

# MAGI-GRAM

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

Volume 61 No. 3 March 2007



Our lineup includes Barry Taylor, Eric Henning, Tim Sonfelt, Paul Krendl and Michael P. Lair

## Curtain going up soon on Magi-Whirl 2007

Magi-Whirl is creeping up faster than we all know. If you have not bought your discounted tickets you will need to hurry before the cutoff hits. Also sell, sell, sell show tickets to every one you know. You can download the poster for this April 13-14 event directly from the Ring 50 website and purchase your tickets via Pay Pal on the website.

A team of Ring 50 members are serving as managers and coordinators for various functions linked to the convention. They are Larry Lipman, media; Ken Norris, lecture stage manager; Dwight Redman, lobby performers; Al Levin, theater house manager; Bob Patterson, treasurer secretary; Eric Henning, webmaster; Bill and Becki Wells, box office managers; Rucj Uffleman, registration table coordinator; Mike Leggett, dealer room setup; and Mike Taggart, stage show and back stage coordinator.

Still needed are cleanup and security coordinators and people to help each one of these people get the job done. If you are on the list contact Mike Taggart right away with a progress report. If you have a specific area in which you wish to help, call the designated coordinator. All coordinators are to have a list of people by the end of the next ring meeting. It is now crunch time, so let's show the world just how great we are.

Meanwhile, inquiries and emails are coming in from people all over the

country asking about Magi-Whirl. The event will be held at Bishop Ireton High School in Northern Virginia. For convention details, go to: <http://www.magi-whirl.org/>

On Friday night, April 13, there will be a dealer's show at 9 o'clock with dealers demonstrating the latest magical items, silks, accessories and supplies. The dealers are Silk King Studio with Ruth Rice Crone, Bob Little's Guaranteed Magic, Fred Mitchell's Magic Books, DoveLite with Bob Sanders, Hughes Magic, Inc. with Richard Hughes, Magic Goods with Pravin Ponnuri, Wonder Imagery with Tim Sonfelt, Sorcery with Class with Scott Correll, Magic by M.P. Lair and Wayne Alan with some pre-owned magic and books.

There will be a lecture on Friday at 7 p.m. before the dealers perform. Former Ring 50 President Eric

(Continued on page 2)

### MARCH MEETING

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

HOLIDAY INN

IN ALEXANDRIA

2460 Eisenhower Avenue  
Alexandria, VA

6:00 Cocktails

6:45 Dinner

8:00 Meeting/Show

### Mentalism theme of meeting

Ring 50 members will be treated to mental mysteries and spirit tricks at our March meeting. This will be a test of psychic phenomena. Mysteries will be unlocked. Contact President Dwight Redman now if you want to perform. Let us read your mind. You won't want to miss this night.



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The National Capital Ring

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# Coming Events



## The Theory and Art of Magic program at Pennsylvania's Muhlenberg College Goes to Las Vegas

featuring Jeff McBride and Eugene Burger plus other major Las Vegas stars.

Dates: March 5-8, 2007

Cost: \$450 per person.

Place: The Orleans Hotel, Las Vegas

Contact: Muhlenberg College Alumni Office at 800-464-2374. Dr. Larry Hass, director, the Theory and Art of Magic program <http://www.muhlenberg.edu/cultural/magic/>.

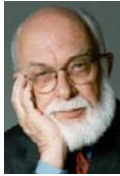
## Two Events Featuring James Randi presented by the National Capital Area Skeptics (NCAS)

Date: March 18 at 1 p.m.

NCAS 20th Anniversary Celebration  
Speaker James Randi – "Beware: Skeptic on the Loose!"

Cost: Admission Free

Place: Aiton Auditorium, National Conference Center, 7100 Connecticut Ave, Chevy Chase, MD  
Brunch with James Randi and NCAS



*Randi*

Date: March 18 at 12:30 p.m.

Cost: \$30 by credit card only. Advance purchase strongly encouraged.  
Place: Jackie's Restaurant, Silver Spring, MD. Only 50 seats.

Contact: <http://ncas.org/randii2007/>

## The 2007 MAES Convention sponsored by the Magicians' Alliance of Eastern States

Date: Aug. 23-25, 2007

Place: Trevoise, PA

Location: The Radisson Hotel, 2400 Old Lincoln Highway at US Route 1, Trevoise, PA 19053. Phone 215-638-8300

Lifetime dues for MAES are \$15. To join, fill out a membership form and send it to:

Joe Curcillo, MAES Secretary  
3964 Lexington Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17109

## David Ben at the Smithsonian

Join renowned sleight-of-hand performer and magic historian David Ben for theatrical recreations of feats created by such luminaries as Harry Houdini and Dai Vernon.

Date: Thursday, April 19.

Place: Location at the Smithsonian to be announced.

Cost: Smithsonian Resident

Members, \$18; Seniors, \$16; General Admission, \$28.

Contact: Tickets are available at the Smithsonian Resident Associates Office, (202) 357-3030 M-F 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Society of American Magicians (SAM) Larry West Assembly 28

Date: March at 7 p.m.

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

Theme: Across the Universe

Contacts: Ray Eyer at 410/798-0176 [ceyler1026@aol.com](mailto:ceyler1026@aol.com) or James Munton at 301-322-5605 --

[james@jamesmunton.com](mailto:james@jamesmunton.com).

## "The Comedy and Mystery Society"

offers family-friendly entertainment and sleight-of-hand for ages 10 and up with a different show each time. Mark Phillips, Bob Sheets, Alain Nu and special guests perform.

Dates: March 21, April 13, May 9 and May 25 at 8 p.m.

Place: Arts Barn, 311 Kent Square Road, Gaithersburg, MD

Cost: \$15 residents, \$18 nonresidents on Wednesday nights; \$18 and \$21 on Friday evenings..

Contact: Telephone 301-258-6394 or [www.gaithersburgmd.gov/artsbarn](http://www.gaithersburgmd.gov/artsbarn).

## "Illusions at Illusions" featuring Geo the Illusionist

(Geoffery "Geo" Weber) on Friday evenings.

Dates: Every other Friday. Next March 7 and 23.

Place: Illusions Thai Cafe (formerly Haad Thai), Mark Center shopping complex, 1472 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria, VA 22311

Contact: [www.illusionsthai.com](http://www.illusionsthai.com) or <http://www.magicbygeo.com/illusionsad.html>

## Daily Magic in Ancient Egypt

Place: Walters Art Gallery, Baltimore

Dates: Occurs every week on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday continuing through Nov. 18, 2007.

Time: 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Cost: Admission free.

Contact: <http://www.thewalters.org/>

Special Note: This small exhibition features 46 amulets, scarabs, figurines and ritual objects associated with the belief in the power of magic in ancient Egypt.

## Magi-Whirl 2007

*"The best little convention in the National Capital Area"*

**(Continued from page 1)**

Henning will speak on "Killing a Restaurant with Magic".

Registration begins and the dealer room opens at 9 a.m. on Saturday, April 14, at the high school convention site. Michael P. Lair, who is a featured performer at the convention, will lecture at 10 a.m. on stand-up magic.

There will be a lunch break from noon to 1:30 p.m., but the dealers will be open.

Tim Sonefelt, a dealer and performer, will lecture at 1:30 p.m. Saturday on the "Grab Bag - Something For Everyone".

Close-up Magic sessions will be held in two rooms at 3:30 p.m. featuring Scott Carroll and Larsen Eisenberg. The performers will switch rooms and repeat their close-up magic sessions so everyone will be able to enjoy this segment.

A special question and answer session with veteran magic dealer Barry Taylor from Barry's Magic in Wheaton, Md., will be conducted at 4:30 p.m.

After a dinner break from 5:30 to 7 p.m., the theater at the convention site will open for the evening show. There will be strolling and close-up magicians in the lobby starting at 6:30 p.m. The dealer room closes at 7 p.m.

Seating for the gala evening show begins at 7 p.m. The performance starts at 7:30 p.m. There will be more magical sessions in the lobby at 9 p.m.

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings Ring 50:

According to the comments I heard after last month's teach-in, the membership gave the meeting an "A" for excellent. The success of the meeting was all due to the fantastic teachers who shared their knowledge. Thanks to Buddy Smith, Glenn Gary, Sam Brothers, Larson Eisenberg, James Munton and Rick Beatty. Some of the members felt we should have this type of meeting more often.

The subject of "Ethics" was brought up at the meeting because of some disrespectful conduct encountered by some of our members. I'm not going into details but there was some cause for concern. When it comes to ethical behavior among people, not just magicians, there is some wisdom from the Bible I try to live by. "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you." If we do that, we won't have to discuss ethics.



**Dwight Redman**

The countdown to Magi-Whirl is at T-minus seven weeks and counting at the time of this writing. The committees have been formed, members are stepping up to the plate and things are moving in the right direction. The hotel we will be using is the Springfield Hilton. If you want a room, you need to mention "Magi-Whirl" to get the \$99 discount price. We will also be using Houlihan's Restaurant in the Hilton to meet after the day's events.

Next month our theme is "Mentalism". If you want to perform, contact me ASAP.

To volunteer for Magi-Whirl assignments, contact one of the committee chairs listed in the front-page story of this newsletter on the Ring 50 convention coming up next month.

Thanks, *Dwight*

*Between Ring 50 Magi-Gram issues, check out the latest news events and performances at the official Ring 50 site: <http://ibmring50.blogspot.com>.*

## **Trio inducted as Ring 50 members; more to join**

Three magicians were voted in as members of Ring 50 at the February meeting. They are Gary Goodwin of Alexandria, John Hornick of Washington and Carlton Silvestro of Leonardtown, MD.

Three more magicians from Virginia are scheduled to be voted into membership at the March meeting. They are Gabriel Brehm of Alexandria, Jay David Krasnow of Arlington and Maziar Namvar of Fairfax.

The following have applications pending IBM membership completion: Jeff Dionise, Manassas, VA, Teresito Malicse, Rockville, MD, and Terrance Moran, Fairfax Station, VA.

## **Memorial gift designed with humor in mind**

The widow of the late Winton Carroll, who was a Ring 50 president, has presented a \$500 check to our organization to establish a memorial award in his memory.

Emma Carroll said the 'Winton Carroll' award should be designed to recognize a Ring 50 member annually who instills "a bit of humor" in his or her performances.

"You know how much Winton loved humor," she said.

The money provides that \$100 be set aside each year for the next five years to select a magician who best exemplifies the philosophy of the award.

Winton Carroll performed as "The Magical Major" instilling humor into his act.

An awards committee will be established to determine the best way to proceed with the memorial gift.

## **Advertising being solicited**

If you want to place your own ad in the Magi-Whirl 2007 Gala Show program or in the registration brochure, email Bob Patterson at: [Magic.Bob@Comcast.Net](mailto:Magic.Bob@Comcast.Net). He will have samples and prices. You can also help support Ring 50's Magi-Whirl by selling advertisements to outside businesses. Ads accompanied with the money must be turned into Bob Patterson by March 23, 2007.

## *Magi-Whirl 2007 Schedule*

### Friday, April 13, 2007

5:30 PM Dealer Set Up Begins

6:00 PM Registration Opens

7:00 PM [Eric Henning](#) Lecture - "Restaurant Magic"

9:00 PM Dealer Show

10:00 PM T B A

### Saturday, April 14, 2007

7:30 AM . Dealer Set Up Begins

9:00 AM . Registration Opens  
(Badges must be worn at all times.)

9:00 AM . Dealer Room Opens

10:00 AM [Michael P. Lair](#) Lecture - "Stand-up Magic"

12:00 AM - 1:30 PM Lunch Break  
Dealers Open

1:30 PM [Tim Sonfelt](#) Lecture - "Grab Bag - Something For Everyone"

3:30 PM Close-Up Magic

4:30 PM Q & A Session with [Barry Taylor](#)

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM .Dinner Break

6:30 PM Theater opens. Strolling, and Close-up magicians perform in lobby prior to show.

7:00 PM Dealer Room Closes

7:00 PM Seating for Gala Evening Show

7:30 PM [Evening Show](#)

9:00 PM Sessions in Lobby

10:00 PM Party Moves to Location (TBA)

# Strolling magician serving in Iraq sends appeal to keep Barry's open

A U.S. soldier stationed in Iraq wrote a poignant letter recently to Montgomery County government officials in Maryland to save Barry's Magic Shop. Jered Schaugaard is a technical sergeant serving in Baghdad. He also is a professional magician at home who has performed all over the world. He expressed concern about the closure of Barry's Magic Shop because of a planned sidewalk development project.

"Everyone has a 'special place' they like to grasp on to in their mind when life gets a little stressful," Jered wrote. "My special place is centered by a table, a deck of cards evenly spread on it; the smell of fresh coffee; it's surrounded by a library of books with the keys to the secrets of life. My special place is a magic shop."

He continued, "If you take away Barry's Magic Shop you aren't just taking away a small business, which has survived 32 years of service; you are taking away someone's dream, someone's home, someone's friends, someone's family, someone's special place."

And he concluded: "In my work, I travel to D.C. all the time and I look forward to visiting Barry's shop. It was the last place I visited on my way to Iraq and it is the special place I cling to when life here gets stressful. There are only two things I look forward to when I am finished here; the first and foremost is seeing my beautiful wife, but the second is being able to tell the people I care about that the 'American dream' was worth fighting for. I hope that dream is still there when I get back.

"I can't imagine doing all of this for a sidewalk," he said.

"We were so touched that he took time out to write for us that we got his permission to share his letter to all of you," Barry Taylor and his wife, Susie, said.

"I am still doing fine," Jered told the popular magic store operators. "I am a little tired from working long hours, but I always look forward to



**JERED THE INCREDIBLE** -- *Armed with coins, playing cards, rope, rubber bands, silk handkerchiefs and uncanny dexterity, Jered Schaugaard is a master of strolling magic for kids and adults. He also is a skilled balloon artist.*

checking my e-mail every morning and feel ready to take on the day when I receive mail from such wonderful people like you."

Susie said that Jered would love to have emails from other magicians since there are no other magicians stationed with him in Iraq.

"If you have a magic trick you would like to share with him in an email, I know that would make his day," she said. "Or, just write to say hello. He promises he will write back to you. He is a really super-duper nice guy. His email is [jered.schaugaard@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:jered.schaugaard@iraq.centcom.mil).

The soldier-magician's military address is:

Jered Schaugaard  
MNFI-C2-CIOC-Special Assessments  
Unit# 42002  
APO AE 09342

"If you aren't familiar with APO addresses, they allow you to send mail internationally without being charged an international rate," Susie

said. "The APO AE 09342 is a Zip code in New York, so the rate on mail is only charged as if you were sending it to New York.

"I am sure if you want to mail him a goody bag full of magic tricks, books, DVDs or whatever, he would really appreciate it," she added.

Jered said that he grew up in Anchorage, Alaska, graduating from high school in 1991. He joined the U.S. Air Force in June of 1994. He began his magic journey shortly after entering the military.

"I started out performing mostly close-up magic," he said. "After a few years of restaurants and private parties, I put together a stand-up show of the comedy sort. Over the years I have stayed pretty strong with the close-up and have continued to twist and tweak my stand-up show. When it comes to close-up I would call myself a knuckle buster but when I watch these kids with the crazy cutting flourishes, I feel a little inept. I think the fanciest cut I know is Chris Kenner's Sybil Cut."

Jered's home base is at Offutt, Air Base in Bellevue, Neb., just outside of Omaha.

"As you know I am currently living in Baghdad, Iraq. My wife, who I have been happily married to for the past 10 years, is still safely back in Nebraska," he said.

Jered said that he can get access to a DVD player – especially if it involves magic.

"My favorite magicians right now are probably Simon Aronson (I am really into Memorized Deck Work) Michael Close and John Bannon. I have all of their material," he said.

## Ring 50 members attend February conventions

Bob Patterson visited with members of Ring 239 at their Round Table Meeting in Springfield, Ill. Rich Kahane and Bob Patterson ventured to cold Ohio (8 degrees) to attend Magi-Fest the week of Feb. 1-3 in Columbus. Mike Taggart flew off to the World Magic Seminar in Las Vegas held Feb. 15-22. Barry Taylor and Susie were there performing. And Dr. Bill Wells also was in Las Vegas to supervise the teen magic competition.



*Glenn Gary*



*Buddy Smith*



*James Munton with Cassandra*



*Larsen Eisenberg*



*Rick Beatty*



*Sam Brothers*

## Ring 50 tutors offer members performing tips

Our February program was “Teach a Slight/Move/False Shuffle/etc.” Tables were set up to allow hands-on instruction. The team of teachers changed tables every 20 minutes.

**Bud Smith** explained and demonstrated the multiple uses of various applications of the Thumb Palm, Finger Palm and Bobo Switch in coin magic.

**Sam Brothers** showed two effects: The first was Poker Player’s Picnic from the “Royal Road To Card Magic” by Jean Hugard and Frederick Braue. His second slight was “4 Aces Squared” from Swedish master magician Lennart Green’s “Volume 7: Green Lite.”

**James Munton** explained his version of the Ambitious Card ending with the signed card appearing in his wallet. He went on to teach the double-lift and top palm.

**Larsen Eisenberg** performed a version of the Cards Across Plot where he had a spectator choose a card which was not shown to the audience. A second spectator cut off a group of cards and placed them in his pocket. The first spectator’s card was then revealed and many cards joined the second spectator’s cards.

**Rick Beatty** demonstrated the Elmsley, Hammond and Jordan counts. He also talked about stage fright and posed the question of what you personally want out of this art — from just being a hobbyist, a semi-pro, a collector or something else. He tried to get the crowd to think of more than just sleights or tricks.

**Glenn Gary** closed the meeting with a discussion on the art of stage blocking and framing your act. He also suggested that you video your act and view your movements on stage and insure you draw the audience attention to magic at hand.

**Photos, story by  
Bob Patterson**