



Happy Halloween

MAGI-GRA



Official Newsletter of IBM Ring 50 -- The National Capital Ring Volume 61 No. 10 October 2007

Jamy Ian Swiss lecture highlight of month

An acclaimed master of sleight of hand, Jamy Ian Swiss will be our guest lecturer at the October meeting of Ring 50. He has performed magic throughout the United States for presenters ranging from Fortune 500

companies to the Smithsonian Institution. He has lectured to magicians in 13 countries and made numerous television appearances in the United States, Europe and Japan, including American on CBS-TV's "48 Hours", PBS's "Nova" and the PBS documentary "The Art of Magic" which is also the title of a book he has co-authored.

This special lecture is free to Ring 50's members. Others will be charged \$10 at the door.



A gifted sleight-of-hand artist who possesses, as the Washington Post once wrote, "a finely tuned sense of the absurd," Jamy Swiss was born in Brooklyn, N.Y. Today he makes his home in nearby Manhattan.

Over the years, Swiss has appeared everywhere from Hollywood's Magic Castle and Caesar's Palace on the Las Vegas Strip to the Ginza District of downtown Tokyo. His wildly eclectic resume includes stints as a marketing consultant, telecommunications firm owner, and wild animal handler. His greatest passion, however, is sleight-of-hand magic.

He served as a comedy writer and chief magic consultant for Penn & Teller's Sin City Spectacular, a weekly television variety show on the FX network, for which he also co-produced the Penn & Teller segments. He created, produced and performed in the documentary "Cracking the Con Games" for the Discovery Channel.

As a partner in Magical Nights Inc., he is the co-producer of Monday Night Magic, New York City's longest running Off-Broadway magic show.

A busy and highly regarded writer, Swiss contributes a monthly book

review column to Genii magazine; is the author of 11 books and monographs of magic for magicians; and a contributor and advisor to the book *Magic for Dummies*.

Phil Willmarth, the current president of the International Brotherhood of Magicians (IBM), has ranked Jamy Swiss among the best lecturers he has seen. A lecture for magicians by Jamy Swiss is packed with practical effects from a professional's working repertoire. He also will feature brand new material including mentalism. And he will provide a detailed exploration of some classical card effects to demonstrate how, when properly chosen, sleight of hand methods can deliver the cleanest and most powerful results.

New members inducted

Two new members were voted into IBM Ring 50 membership at the September meeting. They are **Danny Selnick** from Alexandria, Va., and **Jeff Dionise** from Manassas, Va. Danny attended the School of Magic Arts in Bogotá Colombia. Jeff was a semi-pro performing in nightclubs in the 80s. Todd Eisenstadt has received his membership from IBM and will be voted on for membership in Ring 50 at the October meeting. Others with pending IBM and Ring 50 memberships are: Joseph Matulewicz, Michael Wolfson, Donna Audi and Teresito Malicse.

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of Magicians Ring 50
The National Capital Ring**

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OCTOBER MEETING

Wednesday, Oct. 3, 2007

HOLIDAY INN
IN ALEXANDRIA

2460 Eisenhower Avenue

Alexandria, VA

6:00 Cocktails

6:45 Dinner

8:00 Meeting/Show

Coming Events

Lecture by John Carney

Carney, who has received more awards than anyone else from Hollywood's Magic Castle, studied



under Dai Vernon, the greatest sleight of hand expert of this century. Besides his normal charming self, he also performs as his alter ego character, Mr. Mysto.

John Carney

Cost: Lecturer setting price.

Date: Sept. 26.

Place: Barry's Magic Shop, 5544 Nicholson Lane, Rockville, Md.
Contact: 301/933-0373

Society of American Magicians (SAM) Larry West Assembly 28

Date: Oct. 17 at 7 p.m.

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

Theme: George Schindler, who has more than 50 years of professional experience as a magician and entertainer, will lecture. He has authored



Schindler

nine books on magic, is a leading authority on the art of ventriloquism, a celebrated comedy magician, lecturer and a Gold Star member of London's prestigious Inner

Magic Circle. George also is an inductee of the Society of American Magicians Hall of Fame.

Cost: Members free; others \$10 at door.

Contact: Ray Eyler at 410/798-0176 ceyler1026@aol.com or SAM Assembly President Larry Lipman at lmipman@cox.net.

Clown Classes at Barry's Magic

Dates: Every Monday evenings for eight weeks starting in October. Sessions will cover make-up, balloon sculpturing, costuming, magic routines and other factors. Contact Barry's Magic Shop, telephone 301/933-0373.

Between Ring 50 Magi-Gram issues, check out the latest news events and performances at the official Ring 50 site: IBMRing50.org.



Hart lecture attracts 65 at September ring meeting

There were 65 attendees at Steve Hart's lecture in September. He immediately hooked the audience with ways to inspire by thinking about magic. Then he showed a few items he had modified and others he had invented outright. His presentation got everyone thinking so much they started taking notes. His magic lecture—titled "Hart Attacks"—has been a favorite wherever he appears. It is not only educational but also fun and entertaining.

The guest lecturer's collection of close-up and standup magic is presented with a comical slant. Included were effects such as the Jardine/Ellis ring routine, Jumbo Comedy Card routine, Poorman's Bottle Vanish, Headless Rubber Chicken, Thumb tip Blendo routine, warm and fuzzy Sponge Ball routine and much more. He demonstrated how, for a few pennies, to make a vanishing bottle from everyday materials. Hart revealed the secrets to several of the effects he created.

In his younger days the Florida-based magician performed straight stand-up magic, but the audiences seemed to enjoy some of his comedy routines more. This led him to become a comedy magician. Hart advised that while you are performing, "listen to your audience to determine your persona."

"Magic is very effective if performed with the element of surprise," he says.

Lectures at Denny's Magic

Lecture by John Carney

John Carney, who is acclaimed as one of the finest magicians in the world, offers a brand new program, available in a few select cities. His two-hour lecture includes stage and close-up magic using cards, coins, cigars and a variety of everyday objects. Date: Thursday, Sept. 27, at 7:30 p.m. Cost: \$30

Lecture by Jamy Ian Swiss

The Jamy Ian Swiss Lecture has already received rave reviews in appearances throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and Japan. This exciting lecture is packed with practical material from a professional's working repertoire.

Date: Saturday, Sept. 29, at 7:30 p.m. Cost: \$10

Jamy Swiss Private Workshop

This intensive afternoon seminar with a contemporary expert focuses on the real work of close-up sleight-of-hand technique.

Date: Sunday, Sept. 30, at 3 p.m.

Cost: \$50 payable in advance. Space limited.

Bill Abbott "The Thing" Workshop

Learn the reputation-making one-man levitation that can be performed anywhere. Taught by the creator Bill Abbott.

Date: Saturday, Oct. 6

Cost: \$40

Lecture by Fielding West

In his lecture Fielding West, a magician's magician, will cover Bob The Bird Routine, Rabbit from Hat Gag, Hairspray Gag, Balloon Swallowing/Reverse Balloon Swallowing, Cigarette Manipulation, Coke Bottle Vanish/Glass of Water Production, Coin Vanish and Ring Vanish.

Date: Wednesday, Oct. 17, at 7:30 p.m.

Cost: \$25

Eric Anderson on Marketing

This performance marketing seminar will save you time and teach you how to make more money with your magic.

Date: Nov. 7 at 7:30 p.m.

Cost: \$20

Denny & Lee Magic Studio, 325 South Maryland Avenue, Baltimore, MD. Contact: Denny's at 410-686-3914 or email dennymagic@aol.com.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Like so many I am grateful that the summer is finally on the way out and the fall season is upon us. Thank all of you who turned out for the Steve Hart lecture. We had visitors from as far away as Hampton, Va., come in for his lecture.

I took the time to attend Steve's extra session on motivational speaking and was quite impressed with the thoughts on this market as well. I look forward to seeing Jamy Swiss at the October meeting. If you have never heard Jamy lecture, you will get a real treat this Halloween season.



Michael Taggert

The final talent is being booked for Magi-Whirl 2008. It doesn't seem possible but this big event of the coming year is just around the corner. Remember this is your convention and we need you to be a part

of it.

For our meeting in November all new members are invited to perform. This does not have to be anything earth shattering. No matter what your skill level is you are asked to perform. Remember the ring is a place for you to show your skills no matter what. Then we can help you to grow. New members drop me an email and I will get you on the bill. I would also like a volunteer emcee for the evening.

The combined SAM/IBM convention next year has several members of Ring 50 planning to attend. It would be wonderful if those who are going had Ring 50 polo shirts. Don Freedman is working on a design and sample. More on the shirts coming soon.

Calling all teens! Are you planning on attending the teen weekend at the World Magic Seminar? Let's plan on going as a group and representing Washington, D.C., at the convention. If you are planning on competing let us know so we can help you with your planning and rehearsal for this or any other competition.

Ashley and I are already planning on attending but remember spots for the

teens are limited to 40 from around the world. Last year we met young people from South Africa, Germany, Japan and other wide-ranging places. We even met a kid from D.C.

Finally congratulations to Larry Lipman on becoming president of the SAM Assembly 252 which meets monthly at the National Press Club. I know that he will do a stellar job for them just as he has done for us.

There are a lot of new magic events happening in the Washington area. A notable one is that Barry's Magic is open again at their new location. I have not been there as of yet but am trying to get there in the next few days. Also Glenn Gary has stepped up his performances of his parlor show at a new location in DC.

This is going to be a great fall season for everyone.

Magically,

Michael Taggert

Ring 50 Meeting

Schedule 2007-08

2007

Oct. 3 — Jamy Ian Swiss Lecture

Nov. 7 — New Members Perform

Dec. 5 — Holiday Magic

2008

Jan. 2 — "Ask The Panel" Night

Feb. 6 — Lecture TBA

March 5 — Four Corner Teach-In

March 28-29—Magi-Whirl 2008

April 2 — Auction

May 7 — Dan Lacy Contest

June 4 — Winton Carroll "Most Humorous Magician" Contest

July — No meeting -- IBM/SAM joint convention in Louisville, Ky.



SHOWING THE ROPES--Noland Montgomery of Ring 50 shows 12-year-old Samuel Friedrich of California his rope magic on the plaza of the Torpedo Factory in Old Town, Alexandria, Virginia.



VISITOR AT BARRY'S--Sarah Friedrich models a hat at the new location of Barry's Magic Shop. Another recent visitor there was veteran magic dealer Al Cohen.

Magi-Whirl contracts initialed by performers

Ring 50 has signed contracts from Kenrick "ICE" McDonald and Aldo Colombini as lecturers and performers for Magi-Whirl 2008. We also have a confirmation from Scott Correll to participate as a dealer.

Ring 50 group at MAES gathering

Several members of IBM Ring 50 were among almost 200 magicians who attended the annual convention of the Magician Alliance of Eastern States in Trevoze, Pa., in August. The MAES traces its origin back to 1938, being an outgrowth of the Keystone State Federation of IBM Rings, which held conventions during the 1930s, the last one being in 1938 at Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Kenrick "ICE" McDonald, who will be Ring 50's feature magician and lecturer for Magi-Whirl 2008, was on hand and was the emcee for the close-up show.

Ring 50's Noland Montgomery performed in the close-up contest. He claimed that he used to work in an orange juice factory, but was fired because he could not concentrate. He presented a "street version" of the cups and balls and wrapped up his routine producing two large balls from under the cups and a coconut from a seemingly empty hat.

The headliners for the MAES at a Saturday night show were Goldfinger and Dove.

The talent coordinator for the MAES was Phil Milstead.

Tom Paxton was the high bidder in the auction for some top-rate magic equipment including Hippity-Hop Rabbits, Topsy Turvy Bottles and a large Duck Pan, just to name a few. Perhaps he will be showing some of these at the "New Members Perform" night at the Ring 50 meeting in November.

Wayne Alan of Ring 50 also walked away with some choice magic items from the auction.



HOT ACT--*Goldfinger and Dove, one of the hottest couples in magic, were headliners at the MAES convention. They have appeared in the U.S. and Canada as well as in Europe and Asia.*



ATTENDS CONVENTION--*Karl Eason, a 14-year-old high school freshman from New Canaan, Conn., attended the Magicians' Alliance of Eastern States 2007 Convention in Pennsylvania. He performs as "The Great Karlini."*

Jeff McBride made a surprise visit to the MAES convention and performed his multiplying cards during one of the lectures. After hearing that the master magician would be on the agenda at next year's MAES convention and would be conducting a masters class either before or after the convention, Stan Rosenthal and Scotty Scafidi quickly took an early bird registration form.

Overall the convention proved worthwhile with excellent entrants in the contests, outstanding lecturers and entertaining performers.



ICE McDonald with Bob Patterson



Noland Montgomery and Bob Carnathan spent time checking out dealers tables



Stan Rosenthal and Scotty Scafidi



Bob Patterson with the headliners



Tom Paxton