



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  
Doors open at 6:00 pm  
March 2011

## March Meeting

Tuesday, March 1, 2011  
6:00 Doors Open- Session Time  
7:15 Business Meeting  
7:45 Film/DVD Screenings

## President's Message

A big thank you goes out to everyone who made the installation banquet such a success. What a great show! For those of you who were unable to attend, our performers included Steve Nelson, Chin-Chin, and Christopher Hart. Scott Alcalay was our wonderful Master of Ceremonies. In addition, I was lucky enough to do ten minutes of magic and comedy as well. All night, the smiles and looks of wonder on the faces of audience told the story of a truly wonderful evening.

If you were in attendance and enjoyed yourself, please join me in thanking the following people next time you see them. Without them, the show wouldn't have been what it was:

Front of House - David Sament  
Stage Manager - Manya Casto  
Audio Guru - David Fry  
Spotlight - Gaddy Gadbois  
Table Captain - Byron Walker  
Chair Captains- Dan Solo, Diane Solo,  
Anne Marie  
Cookie Dipper - Mark Tarses  
Set Up and Break Down -  
**The Oakland Magic Circle**

I am especially proud of that last thank you. I was really grateful to all those who came early, stayed late, and helped support the show. Thank you!

A last but very important thank you goes out to all those who contributed something special to our raffle prize table. There were some **very** nice prizes this year! Thank you as well.

Our meeting this month is a video night! Everyone is encouraged to bring a magic related clip of approximately ten minutes to share with the club. This can be a performance, a piece of a lecture, or even a trick. Be prepared to share a little about the clip and why you chose to share it with the community. Please have your clip either on DVD or VHS (yes, I think I have a working VHS player we can use).

Finally, on a sad note, as I was putting together this newsletter I heard about the passing of Dr. Robert Albo. I didn't know Dr. Albo well. I wish I had. While we were setting up for the John Carney lecture in January, I noticed Byron had reserved two seats for Dr. Albo. I remember thinking to myself, "Dr. Albo's coming to the lecture, and Byron Walker just set up a chair for him." And I thought to myself: this is the best magic club on the planet.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Dr. Albo's wife Marge, and all those whose lives were touched by him and his work. Byron has written a short piece remembering Dr. Albo (see below). We will also watch some pieces of his at the March meeting and Byron may also bring a recent example of Dr. Albo's work.

Rest in peace, Dr. Albo.

Sincerely,  
Mike Della Penna

## Broken Wand Robert J. Albo, M.D. (1932-2011)

Dr Robert Albo had long been a good friend of the OMC. He and his wife Marge regularly attended OMC functions such as the Installation Banquets, Inter-Club Stage Competition and lectures. Several years ago he lectured for our club on magic apparatus. Every time the club had a raffle he donated a pair of his magic posters. After battling a neuromuscular condition affecting primarily his legs for the past two years he passed away early Monday morning, 21 Feb 2011. He did not want a "funeral" but rather a "celebration of his life". As a tribute to a man that did so much for so many, at the March meeting we will show several videos of him performing choice pieces of apparatus from what was the largest collection of magic apparatus in the world.

-Byron Walker

## Local Magicians Make the Covers

Dr Robert Albo is on the cover of the Feb Linking Ring, along with an extensive story on his accomplishments in magic, medicine and athletics. Byron Walker is on the cover of the Feb M-U-M, accompanied by the story of his magic collection.

## Auction Fever!

It the most wonderful time of the year!!! That's right, our April Auction and Flea Market is just around the corner! Check out the flyer on the OMC website. Fred Casto has volunteered to head the Auction Committee this year. Please email him at [magofred@aol.com](mailto:magofred@aol.com) if you'd like to volunteer. Trust me, this event is really fun to be a part of behind the scenes.

## Future Events

**March-** Video Night

**April-** The Largest and Finest Magic Auction and Flea Market in Northern California!

**May** – TBA

**June** – Lloyd Jones Close-up contest for OMC Members

**July** – Annual Scott Alcalay Trip to the Alameda County Fair (no regular meeting)

**August** – OMC Intra-Club Stage Competition

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

**October** – TBA

**November** – Nominations for 2011 officers

**December** – Election of 2011 officers

## About Town

Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>

Benny Bendini's "The Incredible Magic Hat Show" 3:30 p.m at the Orinda Library 26 Orinda Way Orinda, CA 94563

Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>

Balboa Birthday Bash! Magic by James Hamilton

<http://balboamovies.com/events.php#bday>

March 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>

Houdini Magic Weekend

Playland-not-at-the-Beach

<http://www.playland-not-at-the-beach.org>

## 2011 Dues

A few members have not paid their dues for 2011 yet. Please pay at the March meeting or send your check for \$20 (\$15 for life members) to Treasurer Manya Casto, 1853 Lamplight Ct, Walnut Creek, CA 94597

All news for the newsletter is due by the 3rd Tuesday of every month.

Please send submissions to

[mikedellapenna@yahoo.com](mailto:mikedellapenna@yahoo.com) or

[byron.walker@comcast.net](mailto:byron.walker@comcast.net)