



OFFICIAL WEBSITE:
WWW.OAKLANDMAGICCIRCLE.COM

The Oakland Magic Circle
meets the first Tuesday of every month except July at
Bjornson Hall, 2258 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland, CA 94602
DECEMBER 2014

Tuesday, December 2, 2014

Magic with Apparatus Night! (With a tribute to the late Dr Robert Albo, the premier magic apparatus collector)

6 PM – Doors open

7:15 – Meeting, results of the election for your Board of Directors for 2015

7:45 – Open performance of Magic with Apparatus.

President's Message

The November meeting was divided into three segments with the first covered in the Secretary's report. The second featured a presentation and film by Tom Wyrsh on the annual Houdini Séances. Included were interviews with local magicians Gary Meyer, Jay Alexander and Byron Walker. Thanks Tom - your dedication to film and magic is appreciated. The third section was open performance of magic involving Houdini, escapes, locks, chains or danger. Mark Tarses was first with a discussion of the recent "biography" of Houdini on the History Channel starring Adrien Brody. Mark pointed out that the History Channel is in the entertainment business, not the history business. Although entertaining, the film contained many inaccuracies. (But, so did the 1953 Houdini film with Tony Curtis and Janet Leigh but I found it inspiring – editorial comment). Mark was followed by performances by Azlan Dubin, Larry "Zappo" Wright, Doug Eakin, James

Hamilton, Eric S. (sorry – not sure of spelling but I hope this welcome visitor returns and I'll write it down), Mike Della Penna, Leo Bleier, and Gary Meyer. If I seemed a bit distracted that night I'll blame it on the fact that I had a 6 AM flight from SFO to Boston the next morning for the New England Magic Collectors Convention. The December meeting will feature our (probably) annual Magic with Apparatus night, with a tribute to the late Dr Robert Albo of Piedmont, who had assembled what was considered the largest collection of magical apparatus in the world. His collection was sold to David Copperfield and now resides in Las Vegas. As last year, this will be led by OMC Secretary, Mike Della Penna. Don't give the method of your effect but if you can provide any history or background it will be welcomed. Last year I presented each performer with a copy of Dr Albo's informative monograph **Magic Collecting**. I'll have to see what I can come up with this year..... I guess that's your "carrot" to dust off something from the closet. A staff photographer from the San Francisco Chronicle will be taking pictures at the meeting for an independent project on magic that he is working on. Perhaps he will tell us more at the meeting. This will be the second photographer the OMC has had this year. The photographs taken at the May meeting appeared in the July issue of **Oakland Magazine**.

Byron Walker

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Secretary's Report

The meeting began with the second reading for Azlan Dubin who was unanimously voted into membership. Second order of business were nominations for next year's board members. They were Mike Della Penna for president, Mark Tarses for vice president, Byron Walker for secretary, Robert Herrick for treasurer, Doug Eakin for sergeant at arms, Gary Meyer for historian, and Mike Della Penna for librarian, with a possible librarian in training, Next Gary Meyer announced The Magique Bazaar, a show featuring Michael Stroud, and that Jay Alexander would be performing a string of shows in San Francisco. While these events may have passed, Gary highlighted that Goldstar was a great way to get tickets to both shows. I reported on seeing Christian Cagigal in Obscura at the Aurora Theatre in Berkeley. I was fortunate to be there on the same night as our treasurer, Robert Herrick and we got to enjoy the show together. Four big thumbs up from Robert and myself. Larry Wright plugged a bunch of shows coming up at the California Magic Dinner Theatre in Martinez. He also mentioned that Santa Claus would be appearing any Saturday or Sunday in December through the 24th at a campaign brunch on the Hornblower Cruise. Dante announced that The Carbonaro Effect has begun another run on Tru TV. Prospective member Eric (last name?) introduced himself and was welcomed into the meeting. President Byron Walker then previewed the upcoming months: December – Dr. Robert Albo Magic with Apparatus Night; January – lecture by Tom Ogden; February – Installation Banquet with headliner Alex Ramon. Vice president Mark Tarses then announced there was a chocolate pizza for all to share and that pretty much wrapped the meeting.

-Secretary Mike Della Penna

Previews of Coming Attractions!

December – Magic with Apparatus night, election of the OMC Board of Directors for 2015.

January – Lecture by the funny and talented Tom Ogden with a special low price for OMC members who pay their dues for 2015 – still a very low \$20 per year, which you are likely to save in member's discounts over the year.

February – Annual OMC Installation Banquet and Show.

