



OFFICIAL WEBSITE:
WWW.OAKLANDMAGICCIRCLE.COM

OMC Discussion Area:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/thevirtualomc>

The Oakland Magic Circle

meets the first Tuesday of every month except July at
Bjornson Hall, 2258 Macarthur Blvd., Oakland, CA 94602

Doors open at 6:30 pm

June 2008

President's Message

June 3rd meeting is our Annual Lloyd Jones Close up Contest.

The Grand Prize for this event has been donated by Gary Meyer, 2 tickets to see Darren Romeo at the Post Street Theater. Also, the grand prize winner will receive a trophy and a check for Fifty Dollars!

We will need 3 contestants to have a contest. Please contact me if you want to participate. You can reach me at 510-851-4313 or scott@scottalcalay.com.

This contest is open to all PAID OMC members.

I want to thank all the members who made movie night the success it was.

Thank you to Gary Meyer for the Silver Screen.

Thank you to Kim Silverman for the DVD Projector.

Thank you to David Fry for the popcorn and

Thank you to Mark Tarses for the popcorn bags.

And, finally, thank you to all who attended to make this a most unique evening of magic.

For those of you who did not make it, we were treated to performances of legendary Magical entertainers.

We saw Al Flosso and his Miser's Dream, Roy Benson doing the Chinese Sticks, Kuda Bux and his Sightless Vision, Harry Blackstone Sr. interviewed by Edward R. Murrow, Luis Zingone in a gambling expose, and much more.

The OMC is Dark for July, but we would like to get a group together for opening day of the Alameda County fair. Friday, June 20 is opening day and at 9:15 pm (approx.) they

have a grand fireworks show. Once again, the fair will feature the strolling balloon man, Dennis Forel, Ernie Guderjon and his Dr. Goodjohn's Medicine Show, Ernie's wife Mary Lee will have her Illusion show: Eye Ventures Optical Oddities, Tom Jorgenson and his magic show, and the Jest in Time circus, plus much more non magic related entertainment.

I will try to arrange group rates.

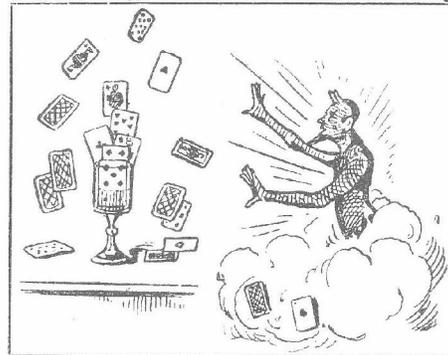
August will be our Stage competition to see who will represent us in the Bay Area Interclub Stage Competition.

So, to all you stand up performers, get your act together so once again our club can be well represented.

And finally, a reminder to everyone who was emailed, please go online and complete the club survey as this is YOUR CLUB and we want to know what you want to see happen during the rest of the year.

Magically,
Scott Alcalay

1501a. „De Kolla's“ Kartensteiger.



Ein durchsichtiger Glaspokal, wie auch ein gewöhnliches Kartenspiel werden genau untersucht. Die Zuschauer wählen mehrere Karten und mischen das Spiel, nachdem sie die Karten wieder zurückgesteckt haben. Der

Künstler steckt nun das Spiel in das Glas; auf Kommando spazieren nun die gewählten Karten aus dem Glase hervor. Plötzlich kommen auch die übrigen Karten aus dem Pokal herausspaziert, bis der Pokal vollständig leer ist.

Dagmar will translate this at the June meeting.

Magic movie night at the OMC

The primary theme at the May 6th meeting was to view film of well known but deceased magicians. Performers were:

Al Flosso (1895-1976)

Banana Man (A. Robbins but little else is known)

Kuda Bux ("before 1905" – 1981)

Roy Benson (1915-1978)

The Tuckers (Tommy, 1915 - ?)

Fred Keating (1897-1961)

Luis Zingone (unknown)

Blackstone, Sr. (1885-1965)

Performers for that evening were:

Felix Harth (who vanished pom-poms in his vanishing box.) Kim Silverman (the Ninja Rings) and Lyn Bronner (with a mystical story and an "invisible deck".)

Byron Walker

Secretary, OMC



Playland-Not-At-The-Beach opens!



Playland-Not-At-The-Beach finally opens to the general public on May 31. Situated in El Cerrito, Playland-Not-At-The-Beach is a tribute to Whitney's Playland at the Beach and celebrates the magic and history of bygone amusements through interactive fun exhibits.

Richard Tuck, who is a member of the Oakland Magic Circle and the proprietor, has amassed an amazing amount of memorabilia and historical artifacts. The museum is a maze of showrooms featuring circus, sideshow, miniatures, midway games, antique peepshow type machines, 3 rooms of some of

the greatest pinball machines ever played, and much more. All the carnival, midway, and pinball games are fully functional and free to play during your visit.



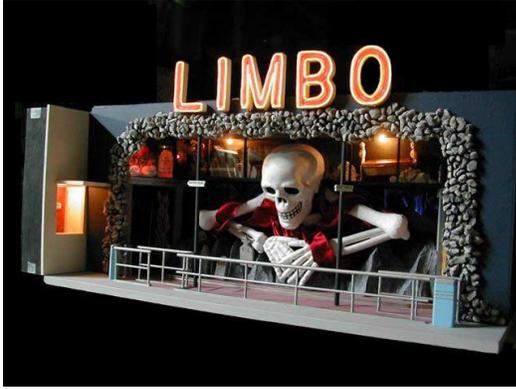
As you enter Playland-Not-At-The-Beach you are greeted by one of the two Laughing Sal mechanical figures who welcomed the guests upon their arrival to the amusement park. Making your way down the hall of memories, the first room you encounter is a miniature recreation of the grand entrance to Playland. Here you will find photos, ephemera, posters, newspaper clippings and more depicting what once was a San Francisco institution in the early days of the grand 1900s.



Opening the first doorway of many, we entered the room devoted to the Sells-Floto circus of the 1930s. This miniature circus was lovingly hand carved by Don Marcks of Circus Report newsletter. You will see the side show, the big top, and the animal and commissary cook house tents. In addition, there are also on display many depictions of side show freaks, wonders and curiosities that defy science, imagination, and the laws of nature. This display is truly a spectacle to behold.

The circus is never complete without the midway carnival games. Here you will find the real thing! Skee-Ball, Knock-em-Over, the

Bowling Ball game, and many more games of skill, all right there for you to play. You can even win a crystal plate from the long gone Long Beach Pike!



Moving through the fun house maze of displays, we entered the area called "Dark Mystery." This haunted hallway was specially created as a tribute to year-round Halloween celebrations.

Scattered around this museum there are special niches dedicated to "Bygone San Francisco" and "Santa's Village".



Wandering the halls, you will eventually enter the Pinball Island Museum. Here are more vintage pinball arcade machines that are set up for free play. The "early years" machines are in the front hallway and further back are more modern games with more lights, bells and whistles. But, the real pinball attraction is behind the tribute to Circus Chimera room. The Laugh in the Dark arcade features 3D arcade games. To really appreciate the full effects of this room, you will need to wear special 3D glasses which are available upon entrance to the room.

Leaving the circus area, you then enter the Penny Arcade. Here in this room are the "penny a peep" attractions for your enjoyment. There are plenty of pennies to go around so you can enjoy each and every amusement. These are not reproductions, these are the real thing. You will thrill to the "Fan Dance" and many more amusements.

Leaving the penny arcade, you come to a tribute to the Sutro Baths and the Cliff House. Eventually you will encounter the gift shop. Here is the time to pick up a Laughing

Sal doll or one of many other collectibles from this one of a kind museum.

Every exhibit area of Playland-Not-At-The-Beach is full of artwork, artifacts, and surprises.

Reservations are required at Playland-Not-At-The-Beach. The hours of this grand showplace are Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. till 5:00 p.m. and Sundays for special events. To make reservations, call (510) 232-4264 ext #25. Playland-Not-At-The-Beach is located at 10979 San Pablo Ave. El Cerrito, CA. 94530. The website is www.Playland-Not-At-The-Beach.org.

News from across the bay

By Kim Silverman, S.A.M. 94

S.A.M. assembly 94, in Palo Alto, has recently had a number of events to further the art of Magic.

Shoot Ogawa gave two 3-hour hands-on interactive Master Classes on the Ninja Rings. The first covered the basic moves and handling, and a thorough introduction to all facets of Shoot's Award-winning routine that contributed to his Close-Up Magician of the Year awards.

The next night he gave an intensive Master Class in which he went through the routines of each attendee in painstaking detail, giving direction and feedback on pacing, eye gaze, body movement, handling, sleights, props, and script delivery. I have to say that this was the best Master Class I have ever been to in my entire magic career.

Our Learners' Workshop is currently dealing with Out Of This World. We focus on one particular handling of one effect in one routine, and do not move on to a new topic until every attendee can competently perform the current effect.

Our Mentoring Program is bearing fruit. We have now had two very good performances from mentees, and are expecting more next month. One was a very clean handling of Professor's Nightmare with an original well-edited script, tightly timed and performed to classical music. The other was a 3-person drama, also with an original script, about dueling wizards, which incorporated a number of rubber band magic effects. We shall extend the Mentoring Program

S.A.M. #94 strives for quality rather than quantity. We do not aim to have large

meetings, but rather to focus on improving the performance of magic by members. We invite OMC members to visit our meetings on the second Monday at 6:30 pm for the Learners' Workshop and 7:30 pm for the main meeting of each month at the First Lutheran Church, corner of Homer and Webster in Palo Alto.

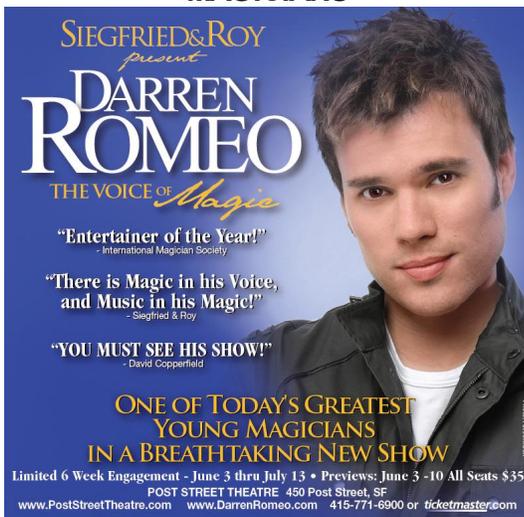
-Kim

NEWS YOU CAN USE!!

See the May issue of MAGIC for a fine article on Gerry Griffin and his California Dinner Theater in Martinez.

From Gary Meyer:

SAVE \$10* ON TICKETS TO ONE OF TODAY'S GREATEST YOUNG MAGICIANS



AT POST STREET THEATRE FROM

JUNE 3 – JULY 13 ONLY!

With the help of leading lady Kristy Michelsen and his dancers, Darren Romeo headlines a Broadway-inspired magic and musical production full of masterful illusions and moving vocals. This fast-paced show presents spectacular illusions performed nowhere else, including famed magician Harry Blackstone's classic "Floating Light Bulb." (Darren is the only magician entrusted by the Blackstone Estate to perform this illusion.)

*Now is your chance to save \$10 to this breathtaking new show called "Extraordinary. Fantastic!" by *Entertainment Today*. (For the following performances: Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 8pm and Sundays at 7pm). To take advantage of this

offer simply call the box office at **415-771-6900** and mention code "**VOICE**" or enter it under promotion code when ordering online at <http://www.ticketmaster.com/promo/1onjd9>.

But, hurry; **DARREN ROMEO THE VOICE OF MAGIC** will disappear from Post Street Theatre after a limited engagement beginning June 3, so order your tickets today!

POST STREET THEATRE

450 Post Street, (1/2 block off Union Square)

San Francisco - 415-771-6900

www.PostStreetTheatre.com

(Note: this discount is not valid on previously ordered tickets, on preview performances, children prices, premium seats or with any other offers. Limit 6 tickets per order. Must be requested at time of purchase. Subject to availability. Service fees apply. Expires: July 13).

(ed. Note: How about a group to go together on Sunday, June 8? Contact Byron 510-276-1854)

NOTE:

After the Close-Up competition we will have an "open stage" to perform your latest feats of dazzlement and illusion.

Upcoming calendar:

July 20: Group to Alameda County Fair

August 5: Intra Club Stage competition

September 2: Inter Club contest and Spaghetti Dinner.

October 7: To Be Announced

November 4: Nominations of Officers for 2009

December 2: Election of Officers for 2009

January 6 2009: To Be Announced

February 3 2009: Installation of Officers and Dinner Show