



### Upcoming Events

All meetings at *The Viking Holiday Inn, Watson & Lindbergh, Sunset Hills, MO (314-821-6600)*

**December 2 – 7:30 PM**

#### **Holiday Party**

Perform your favorite holiday magic trick! 3 Door Prize Drawing for those who performed.

**January 6 – 7:30 PM**

#### **Teach-in**

**February 6 – 7:30 PM**

#### **Stage Contest**

Contact John Harness or Larry Skorepa to compete. At the Kirkwood Community Theater

**March 27 – 7:30 PM**

#### **Spring Show**

Ted Schnarre and Terry Richison are coordinating. At the Kirkwood Community Theater

**April 6 – 7:30 PM**

#### **Mentalist Night**

**May 4 – 7:30 PM**

#### **Close-up Contest**

Contact Keith Smith or Eric Grossman to participate

**June 8 – 7:30 PM**

#### **Casino & Gambling Magic**

## Teach In Offers Something for Everyone

By Keith Smith

This year's teach-in promises to offer something to all in attendance. It will have what is called a poker theme in which we have five tricks being taught and a card will be given to each in attendance by all five teachers. The best two poker hands at the end of the night will be awarded prizes. If you haven't participated in a poker run before, let me tell you you are in for a great evening. The teachers and tricks taught are as follows:

**Eric Grossman**- Bill to Impossible Location (*Bring a thumb tip and bill*)

**Mike Sheehan**- Rubber Band Trick (*Rubber bands provided*)

**John Davit**- Robin Hood Rope Knot (*Bring Rope*)

**Ray Belz**- Lie Detector Deck (*Bring a Deck of Cards*)

**Keith Smith** – Silk Vanish and Production (*Bring a thumb tip and a little item called a Silk Poke along with a 18" silk and a 6 foot streamer or 4' silk*) (*Steve Bender will bring the Silk Poke for sale At \$ 6.00 if people would like to add them to their collection*)

Before the teach-in, we are adding a new segment to the meetings and that is three members will present a new commercially available item on the market. It will be presented with thoughts from the performer on their like or dislike of the item, but there will be no explanations of its workings. This short segment will help members get a good look at new items before purchasing them. This segment has been a suggestion by many members so I think it will be a good addition to the meetings.

Three new Tricks

**John Harness**- Sketchbook Orange Production

**Keith Smith**-The one and Only by Paul Harris and the Silk on Sash

**Eric Grossman**- Ricochet by Lee Asher and Paul Wilson

## New Year Resolutions

By Keith Smith

It is that time of year again and while we are all making our new financial and health promises to ourselves, I think it is time to also take a look at our club. It has been an exciting year serving as president and I am extremely impressed by the level of enthusiasm that our club exhibits. One thing worries me though and that is that we have a very small youth representation. I propose that we spend this New Year focusing in on what we the members can do to help with this aspect. Without the youth members, our club will diminish in membership as the years go by.

The youth also give the opportunity to our elders to mentor and pass on the important aspects of the club as well as magic in general—ethics, classics, and presentation to name a few. I am making a call to the membership and challenging the club to create a youth program in the next year and to develop a committee of twelve individuals, (one for each Month), that will run and develop our youth. Thanks in advance for any participation you are willing to give.

### **Thanks to the Performers for Project Magic at Shriner's Hospital!!!**

**December Performers:  
HENRY SCHAPER, SR.**

**KEITH SMITH  
ERIC GROSSMAN  
JACKIE GALINO**

**Next Show –  
JANUARY 21, 2004, 7:00 PM**

**It's Your Turn! Call Henry (314-487-8296) or Jerry (314-991-1441) to participate!!!**

# Spring Show Rapidly Approaches

**By Keith Smtih**

It is again that time of year again when we as a club need to start planning the Spring Show scheduled for Saturday afternoon and evening, March 27<sup>th</sup> 2004, at the Kirkwood Community Center Theater. Three committees will plan the show: Talent Coordination, Publicity and Ticket Sales, and Stage and Theater Management. The success of this show is important to the treasury of the club and every effort should be placed on having full membership involvement from selling of tickets and promotion of the event, to theater management and securing excellent performers and performances. This letter is to serve as an invitation from the board to participate on a committee. As any volunteer position, we are willing to take any time you are willing to give. The time commitment is very minimal which would include one or two planning meetings and any commitments at the show itself. The board would like to thank you in advance for your assistance in making this next year's show truly a club effort.

The Talent Subcommittee will select all the talent for the shows obtaining appropriate input from the Board and others prior to their selection. Where possible winners of the current year's Stage contests should be on the show. Generally only Ring One members should be used for the talent; however, when deemed desirable by the Talent committee, non-members may be used to add variety to the show or take advantage of unique available talent. No members will be paid for performing in this show. Non-members can be paid only with prior approval of the Board. Harry Monti has volunteered his time to chair this position.

The Publicity and Ticket Subcommittee will have the tickets printed and maintain a record of all sales. Where possible names of ticket purchasers will be recorded for a future mailing about the following year's performance. The Publicity committee will promote the shows by assuring that information about the shows appear in the Journal papers, Webster-Kirkwood Times and Post Dispatch Calendar sections and on the Kirkwood Community Center Marquee and their other publicity outlets. The Committee will make available flyers to all members and encourage member tickets sales. Additional publicity releases with radio and TV stations will be made as appropriate. This Committee is also responsible to provide personnel for ticket sales at the door at the day of the show. The show program is also their responsibility. Ted Schnarre has volunteered his time to chair this committee.

The Stage and Theater Management Subcommittee will assure there is sufficient and competent staff to handle sound, lights, curtains and other stage crew activities. They will provide an experienced stage manager. The committee is responsible to assure that there are sufficient ushers to take tickets and seat the house. It is mandatory that all those assigned theater activities be proactive in working with the performers to assure that the show produced is of high caliber and appears professionally done. This Subcommittee is also responsible for the house clean up after the show. Larry Skorepa and John Harness have volunteered to head this committee.

Please contact Keith Smith at [Keithorth@aol.com](mailto:Keithorth@aol.com) or 314-692-7206 or Dave Snetinger at 314-9683442 to sign up to help.

## Time to Compete: Stage Contest Open to All

**By John Harness**

The Stage Contest is a fantastic opportunity to perform on a real stage in front of a large enthusiastic audience. If you've been working on a routine or new act this is an ideal place to work on it. Don't worry yourself about being judged or placing, come and HAVE FUN! That's why we're in this club. This is a good opportunity to perform on a real stage in a real theater and have fun in front of an audience. This isn't FISM, just your local Ring with a lot of friends around. Even if you don't win or place in the top three, it's still a great experience that is not easily had anyplace else

Plus, if you do win, you get to perform at the Spring Show in May and at the President's banquet in September. Plus, you get a nice plaque for the wall.

I really hope you consider performing, after all, we are a club of magicians, it's time for you to do some magic! Please call or e-mail John Harness at 636-461-1251 or [john@harness.net](mailto:john@harness.net) and let him know you want to perform. There will be no entries accepted the day of the contest. Thank you and I hope to see you there!

In addition, if you'd like to help out judging or back stage, please let me know that as well.

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