



Upcoming Events

Monthly Meetings are on the first Wednesday of each month at the Webster Groves Recreational Complex, located at 33 Glendale, at 7:30pm. Directions: Take the Elm Street exit off of I-44 and go south to Glendale.

Monthly Ring 1 Board Meeting is open to all members. December's board meeting will be Dec 18th at 825 Norwich Dr, St. Charles, MO 63301. Meeting begins at 7pm!

Dec 6 – Holiday Party – White Elephant Exchange with the S.A.M. (see article)

Jan 3 - Poker Run

Jan 22 – Lonnie Chevie – Lecture

Feb 7 – Flea Market

March 7 – Paper Magic

April 4 - Magic in Business
Steve Finkelstein

May 2 – Close Up Contest
Joe Thomas & Terry Richison

June 6 – Stand Up Magic

Holiday

Holiday Magic

December 6th Meeting Activities

Magic 101 start time 6:30



This month's subject: **Money Magic**

Coins or paper money magic! We all know how to make money vanish (or at least at the stores anyway), without any practice. Steve Finkelstein is going to teach us not only how to vanish money but also how to make it reappear, that is something we all need to learn. As you have seen in the past Magic 101 classes, the tricks are easy to master with very little practice and that presentation is the most important of it all. You may not master all of the effects taught but given a variety of effects, hopefully you'll walk away with one or two that you will enjoy and be able to use.



Regular meeting – 7:30PM

The meeting will start off in a festive mood with some great performances organized by Ron Perez. Then we will begin the

White Elephant Gift Exchange

Traditionally, a "White Elephant" is something lying around the house that you don't want (some horridly ugly item that someone gave you as a gift.) For our meeting we are asking you to bring a magic item for

White Elephant – Cont.
our white elephant get together. Here are the rules:

There is no requirement to come to the meeting that you have to participate in the White Elephant exchange.

Each person wanting to participate in the Gift exchange must bring a WRAPPED, COMPLETE magic effect, INCLUDING INSTRUCTIONS if needed. The effect does not have to be new, but it must be in presentable and working shape and no less than \$5, value new.

Participants will sit in a circle with the packages in a pile in the middle. Each person participating will draw a number out of a hat. The lowest number goes first and selects a present from the pile. Once a present is selected from the pile of gifts, the trick is unwrapped for all to see. The next person may choose from the wrapped pile of gifts, or may “take” the present from one that has been selected by another. The person that lost the gift may choose to select a gift from the unopened pile, or may take a present from another person. A single gift can only be stolen a total of 3 times. This is continued until all of the presents are exhausted or everyone has a gift. As an added bonus, it is a known fact that there will be at least one gift that will be worth over \$50 and New to boot! You might be the lucky one!



The meeting will be open to immediate family members. Anyone who brings a gift is allowed to participate in the White Elephant.

We would like to get a rough number of people that are coming we will have people call or email Larry Skorepa at toolmanlarry@sbcglobal.net or (636) 394-2968.

Ring 1 Ambassadors Needed

We are looking for individuals that will pair up with new members to help show them all that Ring One has to offer and to be their “go-to” person if they have any questions. This is something that we hope that everyone will participate in. Please contact Dave Snetsinger at snetsing@aol.com or (314) 968-3442.

Project Magic

Show starts at 6:45 PM

Thanks to November’s performers:

**Ron Perez, Jeff Lefton and Gene Schaefer
Steve Buesking**

December’s Performers

Brian Boyd, Michael Henry and Larry Minth



No man can stand so tall as to stoop to help a child in need

christmas comes early to Ring One

What better way to start of the holiday season than with the e-mail Steve Buesking received, on project magic. Having just celebrated Thanksgiving and going into the Christmas season what better gift could we ask for than to receive a note of thanks from a host dad thanking us for what we do. To bring a smile to a child’s face, or take them away for even a moment from the problems they are facing, and giving them something to remember during their stay, maybe we did a small part of helping their stay be a little more bearable. So to all of you, who have shared their talents with these children, THANK YOU!

A note from a thankful father:

Steve,

I wanted to send you a quick note of thanks for the magicians who were at Shriner’s last night. I am the host dad for a 6 year old from Belize who has been at the hospital for 3 weeks and will be there for another 5-9 weeks. He had a smile on his face the entire performance and was thrilled to learn a trick at the end. Groups like yours coming to Shriner’s make a difficult time the best it can be. Please pass along my thanks to those who came last night.

Jason Boone

2006/7 Ring 1 Officers

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Aaron Fisher Lecture

Review

by Steve Buesking



A common observation of many card lectures is the lecture is little more than a dealer demonstration, followed by a heartfelt “thank you” as the lecturer accepts your dollars and autographs your materials.

Aaron Fisher, fortunately, is not that type of lecturer. Prior to the lecture, Aaron mingled with the membership, appearing to make a genuine effort to learn each person’s name. While that is not the reason magicians attend a lecture, we are grateful when the lecturer treats the membership as something more than lambs waiting to be sheared.

While Aaron is skillful in the art of the schmooze, the gentleman can make a deck of cards visually sing. The material ranged from self-working, a single move

that no one saw, to material that was visually stunning (that would be “The Rising”), and requiring the substantial practice I am willing to commit to.

Aaron interwove ideas on theory and practice throughout the lecture. Offering improvements /touches in the Bluff Pass were items that were immediately understood by those attending, especially as cards were placed in each person’s hands, and finger positions routinely checked. Like a golf professional adjusting his students swing with a club, Aaron made small adjustments in each person’s hand positioning, resulting in lower tension while holding the cards. The higher positioning resulted in a more deceptive handling of the sleight, with less concern for being busted.



Aaron observed that when a performer stiffens, the audience anticipates that something is about to happen. Relieving the stress is accomplished by practice, and designing which sleight will accomplish what you want to accomplish, with the least amount of effort on your part.

A principle of Aaron’s book “The Paper Engine” is that your performance will improve when your focus is on your interaction with the audience, and not on your hands or the “move” you are about to make. Selected shifts/sleights should be designed to be as simple as possible (his color change is a stunner). Avoid detaching yourself from audience interaction by thinking about upcoming moves, and the level of entertainment will increase, as your tension/stress level decreases.

Aaron related a story of a trick shown by Larry Jennings – a legend in card magic – to Dai Vernon, another legend in magic. After Jennings showed the effect which required 7 passes to Vernon, the Professor commented:



“Larry, I think that is the worst trick I have ever seen.” Aaron explained how each of us could do the same effect without knowing how to spell the word ‘pass,’ with all of the “moves” done by the unknowing spectator.

Tonight’s lesson: Excellent sleight of hand is about entertainment, efficient design, and not how many moves you can do.

Choreograph your moves, as a dancer choreographs his/her steps, simplify from what is not needed, and the beauty of the presentation will shine brighter.



Update

OK! I know its winter but we are planning for the Spring Show at the Kirkwood Community Center February 17th. But I am looking for a good few performers and techs to help to support us at this show. If you have an interest in being in the show we



need to know now, if you want to help with spot lights, sound, stage or ticket taking to help out. We will train you on what to do. Just give Ted Schnarre a call at 636-947-1517 or email at tschnarr@charter.net.

New Date for the President’s Banquet 2007

The present Banquet has been set for Sept 21, 2007 at Orlando Gardens on Watson road same great place.



Last month at Magic 101

The class was full for the night of ropes, learning the Professor’s

Nightmare, cut and restored rope, and the shoe string tangle. The first hour of the night really flew by. It

R O P E



M a g i c

seems that we just got rolling and it’s time to stop. It is really great seeing those who know how to do the effects helping



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those who are having a little trouble catching on. I believe we call that the fellowship of magic. Steve Finkelstein really had the class material well presented.



Steve also has information on reference material, on the effects taught that night, in fact all the rope

tricks taught that night could be found in the book “Rope Magic” that could be picked up and any magic dealer or Borders Books for under \$ 10.00.

Magic Castle on TV *Dec 16th*

Magic Castle After Dark (Premiere) (A&E) Saturday 12/16/06 at 11AM ET/PT (following a Biography of Houdini that airs at 10AM).

Magic Castle After Dark is a half-hour live to tape special featuring some incredible magicians from the world famous Magic Castle in Hollywood. It’s like Evening at the Improv was for comedians BUT for magicians. It’s a pretty cool show. It focuses on the

intimate magic of the Castle and its half-hour vanishes like magic. Some of the Performers on the show include Nathan Gibson, Jon Armstrong, Andrew Goldenhersh, Chris Hart, Joel Ward, Shoot Ogawa and Gregory Wilson.

Executive producers are Jude Prest, Dale Hindman and Milt Larsen. The "Magic Castle after Dark" show is earmarked as a series, but, of course, ONLY if the numbers reflect well enough for the network to sign off on it.

Funny Lines from a Thanksgiving show

A magician in Alabama was sitting and eating a turkey leg in between shows. Some of the kids who had seen his first show came over to say hello. Just as he took his first bite of turkey leg, one boy asks, "What cha eatin'?"

With his mouth full he answered, "A furgey lek" as best as he could.

"It's what?"

"It's the lower leg of a small child that asked too many questions."

The boy asked, "No, really?"

He answered, "That's two..."

His parents nearly died laughing.

Ram Suntha makes a big hit on Fox News!

Ram was able to sell his house in 5 days! That is real magic! Check out this link to see the new article that they did on Ram.

<http://www.myfoxstl.com/myfox/pages/News/Detail?contentId=1477298&version=1&locale=EN-US&layoutCode=VSTY&pageId=3.1.1>

Congratulations, Ram. If you want to contact Ram to find more emails you can reach him at

Ram.Suntha@conocophillips.com



Local Ring One Member Shares His Time and Talent

Ring One Treasurer, Larry Skorepa has recently worked to help bring a smile to his new friend Josh and several faces of other children by heading up a project sponsored by Makita to build playground for handicapped



children. Here are some pictures of that handicap playground in St. Louis Mo. Larry and partner, Dan Martin raised over \$2000 from local Lowe's and Home Depot to help with cost on supplies. Along with the contractor and a team of about 300 volunteers, Makita loaned tools to help build the playground. It was a lot of fun and everyone had great reviews on our product. Most of all Josh got a new playground for his friends and himself. Thanks Larry, for sharing the "Magic of the Season" making the world a better place. You can see all the pictures at

http://pg.photos.yahoo.com/ph/toolmanlarry@sbcglobal.net/album?.dir=/9160re2&.src=ph&.tok=phaHZ2FBh1LDDN_P.



LECTURE coming January 22!
You won't want to miss this one!

Lonnie Chevie

presents

The Outlaw Magic Lecture

Lonnie Chevie is an outlaw, an outsider to the mainstream of magic. Growing up in West Texas, and isolated from the magic community, Lonnie depended on a small magic library for inspiration and instruction. Books like *Modern Coin Magic*, *The Dai Vernon Book of Magic* and *The Amateur Magicians Handbook* were part of this early influence. During the 1970's and the 1980's Lonnie performed magic full time, including an after school television show on a local CBS affiliate. Lonnie's Tricks and routines have appeared in the *Linking Ring* and *Genii* magazines. His handling of the gypsy thread effect has become a standard for trade show performers, and Lonnie's routine for the one hundred dollar bill switch appears in the recent book *Switch, Unfolding the One Hundred Bill Change* by John Lovick. Lonnie has also appeared at several magic conventions including: T.A.O.M., IBM, Dallas Close Up and Motor City Close Up. He currently has two DVD's on the market, *Wanted* and *Captured - The Outlaw Magic of Lonnie Chevie*.

The evening begins with a 20-minute close-up magic performance for the group. The Outlaw Magic Lecture will follow this performance. The lecture consists almost entirely of non-card tricks that highlight Lonnie's "maximum effect with minimum effort" philosophy. All of the tricks are within the reach of the average magician and rely on a combination of simple sleight of hand and subtlety to achieve the singular magical effect. Most of the routines have been performed for more than 15 years and have been audience tested under every conceivable condition.



Some of the tricks to be taught during the lecture include: String'em Up, a gypsy thread effect; The Thull, a clever silk vanish; Grampa's Dollar, a visual bill change; Clean Thru, a series of impromptu tricks with a borrowed dollar bill; and a variety of other routines from Lonnie's personal repertoire. This lecture represents a collection of tips, tricks and routines for close-up and stand-up performance.



"Lonnie Chevie thinks about his magic from all angles. His style, dry humor and practical methods are creative, different and very direct. When Lonnie's talking I always listen."
- Bob Sheets

"Lonnie's magic is visual, practical and STRONG. I've been using it for years, and now you can too!" I'll never forget the day Lonnie changed that dollar bill into a hundred!
-Chad Long

Lonnie Chevie is a GREAT creator and performer of magic. Over the last twenty years that I've known him, he has entertained me, fooled me, and taught me wonderful magic effects that I use in my walk-around magic, my close-up show and on stage. Lonnie has influenced me comically, magically and theatrically."
-Johnny Ace Palmer
World Champion Magician

For more information visit:
Outlawmagic.com

Lecture will begin at 7PM at the Best Western Westport Park Hotel, 2434 Old Dorsett, Maryland Heights, MO 63043.

FREE to all Ring One members, \$10 for all other I.B.M. members and \$15 for all others.