert has the dynamic energy of a much younger man. You'll learn some of his signature routines and the behind-the-scenes secrets to a successful magic show in a lecture that will be completely different from his other local appearances.

John Calvert has captivated audiences in the great cities of five continents with his breath-taking illusions on stage. You are about to learn of the magic career that led to record-breaking engagements on Broadway, roles in Hollywood movies and exciting adventures around the world.

He has performed incredible daredevil feats and many real-life escapes from death both in the air and at sea.

**MARCH MEETING**  
Wednesday, March 4, 2004  
**PIER 7 RESTAURANT**  
in the  
**CHANNEL INN HOTEL**  
650 Water Street SW  
Washington DC

6:00 Cocktails  
6:45 Dinner  
8:00 Meeting

## Coming Events

### **Dave Shepherd Close-up Magic**

Dates: Every Wednesday from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Place: Mama's Italian Restaurant, 9715 Lee Highway, Fairfax, Va.

Contact: 703-385-2646 or 703-623-3952.  
www.daveshepmagic.com

### **Lorenzo the Great Kid's Night**

Date: Last Tuesday of every month from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Place: Silver Diner Restaurant in Tyson's Corner, 8101 Fletcher Avenue, McLean, Va.

Contact: Larry Lipman at 703-237-1531 or email [lorenzomagic@cox.net](mailto:lorenzomagic@cox.net)

### **Open Magic Night at Barry's**

Date: March 11 and 25, April 8 and 22 at 8 p.m.

Place: Theatre above Barry's Magic, 11234 Georgia Avenue, Wheaton, MD 20902

Contact: 301-933-0373

Cost: \$10; first show sold out.

Note: Seating limited to 24.

### **Larry West Assembly 23, Society of American Magicians (S.A.M.)**

Date: March 17 at 8 p.m.

Place: National Press Club, 529 14th Street NW, Washington, D.C.

Theme: Irish Stew

Contact: Ray Eyster at (410) 798-0176 or [ceyler1026@aol.com](mailto:ceyler1026@aol.com)

### **Wednesday Wizardry Second Season**

Place: Gaithersburg Arts Barn in the Kentlands, 311 Kent Square Road, Gaithersburg, MD

Dates: March 3 featuring Mark Illips and Bob Sheets, with special guests Karen Beriss and Dick Steiner; March 10 featuring Bob Sheets with special guests Max Krause and Francis Menotti; March 17: Alain Nu and Bob Sheets with special guests Rich Bloch and Barry Wood; March 20 (special Saturday show) starring Mark Phillips and Bob Sheets with Karen Beriss; March 24 featuring Alain Nu and Bob Sheets with special guests Steve Bargatze and Jimi Gibson; March 31 featuring Bob Sheets with special guests Mike Bent, David Oliver and Jon Stetson; April 7 spotlighting Alain Nu; April 14, theater dark; and April 21, featuring Bob Sheets.

## **Broken Wand ceremony remembers life of Harold "Doc" Dougherty**

Our February meeting started on a somber note as we gathered together to commemorate our recently lost friend Harold "Doc" Dougherty with a broken wand ceremony. Territorial Vice President Jim Flanigan performed the ceremony while Past International President Bill Wells broke Doc's now-useless wand. Coworkers, employers, agents, and close friends stood up to tell us memories of Doc. Silence, followed by laughter, followed by tears, was how the time passed in memorial. Doc would have hated it, but we needed it. We will miss our Doc.

"What's New at Al's" was the theme of the evening so, after a flurry of announcements, Steve Brown, the current proprietor of Al's Magic Shop, took the stage. Steve opened with a nice variation of Bob Sheets' "Hang 'Em High" as we saw a rope and a silk handkerchief pass right through him. The night continued with sword swallowing, uncanny handkerchief



*Doc Dougherty*

magic, a water suspension, a slick dollar bill transposition, a haunted neck tie, and all manner of fascinating card effects. One highlight was an excellent rendition of one of Doc's signature creations, "Prime Cut," in which someone is asked to cut a shuffled deck, by feel, in two piles of 26 cards, one of which is cut into two piles of 13. Two cards are then picked randomly by the assistant from the remaining smaller stacks. Two jumbo cards that have been in full view the entire time are turned over to reveal they match the selected cards. Afterwards the floor was open for the purchase of any of the demonstrated items and more. — **Keith Pass**

## ***Bishop Ireton show profitable***

Ring 50 will receive some of the proceeds from February's annual "A Night of Magic" presentation at Bishop Ireton High School in Northern Virginia.

Bob Carnathan was the emcee for the stage show.

Featured performers included illusionist Greg Clements assisted by Stephanie Chu and Joana Orentas. Ring 50 President Eric Henning also was a featured act. Others on stage were

Noland Montgomery, Kevin Moon, Mauny Murray and his wife Elaine, Keith Pass, Brian Raboin and Mike Taggart with Laurie Curry.

Close-up performers in the upper atrium at the school were Rick Beatty, Bob Carnathan, Laurie Curry, Jim Flanigan, Eric Henning, Derek Jones, Larry Lipman, Noland Montgomery, Keith Pass, Brian Raboin, Mike Taggart and Geoffrey Weber.

Cost: \$18 (\$15 for City of Gaithersburg residents) You can buy tickets at the door, but the sponsors recommend reserving tickets in advance.

Contact: Art Barn at 301-258-6394 for directions and reservations.

### **Lecture at Dennys**

Place: Denny & Lee Magic Studio, 325 South Marlyn Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21221

Date: March 12 at 7:30 p.m.

Who: John George, first-place winner of both the IBM and SAM national close-up competition, whose

astounding close-up magic has made him a highly sought-after entertainer for many Fortune 500 companies. When he is not traveling the globe performing at exclusive events, this skilled magician can be found frequently performing at the Magic Castle in Hollywood. Convention in New York, John received the coveted People's Choice Award.

Cost: \$20

*Between Magi-Gram issues, you can get the latest news on events and restaurant performers at the Ring 50 Web site [www.IBMRing50.org](http://www.IBMRing50.org)*