

Mordecai's Journal

BILL GREENOUGH ASSEMBLY 21



www.sam21.org

January 2011

Meetings:

Second Monday of
every month except
December

Angelo's on Main
289 South Main Street
West Hartford.
(I-84 exit 41)

January Meeting: Brian Miller Lecture

Our Buffalo Guy treats us to a lecture to start the new year off right. Be with us on **January 10 at 7:30 PM**. Join the officers for dinner at **6:00 PM**.

Minutes of November Meeting

8 November 2010 7:38PM
VP **Dan Sclare** opened the meeting.
Treasurer's report: Our balance was reported. Final dues-are-due announcement was made.

Secretary's report accepted as published.
Old Bus.: January meeting will be a lecture by our new member, **Brian Miller**. We are still trying to connect with **Scott Francis**. **Jim Bentley** volunteered to captain the February meeting with the theme, "Comedy Magic." **Dave Garrity** took March, and **Jason Abate** took April.

New Bus.: Mystery Lounge in Cambridge has Dan tomorrow. Tickets are \$10.

Dave Edwards mentioned that there may be a "limited license" available for the use of music at future shows at the restaurant. The club will continue looking into that.

Brian will be the new magic instructor for Manchester's Summit Studios.

Good & Welfare: We had a Halloween Magic Show at the restaurant on the 30th that was very successful. The place was packed and a good time was had by all.

The club logo is still in progress.

Cal Vinick connected with **Bryan Flint** recently. We all thanked **Steve Wronker** again for the great photos he took of us last month.

SAM127 hosts **Leslie Melville** next week.

Adjourned 7:59PM

When Last We Met



Pat Guida
shows a trick to
VP Dan Sclare.

←
Tonight's theme was Gambling Magic With Cards, captained by **Rick St. Pierre**. Rick told the story of Gold Rush Sam who played Yukon Poker. He dealt a sample hand with some cards face up and some face down, which produced a full house, and a royal flush.

Dan Sclare explained the rules of Lotto to **Ed Cook**. He dealt from a special deck of number cards. Dan produced a Lotto ticket which matched the randomly dealt cards.

Roger Cisowski showed us four kings that turned over one at a time, then showed that the backs had changed color.

Brian Miller had a card selected and returned. He produced the wrong card but it changed into the real one. He then did a Four Ace routine with a stunning climax.

Dan returned to show Roger a variation of the Shell Game with LEDs.

Rick followed with a Horse Race, with nine cards representing nine horses. Four cards were chosen for Win, Place, Show, and Also-Ran--a Superfecta which matched a prediction previously written in the Daily Racing Form.

Jason Abate showed his version of the Twisting Aces, complete with turnovers and complete color changes.

Pat Guida concluded the night by doing a poker routine with Dan using only ten cards. Dan got a full house, but Pat got a royal flush!

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Studio of Magic To Close

For the past 31 years it has been our pleasure and honor to serve the Connecticut magic community through the Studio of Magic. This has only been possible because of our loyal customers. We have enjoyed many rewards along the way; learning new magic; having a place to hang out, and, most importantly, making numerous wonderful friends along the way. Unfortunately, this model has been difficult to sustain over the last few years due to the availability of magic through the internet and now exacerbated by the economy.

We are sad to announce the Studio of Magic is closing effective March 26, 2011.

- All items in the shop will be discounted 20% as of January 7, 2011.
- All sales are final
- No items will be reordered, when items are sold out, they are gone
- We will not be able to special order any items

Pat, Dave, Bob, Joel, and Rick wish to thank all our customers over the past years for their support and friendship.

Sincerely,
Studio of Magic

SAMCON Report and Photos

The ninth SAMCON was held in Peabody, Mass., on November 6, 2010. After some opening remarks at 9:30am, there was a dealer show featuring **Eddie Gardner, Dave Cresey** (who threw a bunch of stuff), **Mary Anne Ross** (purveyor of clown supplies and more), **Scott Correll, Neal Prete, and Bob Little**.

At 10:30am, there was a lecture by **Michael Vincent**, whose main point was answering the question, How can we become more deceptive? Two of his best insights were: getting you to ask yourself "What tricks do I do that a layperson can describe in one sentence?" and the observation that "What takes place in front of the eye will not necessarily register on the mind."

After a lunch break, **David Kaye** began his lecture at 1:30pm. According to David, comedians measure their craft in laughs per minute. Kids' magic performers should measure interactions per minute. David aims for 10/minute. He also had several themes to highlight during a show. Two of the biggest are Incongruities and Magician In Trouble. These are funny to kids. David was able to illustrate this by showing DVD scenes of a real show he does for real kids.

At 3:00pm, **Mike Caveney** lectured and stresses Originality. This doesn't mean you have to come up with truly brand new stuff, but taking an old trick and disguising it. An example: Linking Rings became Linking Coat Hangers. He showed how a [censored by the You-Had-To-Be-There-Committee] was used for the Impromptu Linking Coat Hanger gimmick. He concluded his lecture by performing the real Linking Coat Hangers.

After dinner, the Evening Show, emceed by **Mike Caveney**. First up was **Jonah Conlin**, a youngster with a good manipulation act, including Dancing Cane. Followed by **Tina Lenert** doing both her Cleaning Lady act, and Simply Magic which includes Rings with a bunny finale. Next up was **David Kaye** as Ugg, the 30,000-year-old unfrozen magician, then **Michael Vincent**, and closing with **Caveney**.



Michael Vincent



David Kaye



Mike Caveney doing a version of sponge balls with a "Benson Bowl."



Curtain call: Caveney, Conlin, Vincent, Kaye, and Lenert.

Gathering Of The Magi, Report and Photos

The nineteenth Gathering Of The Magi took place in Southbury, Conn., from November 11-13, 2010. At the opening ceremonies at 10:00am on the 12th, **Joe Cabral**

welcomed all and dedicated the event to **Don Viano**, who passed last summer. His guillotine was on display and demonstrated—without a victim.

At 10:30am, **Charles Pecor** presented a lecture he called, "Life Lessons Learned While Making My Art." He gave a "voodoo" demonstration: five pins and six targets—the unselected target had been predicted. He told us of when he was doing a Mollière play, a chair collapsed under a large cast member. The effect was so well-received that they created duplicate "rigged" chairs for the rest of the run.

At 2:00pm there was a lecture by **Raymond Carlyle**, which he called "3 hour lecture done in one hour." He did some good mental effects including reading a serial number off a dollar, and naming the word that a spectator had chosen hours earlier. He also predicted the number of people that did NOT believe in ESP. He showed us his center-tear sheets and his blindfold-handling techniques. He finished with a Séance piece, and the story of Clan Carlyle and the witches' crag.

At 4:05pm, there was a showing of "Works in Progress," tricks that were experimental and performers solicited feedback on their effect. Those with a trick to try included **Professor Rem**, **Cyril the Sorcerer**, **Jonathan Frost**, **Chris Walden**, **Prof. Randolph Carter**, and emcee **Daniel Greenwolf**. As an epilog, **Ed Solomon** read a treatise on growing old which he called, "It's Not Easy Being a Curmudgeon."

Eugene Burger did a lecture at 7:00pm. Starting with a spirit message swap using cigarette paper. He explained how to use Glorpy as a Spirit Cabinet, and did a séance using two crayons and the glorpy/cabinet by way of Out To Lunch. He also played Mexican Poker with a weird doll.

At 9:00pm there was a special show, emceed by **Charles Pecor**, featuring effects by **Lesley Melville**, **Daniel Greenwolf**, **Vlad**, **Henry Holava**, and **Eugene Burger**.

Saturday, 12:35pm, a Close-up show by **Joe Cabral**, **Brian J. Hatcher**, **Ed Solomon**, **Henry Holava**, **Daniel Greenwolf**, **Vlad**, and **Eugene Burger**. All different effects from last night. Burger did Robert Neale's "13 at Dinner," but used **Max Maven**'s handling for it.

Max Maven did a lecture at 2:00pm and started with mind-reading with kids' spelling cards. He also demonstrated an effect using cards printed with predictions or statements that could be forced with the proper handling. He taught us a great mini-Bizarre effect using only four cards called "Doppelganger." Finally, a routine involving 20 cards of numbers and designs that approximates mind-reading by using special grouping and "reading" your audience.

The Evening Show, at 8:30pm, was emceed by **Charles Pecor**, and featured **Lesley Melville** with red/white hankies and a spotted bag, **Pecor** with a Bank Night effect, **Eugene Burger** with spirit writing, and **Max Maven** with direct card guessing. I even got to assist him with his final trick!



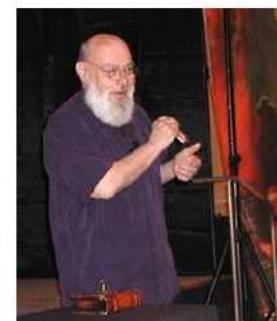
Grand Magus Joe Cabral



Charles Pecor



Raymond Carlyle



Eugene Burger



Max Maven



...and some weird guy from #21.



Upstairs in the Hospitality Suite is where the *real* strange stuff happens.

S.A.M. 21 Board

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