

# **ASSEMBLY 206 NEWS**

**August 2007**

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**AMONG OUR MEMBERS**

RAMON GALINDO, MARK WILSON, BERTIL FREDSTROM, RON CARTLIDGE, LARRY JOHNSON, and JAMES DUNN took a trip together last week to Branson, Mo. Bertil, as President of the local Ring, rounded up these magicians for an exciting trip to see six magic shows in two days and five of these members performed for the Branson Ring while they were in town.

RAY BROWN is wrapping up the summer with his performances at Splash Town. He also has a "free" performance in Blanco for those who would like to see his school show on reading, staying in school, etc.

KENT CUMMINS will be gearing up his magic classes

at the University of Texas for the fall semester. The is a great place for you new comers to learn magic and a lot of our old timers find it a nice place to brush up too!

CY ALBERTSON & CHRIS WALDEN have been scheduled to perform at the T.A.O.M. convention in Corpus Christi on Labor Day weekend.

We saw RAY ANDERSON at magic camp a couple of weeks ago. He was taking a tour of the facility. Wonder if he learned any magic?

ARSENE DUPIN will be back for a short rest in early August and then he is off of his tour of the United States again. By the way, we should have a young French magician visit us at our next assembly meeting.

BOB GALLOWAY is currently trying to lease space for the magic center. We are in hopes that they will be moving to Austin, Texas shortly.

MARK THOMSON must be doing rather well. He is currently spending a couple of weeks in Hawaii with his family!

RICHARD GARRIOTT just returned from a week long business trip to London. Unfortunately, he did not get to visit the Magic Circle on this trip. Richard however made the news again recently. He is holding a huge fund raising event for the University of Texas at his home. This cheapest ticket if you would like to go is \$75. However, if you have some big bucks, you can also go for \$5,000.

STAN SEATON & MILLIE took a quick two day

vacation to their hideaway in Marble Falls at Horseshoe Bay. It was a well deserved rest. SENSEI STRANGE has a wonderful video out on You Tube, at least I think that is the site. It may be the best performance I've ever seen Sensei do. It is a lovely tribute to the Linking Rings. DICK TODD has just received a promotion at work. I understand that also comes with about his third or fourth raise in a year. J. D. STEWART will be taking over for Bertil Fredstrom in his absence to Sweden. J. D. will be in charge at the next ring meeting while Bertil is away. MARK WILSON will be the moderator at the next meeting. – *Ron Cartlidge*

### **MAGICIAN'S HAPPY HOUR**

Finally I have a chance to send in a report of Tuesday Nights Magician's Happy Hour. In attendance were JD Stewart, Chris Walden, Steve Farmer, and Me... John Maverick. Where were you? Magic around the bar was well received by the regular bar flies and a few people who wandered in for the first time. All said that they were going to come back next week to see more magic. Although the event was scheduled for 6:30 to 8:30, magic was still going on well after 10:00! Next Tuesday... We will have the stage set up so bring a stage routine, bar magic and a thirst. Hope to see everyone there! Every Tuesday night, 6:30 to 8:30, at Boomerz, on 290 west. Take the first exit after Mo-Pac, Monterey

Oaks, and stay on the frontage road. Go through two lights and Boomerz is on the right in a shopping center with a Phillips 66. Call me if you need better directions. - *John Maverick*

## **FUTURE MEETINGS**

### **“Young Guns”**

That’s right, ‘Young Guns’.  
All performers will be under 30.

Scheduled to perform are:

**Eddie “Wizard of Boz” Boswell, Moderator**  
**Ray Brown**  
**Keith Baize**  
**Willie Quirioga**  
**Crystal Farmer**  
**David Rowyn**  
**Stephanie Gorss**  
**John Maverick**

*And a maybe a surprise or two.*

Be at the August 20 meeting, find out what is going in Austin Magic, see great performers, learn some magic, and support the future of magic on “Young Guns” night.

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**SEPTEMBER SAM 206 Meeting – Monday**  
**September 17, 2007**

7:00 PM - Omni Hotel, IH 35 & Ben White Blvd.

Award winning Sensei Strange will host the September SAM 206 program on

**“RELATED ARTS”.**

If we are lucky, Sensei will perform his legendary contact juggling, and perhaps is unique and flawless Ring Routine. There will also be performers from lots of other disciplines. You really need to be there.

It will be a great night of fun, magic and performers you rarely get to see.

Don't miss it !!! – *Hull Youngblood*

**FAMILY & FRIENDS NIGHT**

The July meeting of Austin Assembly 206 drew a huge crowd of over 100 for its family & friends night. Our assembly picked up two new members in John Bryant and Crystal Farmer. Framed certificates were presented to new members by their

mentors in the club. Mentor Stan Seaton made presentations to Glenda Venable and Kim Gayer. Mentor Ron Cartlidge made a presentation to new member Heather Lloyd, mentor Mark Thompson made a presentation to new member Mike Beltz, and mentors Bill & Eddie Boswell made a presentation to Dave Stritzinger & Will the Thrill. It was announced that Austin had been reaffirmed as the new headquarters for the Society of American Magicians and that the SAM Magic Center would begin looking for a location immediately.

The Austin assembly has two members on the board, Ron Cartlidge serving a second term and new member Kent Cummins. Our assembly also took an active part in the grand opening of the new Dell Children's Hospital in Austin. About 15 members participated in a variety of activities including walk-around magic, parlor magic, and working at our information and membership booth. Kent Cummins, Stan Seaton, Ron Cartlidge, Steve Farmer, Bobby Cordell, Tim Dietz, Lou Hornung, Danna Luther, Opie Houston, Richard Williams, Craig Sieme, Mark Thompson, Chris Walden, Eddie Boswell, and new member Paul Ciucek. The annual Christmas banquet will be held on the third Monday of December, which is a regular meeting night, at the First Baptist Church in downtown Austin.

After the announcements, the performances of walk-around magic began. Performers for the evening were: Steve Farmer, Larry Johnson, J. D. Stewart,

Lou Hornung, Tim Dietz, Mark Wilson, Cy Albertson, and chairman for the evening, Chris Walden. These performers strolled to ten different tables that were set up in the room and performed various card, coin, rope, ghost, and mental effects. It was a pleasant evening of magic for the over 100 members and guests that attended this July event of magic. - *Ron Cartlidge*

### **SAM FORUM**

If you have not signed up for the new National SAM Forum, you are missing out on what should prove to be a wonderful resource to keep up with SAM activities worldwide.....Below is the link. If you have any problems getting checked in, give me a call....  
<http://samtalking.com/index.php> - Opie Houston

### **IMPROMPTU MAGIC CLINIC**

Our next clinic will be on Impromptu Magic on Saturday, August 18, at 10:00 am, at the Texas Magic Supply in Cedar Park. This clinic promises to have much more live interaction and discussion than typical of clinics in the past. Opie Houston has laid out a very rich program which will provide a comprehensive overview of this important field of magic. Opie has been a long time practitioner and proponent of Impromptu Magic. Much worthy advise as well as magical effects and technique will be at our disposal. More detail will be provided with your reservation to the clinic.

As magicians we are often exposed to situations to which Impromptu Magic is well suited. The most important performance that you will ever give may very well be impromptu because you never know who may expectantly be in the audience. Don't disappoint your friends and family by being unprepared. And don't disappoint yourself. Come to the clinic and begin to build a working repertoire of Impromptu Magic that you can perform anywhere and on short notice. This is vital to all who want to identify themselves as accomplished in our wonderful art.

In summary the clinic is as follows:

- \* Impromptu Magic
- \* Opie Houston
- \* Saturday, August 18, 10:00 to 2:00
- \* Texas Magic Supply in Cedar Park

The clinic is free to Ring 60 members and only a token fee of \$5 for nonmembers. Space is limited, so please reserve a seat by return e-mail at [lhornung@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lhornung@sbcglobal.net). If you don't have access to e-mail call Lou Hornung at 345-1320. - *Lou Hornung*.

## **ASSEMBLY 206 LOSES HOUDINI STREAK!**

After burning the bridges for three consecutive years and bringing home the bacon as the award winning Harry Houdini Assembly, we lost the award to Dallas Assembly 13 at the SAM National

Convention. Dallas improved from 37 members to 52 members, a great accomplishment for any size chapter. However, since Dallas was at 37 members on May 31, 2006, they should not have been placed in the competition with the large population division chapters. The winner is always based on a percentage increase and it is extremely unfair to place a small assembly in with the assemblies with over fifty members. Despite this error, we would not have won the award anyway. Portland, Oregon should have taken the plaque, rather than home this year. Beautiful wands were presented to each winning assembly at this year's convention. Portland increased eleven members by going from 75 members in 2006 to 86 members in 2007. Austin Assembly 206, the defending three-time champion did increase by ten members, from 107 to 117, but did not win on either the percentage basis or the numerical value. Several members of our assembly have let their dues lapse in recent months and this proved to be critical in our defeat. We are currently starting over and each member should make sure that both their national and local dues are up-to-date. Our major accomplishment for 2007 is that we have moved into a tie for second place in the world with the Philadelphia assembly. Here are the totals for 2007 from some selected assemblies:

New York City: 138

Austin, Texas: 117

Philadelphia: 117

Portland, Oregon: 86

L.A., California: 80

St. Louis: 77

Houston: 73

Salem: 67

Boston: 65

Elmhurst, Illinois: 59

Tucson: 59

Worcester: 56

Dallas: 52

These 13 assemblies will compete for the Harry Houdini Award in 2008. That award will be presented in Louisville next summer. We now trail the parent assembly number one by just 21 members. The key to winning is increasing our membership and retention. It was embarrassing to see the Assembly 206 was listed at the top with twenty unpaid members to the national organization at this year's convention in Dallas, particularly since we pride ourselves on an outstanding mentor program and having outstanding programs that maintain the interest of our membership as well as projects that are second to none. – *Ron Cartlidge*

## **2007 CONTEST: WHY IT WAS A BIG HIT**

Here are some numbers from the 2007 Contest:

4 Houses

9 Performers

43 cars

100 meals  
83 scoops of ice cream (Amy's)  
140 folding chairs  
8 walkie talkies  
4.5 hours of friends, food, fun, and magic  
To much laughter to count

The members of the 2007 Contest Committee deserve all the credit for creating such a great event – and most of them did 2 or 3 jobs, even if they are only listed once. No kidding!

### **2007 Progressive close-up Contest Committee**

Chairman	D. Hull Youngblood, Jr.
Chairman Emeritus	Stan Seaton, MD
Reservations	Heather Poggi-Mannis
Judges	Ron Cartlidge
Contestants	Robert Castillo
Parking/Transportation	Bob Brown, Dion Burkard, Michael O'Shea
Program	Diane Klinetob
Master of Ceremonies	Patrick O'Shea
Registration	Mark Thompson & Mike Beltz
Photographers	Dana Luther, Millie Seaton, Cherry Seaton
Dinner	Wayne and Kim Gayer Millie and Stan Seaton
Venue Hosts	Glenda Venable (Venue 1) Wayne and Kim Gayer (Venue 2)

Stan and Millie Seaton (Venue 3)  
Patrick and Alice O'Shea (Venue 4)

Judging Tabulation      Mike and Mary Cay Gold  
Group "A" Leaders      Greg Johnston / JD Stewart  
Group "B" Leader      Mark Thompson / Mike  
Beltz  
Group "C" Leader      Cy Albertson / Diane  
Klientob /  
Archivist      Ron Cartlidge  
PC Balloting      Mark Thompson, Mike Beltz

Timekeepers      Bill Boswell – Group A  
Fernando Ulloa – Group B  
Holly Coy – Group C

Chair Wranglers      Chris Kincaid  
Thomas Williams  
Stephanie Gorss  
David Rowyn  
Fernando Ulloa  
Bill Boswell  
Bob Brown  
Dion Burkhardt

**Special Guest:**      Judy Donaldson

**Judges:**      Doug Gorman  
Mott Leonio  
Kent Cummins  
Jeremy Van Mause  
David Luther

## **The PERFORMERS:**

### Venue #1

John Maverick

Black Bert – Bertil Fredstrom

Arsene Dupin

### Venue #3

Solaris

Chris Walden

Sensei Strange

### Venue #4

Wizard of Boz – Eddie Boswell

Roger Gorss

Bobby Cordell

## **Alternate Performers**

(They were ready to step in at the last minute, in case one or more of the Performers were not able to compete) Tim Dietz, C J Johnson, and Willie Quiroga.

## **RESULTS:**

First Place            **Arsene Dupin**

\$500 Cash

\$500 Gift Certificate from Texas Magic

Supply

Featured in Texas Magic Supply  
advertisement in Genii Magazine  
Performance at Kent Cummins Magic Camp

Second Place                      **Bobby Cordell**

\$250 Cash

\$250 Gift Certificate from Texas Magic

Supply

Featured in Texas Magic Supply  
advertisement in Genii Magazine

Peoples Choice   **TIE! Bobby Cordell & Arsene  
Dupin**

**They did not split the prizes. Each winner  
gets the following:**

\$500 Cash

\$500 Gift Certificate from Texas Magic

Supply

Featured in Texas Magic Supply  
advertisement in Genii Magazine

Performance at Kent Cummins Magic Camp

**All of the people listed in this report deserve  
thanks. But there are three groups that deserve  
Special Recognition:**

**HOSTS:**

Our four venues were provided by the following members. They opened their homes, had their lives and furniture turned upside down, and were more gracious and generous than anyone could have expected. WE THANK EACH OF YOU FOR YOUR GRACIOUS HOSPITALITY!

**Patrick and Alice O'Shea**  
**Stan and Millie Seaton**  
**Wayne and Kim Gayer**  
**Glenda Venable**

**MILLIE and STAN SEATON**

Our president, Stan Seaton, MD, came up with the idea of a progressive audience, close-up contest in Onion Creek. What an impact Dr. Seaton has had on Austin magic. His creativity, generosity, tenacity, and friendship is unequalled. Those traits were never more evident than in the planning, execution and funding of the 2007 Contest. Millie Seaton has been the consummate hostess at the dozens of meetings held at their home. While Doc Seaton may have had some great ideas, a lot of them are really the work of Millie Seaton! We all owe Stan and Millie our deepest heartfelt thanks for all their contributions.

**TEXAS MAGIC SUPPLY**

Cy Albertson and Diane Klinetob are partners in Texas Magic Supply. Not only are they partners in that business, but that have made certain that their business is in partnership with the local magic community. They provided the professional quality programs and ballots, as well as almost \$2000 in prizes, AND they have dedicated their June 2007 Genii Magazine advertisement to the winners of the 2007 Close-Up Contest. **Thank you Texas Magic Supply.** – *Hull Youngblood*