



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 6:00 pm

May 2009

Our next meeting is Tuesday, May 5th.
Cinco de Mayo
Chips and Salsa provided!

President's Message

The year is now just about half over (since there is no July meeting) and each meeting has been a resounding success thanks to our membership! Starting the year with John Calvert, the Installation Banquet, a lecture on Story Telling Magic, then the April Flea Market and Auction, the Oakland Magic Circle has been gaining momentum as one of the best Bay Area magic clubs. We can only improve from here by having the members becoming more involved in the monthly meetings.

Thank you to Fred Casto and David Fry for demonstrating how to operate the club's spotlight and sound system. Their mini lectures were well attended.

I hope to see more members taking part in the technical production efforts of our annual Installation Banquet and Inter-Club Stage Competition and Dinner.

The April Flea Market was very well attended with over 100 buyers and sellers. I did not have a chance to see everything that was available for sale, but the highlights were booths set up by Daryl Martinez who came in from Auburn, CA., Dean Hanky from Reno, NV., and Phil Temple from Petaluma with his boxes of books for sale at exceptionally low prices.

Special thanks to Manya, Fred, David Samant, David Fry, Lyn Bronner, Steve Davis, Charlie Martin, Kim Silverman, and Ace Miles for their dedicated help at making the auction run as smooth as it did. Inevitably there were a few errors, but all in all this team did a stupendous job in helping to make this auction the LARGEST and FINEST in Northern California.

The club raised over \$300 at this event. The board of directors has decided to use part of that money for a new wireless sound system for the club.

The May meeting will feature a mini lecture on Bar Magic presented by one of our members. More information is provided further down in this issue.

After the lecture, we will have an open workshop for you to perform and have us critique your performance if desired. This will be an opportunity for

our members to get positive feedback on their works in progress. From my understanding, this is what a magic club is all about.

Get ready to show your stuff at our June meeting. That is the Annual Lloyd Jones Close up Contest. First Prize is \$50 and a trophy. This contest is open to current OMC members only. After the contest, we will open the stage to members who want to perform a work in progress.

As usual, there is no meeting in July, BUT some members have been taking a trip to the Alameda County Fair and have seen private a gambling demonstration from Ernie Guderjhan and a mini balloon animal demo from Dennis Forel. Opening night of the fair is Wednesday, July 1. We will arrive around 6 p.m., have a little dinner, enjoy a bit of the fair and stay for the opening night fireworks display. This is a real fun time with your magic club friends.

I will see you all at the May meeting.

Respectfully,

Scott Alcalay
OMC President

Future Events

June – Lloyd Jones Close-up contest for OMC Members

July – No Meeting, trip to Alameda County Fair opening night, Wednesday, July 1st.

August – OMC Intra-Club Stage Competition

September – OMC Inter-Club stage competition and Spaghetti dinner.

October – TBA

November – Nominations for 2010 officers

December – Election of 2010 officers

Minutes of the OMC Meeting 3 March 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Scott Alcalay at 7:30 PM.

Treasurer Manya Casto reported on the February Installation Banquet. Despite the increased cost of the hall and cost of entertainers the event managed to show a modest profit of \$26. We joined Manya in thanking

Frank Olivier who gave an outstanding performance at a fraction of his usual fee.

A first reading of his application for membership was given for Brenton Cromwell.

Second readings were given for Frank Biafore, Ace Miles and Mark Stock. All three were voted into membership.

Under Good of the Order Richard Tuck discussed the upcoming Houdini Magic Weekend at his Playland-Not-At-The-Beach on March 21st and 22nd. He invited magicians to perform in exchange for free admission and lunch. Gary Meyer was happy to announce that local magician Alex Ramon Gonzalez is now "Zingmaster" for the Ringling Brothers red unit. The magic-themed show will arrive in Oakland, San Jose, and Sacramento later this year. Mark Tarses reported on the 2009 PCAM Convention to be held on a cruise ship, starting in Vancouver and ending in Los Angeles.

The meeting was adjourned at 8 PM and followed by the Lecture by Walt Anthony on Showmanship, Presentation and Story-Telling Magic.

Byron Walker, Secretary

All news for the newsletter is due by the
3rd Tuesday of every month.
Please send submissions to either
scott@scottcalay.com or byron.walker@comcast.net

LECTURE ON BAR MAGIC AT THE MAY MEETING: 8 PM

Professional bar magician and OMC member "Gaddy" has agreed to lecture on performing as a bar magician. Of course, much of his advice will apply to close-up and parlor magic as well but Gaddy will cover such specialized topics as challenges faced performing in a bar, choice of effects, anecdotes at the bar, sources of material, how magic improves tipping, how to choose receptive spectators, how bar magic stimulates repeat customers, etc. He will also demonstrate some effects he regularly performs in the bar and answer questions on performing in this setting.

ECCENTRICS OF SAN FRANCISCO'S BARBARY COAST: REVIEW

I had the pleasure of attending this show on Friday 17 April. The intimate showroom is beautifully decorated in a style resembling the early 1900s and seats about 36. The theme of the show is to describe some of the more interesting characters in the history of San Francisco and perform a magical effect appropriate to that character. Among the "eccentrics" were Emperor Norton, Shanghai Kelly, Oofy-Goofy, Mark Twain, Mary Ellen Pleasant, Lola Montez, Anton LaVey, etc. Performing magic while describing San Francisco history worked well and Ann Marie, David Fry and I were thoroughly entertained. The price of \$30 is quite reasonable for live entertainment and the four person cast of Walt Anthony, David Miller, Brian Scott and Ruth Fraser have put a lot of time and expense into this production and deserves our support. Shows are Friday and Saturday evenings at 8PM. For more information and tickets go to www.sanfranciscomagiparlor.com.
Byron