



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  
OCTOBER 2013

Tuesday, October 1, 2013  
Rafael Benatar Lecture  
Doors open: 6:00 pm  
General Meeting: 7:15 pm  
Lecture: 8:00 pm

#### President's Message

October meeting!

We were very fortunate to have Rafael Benatar come for our October meeting.



But first, I do need to thank a great team for the setup and logistics of the 2013 Inter-Club Stage competition.

First and foremost, a huge THANK YOU to Dagmar. Not only did she find the time to compete in the contest with Robert Herrick, but she along with Robert took care of their usual banquet set up along with the duties that our vice President Mark Tarses completes. While Mark was recovering from his surgical procedures, Dagmar and Robert made the transition of the food service and table settings very smooth for the evening. Then, another big thank you to the basic set up team lead by Byron. His team consisted of Ken Taylor, John Owens, Ann Marie, and Ernie Jackson of the Capitola Coastal Magicians of Santa Cruz County. The set up tables and chairs was

once again flawless!

The Show logistics also deserves a big round of applause! With Nathaniel Segal on the sound board, Mark Stock back stage, and Akal Sing Krau at the follow spot, each of our 7 acts looked and sounded great.

Our raffle, although not as lush as it has been in the past, was headed once again by Mike Dell Penna, Frank Biafore, and Dagmar.

More on the contest in Byron's columns down the road.

We are privileged to present Raphael Benatar for our club's October event. Usually, we do a Houdini theme for October, but Raphael will be coming up from The Magic Castle to present lectures in the bay area.

The cost for the OMC member is only \$5 and \$15 for non-OMC members!!!

So, be prepared to learn, and enhance your skills with this very skillful, international performer.

Finally, I need to let it be known, I will not be running for OMC president in 2014. Call it "term limits" but it is time for someone else to lead our club into 2014.

The past 5 years have been a fun ride and the membership has increased a bit, but now it is time to pass the torch. So, November, please be ready for nominations and in December, be sure to vote for the new board members.

I have arranged to have Robert Baxt as our January lecturer. Robert is a VERY FUNNY & creative magician and actor from New York and Los Angeles. I am sure you will have a great time with his presentation.

See you October 1<sup>st</sup>!  
Magically, Scott

## The 2013 Oakland Magic Circle Inter-Club Stage Contest

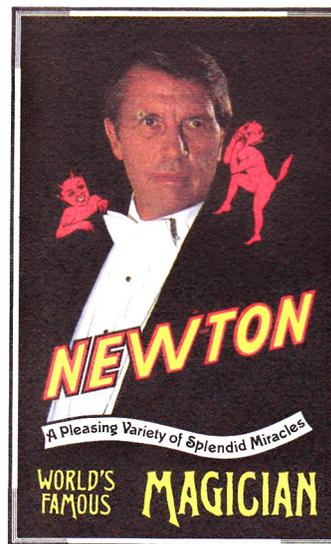
The annual Inter-Club Stage Competition held Tuesday, September 3rd had a record number of seven contestants representing magic clubs in the greater San Francisco Bay area from as far north as Sacramento and south as Santa Cruz County. This included representatives from two independent clubs, four SAM assemblies and one IBM Ring. With OMC President Scott Alcalay acting as M.C., the show opened with **Ric and Kara (Ewing) representing SAM Assembly 112 of Pleasant Hill**. The duo performed silk and rope routines, diminishing cards, sponge balls and closed with their colorful Sands of the Desert. Next up was **Andy "Zap" Jackson representing The Coastal Magicians of Santa Cruz County**. Andy performed an active Zombie routine, vanished the top half of his body and closed by walking through a large mirror. Third on the bill was **John Jones from IBM Ring 216 in San Jose**. John opened with his diminishing gloves and then produced and stacked six boxes neatly. The middle act was **Doctor Robert (Herrick) and the Amazing Dagmar, representing the Oakland Magic Circle**. Robert performed a baffling Magic Square routine and with the assistance of a blindfolded Amazing Dagmar, had her identify various objects owned by members of the audience, always with a humorous reply from Dagmar. Fifth on the bill was **Mike Della Penna for SAM Assembly 80 of Hayward**. Mike produced a mighty Botania and told the tale of a dragon, a princess and their treasure. The penultimate spot on the show was filled by **Al Skinner, representing SAM Assembly 72 of Sacramento**. Al performed his Benson Bowl routine and an egg, lemon, walnut and borrowed ring transposition. His act was punctuated at times by mysterious puffs of smoke seemingly appearing from nowhere. The final act was from **Corky LaValle for SAM Assembly 2 in San Francisco**. Corky, dressed as a laboratory scientist, demonstrated the principle of planned obsolescence using a rubber ball guaranteed for 1,000 bounces. Sure enough, the ball went dead on the 1,001 attempted bounce. Corky then attempted a great chain escape, but his lab coat started escaping in increments before his body – a very amusing routine.

It had been decided at an OMC Board meeting to award a second prize of \$75 in addition to the first prize of \$150 plus engraved trophy and spot on the Feb Installation Banquet show. Each paid attendee received a ballot and the results were

a tie for second place between **Ric and Kara (SAM 112, Pleasant Hill)** and **Al Skinner (SAM 72, Sacramento)**. It was decided by the OMC Board (and an enthusiastic audience) to award \$75 to both of the second place winners. The winner of First Place, \$150, an engraved trophy and another \$150 for performing at the 2014 Installation Banquet and Show was **Mike Della Penna for SAM 80 in Hayward**.

Byron Walker, OMC Secretary

### Dick Newton – A Remembrance



OMC member Dick Newton, who moved to Novato a few years ago, died 24 Aug 2013. Dick was born in Everett, Washington 29 Dec 1927 had a varied career as magician, spook show operator in partnership with Card Mondor, radio announcer, TV executive, booking agent, etc. Dick performed for the Oakland Magic Circle several times. One of his acts was to perform as Charles Dickens. Dick would patter along as he donned the make-up and Victorian clothing that Dickens would have worn and then present a few of the effects Dickens was known to perform. Another was what he called his "Nightclub Act". I don't recall the specific tricks but remember laughing heartily during the entire act. His big smile and jovial manner will be missed by all that knew Dick. His memorial will be held at the Lucas Valley Community Center, 1201 Idylberry Rd, San Raphael at 1 PM on Sunday 29 Sept.

Byron Walker, Secretary, OMC

### Coming events-

**November** nominations & Bizarre/Houdini/Danger/Spooky magic  
**December:** Elections & Mike's Book Club  
**January:** Robert Baxt Lecture  
**February:** Installation Banquet