

# THE ACADEMY

## NEWSLETTER

FROM OUR WORLD-FAMOUS  
CLUBHOUSE, THE MAGIC CASTLE



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF

THE ACADEMY OF MAGICAL ARTS, INC.

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DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE:

The 20<sup>th</sup> Day of This Month

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**OUR MISSION:** *The Academy of Magical Arts* has been and will continue to be the premier organization in the world dedicated to the art of *Magic*. We are an organization that encourages fellowship, promotes the art, and maintains the highest ethical standards in our actions. We will provide a friendly environment where *Members* and their guests can enjoy the art and each other's company. Our goals and objectives are to advance the art and provide a positive image of *Magic* and *Magicians* worldwide.

NEXT

# As We Go To Press:

**NOW THAT** our April Fools Day fun—courtesy of (and with my eternal gratitude to) **BEN ROMAN** and his **MERRY COMPANY OF FOOL**ES—is over, it's time to get down to business. The business of the AMA is up first. Please read President **RANDY SINNOTT**'s article on the new agreements made between the AMA and **MILT LARSEN**. See page 16 for the easy-to-digest overview of the complex deal as well as links to the contracts themselves. And Randy's inaugural "Message from the President" is on page 4.

The year is just a few months old and we are all already tired of the losses the world of magic—indeed the entertainment field—has experienced. I've lost count. Unfortunately "Newsworthy Notes" is once again lacking in "news" and made up of far too many Alohas.

I suppose all these good-byes might have us considering our own mortality. Enter Delaney Clements, a 13 year old girl whose battle with cancer has gained international attention. Her mission is to bring awareness to childhood cancer, and to remind us to count our blessings and enjoy every minute of life. Starting on page 17 is what happened when one of the members of our Outreach Committee, **SAM KONUGRES**, encountered this inspirational young girl.

**BILL GOODWIN**'s monthly video features—well, you need to see for yourself. His library column starts on page 27. And remember: Associates are invited!

Hearty congratulations are due those who were elected to the Boards of Directors and Trustees. May wisdom and sound judgment guide you over the

next two years. See page 14 for a complete recap of the elections as well as a list of nominees for the showroom and lecture awards.

Congratulations, too, to **MARTY ROSENSTOCK** on being named the AMA's 2015 Employee of the Year. Selecting just one out of twelve well-deserving candidates is not easy. Marty was genuinely surprised and overwhelmed at the selection. But the fact is that Marty is an excellent choice to represent our incredible staff. Thanks for all you do, Marty. And thank you, dear readers, for your time. Please enjoy your April 2016 newsletter; no foolin'. ✍

*Dustin*

newslettereditor@magiccastle.com



GM JOE FURLOW WITH 2015 EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR MARTY ROSENSTOCK  
PHOTO COURTESY OF BRIAN JOSEPH OCHAB

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# NEWSWORTHY NOTES

## SOUNDING OFF OR SOUNDING FAMILIAR?

"We occasionally hear magic spoken of as dead, or slowly dying. But we must admit it frequently has lusty revivals. Not only through professionals, but amateurs whose only interest in the art is that of a hobby."

– Printed in *The Sphinx*, April 1916

## ALOHA ... OLIVER FILIPPI

Long-time AMA member **OLIVER FILIPPI** passed away on March 4, 2016. He was a Magician Member of the club for 33 years.

## DEREK VERNER

One of **DAI VERNON'S** SONS, **DEREK VERNER**, passed away at the age of 83. A model train buff, he stayed in touch with magic through its social media.

Please email NEWSWORTHY NOTES contributions to [newslettereditor@magiccastle.com](mailto:newslettereditor@magiccastle.com). The deadline for the next issue is the 20<sup>th</sup> of this month. Anonymous contributions will not be accepted, however name(s) can be withheld upon request.

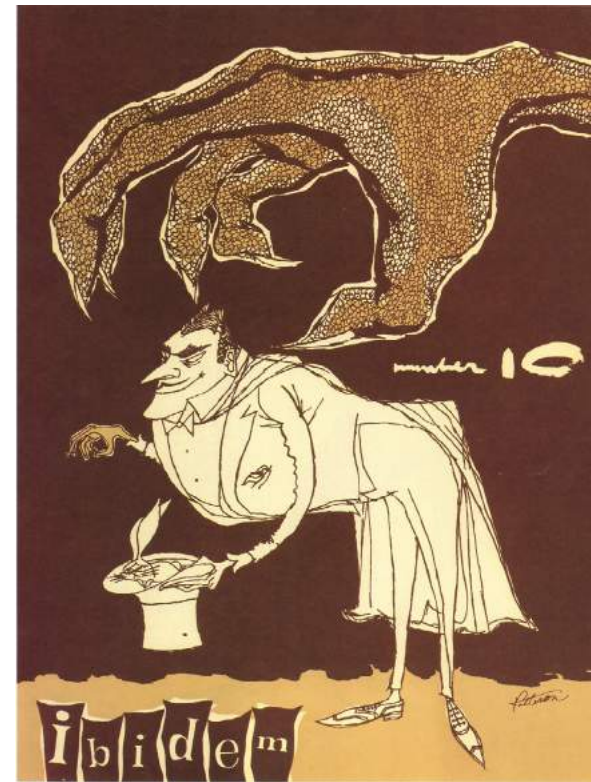
## PAT PATTERSON LYONS

Those who subscribed to—or have enjoyed the reprints of—the periodical *Ibidem* undoubtedly also enjoyed the cover art created by **PAT PATTERSON**. For many, her work was a highlight of the magazine published by her husband, **P. HOWARD LYONS**. Besides the whimsical covers, her unique style of art could be found throughout each issue.



She also created the puzzle known as "The Vanishing Leprechaun" which has seen countless iterations using all manner of objects and creatures.

Pat Patterson Lyons passed away peacefully on March 14, 2016. She was a supporter of David Ben's Magicana



ABOVE: THE COVER OF *IBIDEM* NUMBER 10 AS DRAWN BY PAT PATTERSON. LEFT: PAT PATTERSON LYONS. PHOTO COURTESY OF MAGICANA, DAVID BEN, AND JULIE ENG.

organization, and as per her wishes, donations can be made to it (<http://www.magicana.com>) or to the Kensington Hospice (<https://www.kensingtonhealth.org/Kensington-Hospice/Welcome.aspx>).

## PAUL DANIELS

If you were at the 38th AMA Awards Show when **PAUL DANIELS** was honored with a Masters Fellowship, you'll remember his uproarious acceptance speech. The recent announcement that he had an inoperable brain tumor hit his many fans around the world hard. Though expected, his passing on March 17 hit even harder. His star shined brightly in the U.K. for decades and he will not be forgotten. ✍



PAUL DANIELS PERFORMS HIS SIGNATURE CHOP CUP



THE AMA'S NEW PRESIDENT, RANDY SINNOTT

**GREETINGS!** I'd like to begin this message by expressing my gratitude to **ERIKA LARSEN**, who has been our President for the past two years. She became Vice President during one of the most difficult periods in our club's history, and rose to the task in an incredible way. As we tried to figure out why the Club had lost so much money and was in such a precarious position, Erika attended every

key meeting and was instrumental in getting us back on our feet. When the October 2011 fire hit, Erika camped out overnight at the Castle and was a constant presence during the reconstruction. Taking over as President, she stepped into the role with a vision, sense of purpose, experience, and set of people skills that made her the ideal leader for the past two years. She proved herself to be one of our club's great leaders, putting herself in the fine company of her father **BILL** and mother **IRENE**.

The election results have been announced. I want to thank all of the members who ran for positions on both Boards and all of the members who voted. The interest displayed by all members in the process ensures a level of thoughtfulness and passion that will bring great leaders to the forefront.

It is also my great pleasure to congratulate those who will serve on those Boards for the next two years. The Board of Directors will consist of myself (President), **JIM STEINMEYER** (Vice President), **CHIP CHALMERS** (Secretary), **CATHY HAIGHT** (Treasurer),

# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

*RANDY SINNOTT*

**JOHN GAUGHAN**, **BRIAN TOLMAN**, and **SARA BALLANTINE**. This is a hard-working group of long-term and dedicated club members who will strive to serve the membership and the world of magic to the fullest extent possible. I would also like to thank retiring Treasurer **MAURICE NEWMAN** for his six years of service on the Board.

The Board of Trustees now consists of **DAVID REGAL**, **JOAN LAWTON**, **MARK WILSON**, **PAUL GREEN**, **SHOOT OGAWA**, **TOM OGDEN**, and **GAY BLACKSTONE**. I am sure they will guide our club's magic to new levels. And thanks to outgoing Trustees **JON ARMSTRONG** (Chair) **MAX MAVEN** (Vice Chair), **STEVE VALENTINE**, and **ROB ZABRECKY**. The incredible level of magic in our club every night is directly related to their extensive knowledge of the world of magic.

The first quarter of this year has been one filled with loss in the world of magic. **IRENE LARSEN**, **TOM MULLICA**, **JIM PATTON**, and **PAUL DANIELS** are just four of the prominent members of our community that we have lost. In particular, Irene Larsen was a very

(CONTINUED: PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE)

*“As you would expect, there will be guests from all over the country, and some from across the world, to pay tribute to our very special co-founder.”*

special person who touched the lives of everyone in the world of magic and the AMA. Her grace and charm earned her the title of Princess of Magic. To honor the memory of Irene, we have two special events planned in April. On the evening of April 4, there will be a special Members-Only Night at the Castle. On the following afternoon, there will be a memorial service at the Wilshire Ebell Theatre. As you would expect, there will be guests from all over the country, and some from across the world, to pay tribute to our very special co-founder. All AMA members are invited to these events. (Please see page 6 to RSVP for the memorial on April 5.)

The April calendar is filled with events that are only open to AMA members. The Volunteer Faire will be on Saturday, April 3. There will be a “Magic of Style” perk on April 12. Some of our club’s best chefs will be competing in the “Presto Beano” Chili Cook-off FUNdraiser. One of my favorite events—The Magic Castle Swap Meet—will be on Saturday, April 16. And, of course, there is great magic, gourmet food and beverages, and dozens of members at the Castle every night of the week. Make it a point to get out to the Castle, and let some of the world’s best performers entertain you and your guests. ✍

*Randy*

[rsinnott@magiccastle.com](mailto:rsinnott@magiccastle.com)

Castle Perks Presents

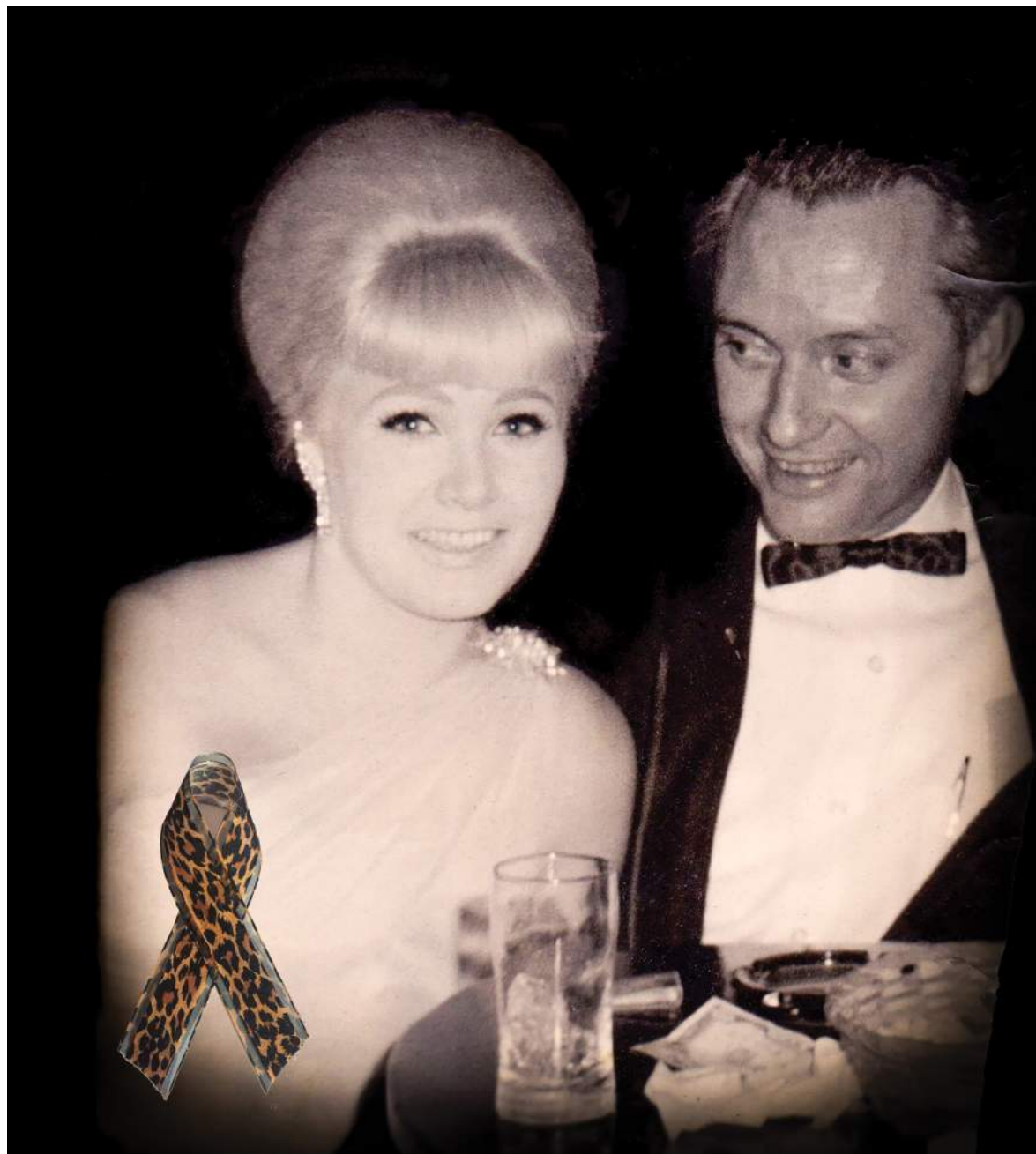


Join us for a one-hour discussion in the Inner Circle facilitated by **J.Hilburn** personal stylist Matt Basta ([mattbasta.jhilburn.com/suits](http://mattbasta.jhilburn.com/suits)) on how you can elevate your personal and professional style with insightful tips on building the right wardrobe to communicate your message/brand, and learning to buy clothes that custom fit your style.

All attendees will have a chance to win a \$150 J.Hilburn gift certificate. A portion of all orders from this event will go to benefit the Dai Vernon Fund. Get your custom-made suit or tux in time for the Awards Show!  
**RSVPs requested** by Friday, April 8th to: [broman@magiccastle.com](mailto:broman@magiccastle.com)

**ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!**

**Tuesday, April 12, 2016 | 8:00 p.m. | Inner Circle**



# IRENE LARSEN MEMORIAL

TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2016 - 1PM  
WILSHIRE EBELL THEATRE

*RSVP@MAGICCASTLE.COM*

# A NOTE FROM THE TRUSTEES

JOAN LAWTON



## WELCOME NEW TRUSTEES

**WELCOME TO** the new members of the AMA Board of Trustees: **PAUL GREEN**, **TOM OGDEN**, **SHOOT OGAWA**, and **GAY BLACKSTONE**. On behalf of **DAVID REGAL** and **MARK WILSON**, I want to thank **JON ARMSTRONG**, **MAX MAVEN**, **ROB ZABRECKY**, and **STEVE VALENTINE** for their service on the BOT. It's been wonderful working with you!

I also want to welcome the new members of the Board of Directors, **JOHN GAUGHAN** and **CATHERINE HAIGHT**, and say that the new BOT looks forward to continuing the transparent and engaging working relationship that has been so successful over the past few years.

## AMA AWARDS SHOW: MAGICIAN OF THE YEAR

For the first time, we're announcing one of the Fellowships ahead of the Awards Show on May 15. The AMA Magician of the Year for 2015 is England's fantastic **DYNAMO**. You can find video of him all over YouTube so you might want to take a look at some of his work before you come to the show.

The prior Board of Trustees has bestowed Fellowships as follows: Performing, Creative, Literary, Lifetime Achievement, and the most prestigious, Masters. Those honorees will be announced at the Awards Show. (You didn't think I was going to give you the names, did you? But you *can* see the complete list of talented magicians who will be performing on page 20!)

You, our members, are voting to determine the Close-up Magician of the Year, Parlour Magician of the Year, Stage Magician of the Year, and the Lecturer of the Year. These magicians will receive the coveted handmade John Gaughan wand and \$1,000. The cash awards are generously provided by **JUDY SPOHR**,

**ANNABEL GRAY**, **SANDY MARSHALL**, **SARA BALLANTINE**, myself, and the **DAI VERNON FOUNDATION, INC.** Vote wisely!

## ROBERTO GIOBBI'S AMA VISIT

Members who are fully aware of this man's impressive and international credits are already in line to spend time with **ROBERTO GIOBBI** while he is visiting The Magic Castle® in June. Here's his schedule and other information:

**Saturday, June 4:** An intensive, full-day workshop at my home (including lunch). I've held these before (with **RENÉ LAVAND**, **BEBEL**, **DARYL**, **RAFAEL BENATAR**, and others) with great success. Please contact me via email or by private message on Facebook for details.

**Wednesday, June 8:** AMA Sunday lecture on Wednesday! Inner Circle at 8:00 p.m.

**Saturday & Sunday, June 11 & 12:** AMA Weekend Seminar, both days starting at 9:00 a.m. with breakfast. Lunch will also be served. \$300 payable via the AMA Gift Shop. Attendance is capped at 25 participants. Only 16 spots remain.

Absolutely no material will be repeated. Yes, Roberto is that amazing! These are remarkable opportunities to get to know and learn from this fantastic and fascinating man.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AND © BY LÄSER

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## SWAP MEET

Please stop by the Dai Vernon Foundation's table in front of the CARDINI exhibit. We have so much to sell this year. All money raised goes toward magic camp scholarships for members of the AMA Junior Program and to assist magicians in ill health or severe financial need. See you there!

## AMA AWARDS SHOW (REPRISE)

There's so much more to say, but I'll just add that I'm honored to be part of a sensational production team this year. DALE SALWAK is doing an admirable job and has booked wonderful acts from around the world. STEVE DICK's team is always the best. DEREK HUGHES promises to be fantastic and is working on the script with the one and only David Regal. Then there's JOE FURLOW. I think we all know how terrific he is. Get your tickets NOW! ✍

Joan  
jlawton@magiccastle.com

*Joan*

"Would you call the talk of a magician doing close-up magic 'the patter of little feats'?" ~Paul Morris  
*Hugard's Magic Monthly, August 1948*



2015 MAGICIAN OF THE YEAR DYNAMO



# THE QUEEN MARY FANTASY SEA

WHERE MAGIC LIVES

## APRIL 8<sup>TH</sup>-10<sup>TH</sup>

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STROLLING MAGICIANS | MAGICAL MIXOLOGY  
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***“Chef Jason Sperber and his crew will be ready to prepare a delicious menu for you.”***

**“APRIL SHOWERS** bring May flowers,” or at least that is what my Mother used to say. Given that El Niño has been a little disappointing this winter, maybe April is the month where the sky will open up and provide us with the much needed precipitation. We will be prepared no matter which way Mother Nature wants to go, but inside the Castle, we have a few things up our sleeve in the coming months.

### ***MEMBER/PERFORMER GUEST CHANGE: APRIL 4***

At the March meeting, the Board of Directors decided to change the guest policy for members and performers from five guests to seven guests on Mondays and Tuesdays only starting April 4. Members will be allowed to enter the building with seven guests without paying the door fees, and performers will be allowed to have eight guests on their guest list. Membership Director **TRISH ALASKY** has all the details on page 11. With the 2015 guests rule change, we have controlled our building capacity

issue (not the parking lot issue, but if we can encourage more carpooling, that would be incredible) and now have the ability to experiment with adding some guests back. This is temporary, but we will be able to analyze some data and know if we can return these numbers to members for the entire week. More on that in August. Note that the electronic guest passes will remain at six at the present time.

### ***FEBRUARY SALES***

February Sales were quite surprising. Throughout the 2016 Fiscal Year budgeting process (in late 2015), our controller **EDDIE VILLANUEVA** and I debated our financial growth for 2016. Obviously, you never want to take the type of growth we have shown over the last four years for granted, but realistically, our building is only 24,000 square feet and eventually we would plateau. Given our eight percent growth in 2015, and considering our 20 percent-plus growth in 2012, 2013, and 2014, carefully estimating our 2016 numbers has become quite the chess match. We

## **GENERAL MUSINGS**

from General Manager **Joe Furlow**



decided to account for a three percent growth in 2016, and January (five percent growth versus prior year) and February (four percent growth versus prior year) have surpassed our expectations.

February revenues were above budget in nearly every category (photo sales being the exception), and as we enter our slow period, we will be doing all we can to keep the level of customer service high and the magic in the showrooms exciting.

### ***BIRTHDAY DINNERS***

Don't forget, starting May 1 we will begin a new program in which all members will receive a complimentary three-course “Birthday Dinner” in the dining room during the month of their birthday. **CHEF JASON SPERBER** and his crew will be ready to prepare a delicious menu for you.

We ask that all members sign onto the website and update their personal information. We would like you to update your address, phone numbers, email address, and of course, please add your birth date. Emails will be mailed out the

15th of each month for the birthdays that fall in the next month. We will be ready to prepare your complimentary three-course Birthday Dinner although reservations are a must.

### ***AWARDS SHOW 2016***

The 48th Annual Academy of Magical Arts Awards Show will be held Sunday, May 15 at the Saban Theatre in Beverly Hills, with host **DEREK HUGHES** and Magician of the Year, **DYNAMO**. Please make plans to join us as we celebrate our fellowship honorees, the 2015 showrooms award winners, and see plenty of live performances from around the globe. Producer **DALE SALWAK** has put together an incredible lineup of talent.

Tickets went on sale Monday, March 21 and can be purchased through our website or Ticketmaster (see page 20). Ticket prices have not increased, and those who purchase a ticket will gain automatic entry into the Castle for the after party. We will again be offering shuttle service and a pre-party here at the Castle, much like we did in 2015. For those who

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(CONTINUED: JOE FURLOW)

purchased the shuttle ticket, the fun began and ended here the Castle. This makes travel to the Saban very easy both ways. Go to Trish Alaskey's Membership column on page 11 for information on how to sign up.

We still have some space available in the show program, but we're coming down to the deadline. So if you are interested in purchasing an ad, please email me at [jfurlow@magiccastle.com](mailto:jfurlow@magiccastle.com). This is a great way to advertise your business and support your Academy.

- 2 Page \$1,000 • Half Page \$350
- Full Page \$600 • Quarter Page \$200

## VOLUNTEERS

Our first Volunteer Faire is in just a few days: Sunday, April 3rd, between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. The committees represented will be Ethics and Grievance, Castle Knights, Marketing and Branding, Elections, Outreach, Heritage and Library, and Decorating & Boo Crew (the lone exception being the Audition Committee). Current committee members will answer questions from any AMA members interested in being a volunteer. It's a rewarding way to get involved in your Academy.

## IRENE LARSEN MEMORIAL

Like all of you, I was shocked to hear of

the passing of IRENE LARSEN. Over the last few weeks, our staff has tried many ways to honor her, but we felt the best way was by continuing to do our jobs the best way possible. Over the last four years, I felt she and I had great conversations, and she was the first one to share her opinion with me on different types of events we did. She would call and provide me with critical feedback and, at times, she told me how proud BILL would have been if he were still alive. I have always kept both Bill and Irene in my head when generating ideas on how to improve the AMA, and WWBD (What Would Bill Do) would constantly rattle around in my mind. Now it will be WWBID (What Would Bill/Irene Do) as we move into the AMA's future.

On Tuesday, April 5, all members have the opportunity to honor her. Please join us at the Wilshire Ebell Theatre at 1:00 p.m. for a fitting tribute. A reception will follow next door and at the Castle after that. RSVP at [rsvp@magiccastle.com](mailto:rsvp@magiccastle.com). Irene was an inspiration to many, and we here on the third floor will truly miss her.

Hope to see you around the club soon! ✍

*Joe*  
[jfurlow@magiccastle.com](mailto:jfurlow@magiccastle.com)

# EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

## Kaysea Olson

**KAYSEA OLSON HOLDS** one of the most important jobs in our kitchen: he is the "quarterback" ensuring each food ticket is handled by our kitchen staff in a timely manner. Kaysea stands on one side of the cook line making plates look ("present" in the parlance of the kitchen) their very best while ensuring each item on the ticket is done at the same time. This position is quite the balancing act, as on a busy Saturday night we could have

40 to 50 tickets in the window at one given time.

Kaysea is a cool customer and handles the stress quite well. A Southern California native, he moved to Texas a few years ago and worked on an oil rig. After a few years as a "roughneck," he found his new passion, food service. Returning to California, he found the Academy and is absorbing everything Chef Jason can teach him. Over the last year, he has established himself to be a great leader and dependable employee.

With two older and two younger siblings, one having served multiple tours for our armed forces, Kaysea's dream is to one day own a restaurant and leave his culinary mark on the world. In the meantime, he continues to do a phenomenal job for the AMA.

Kaysea exemplifies "The Castle Way." We are very proud to have Kaysea on our team.

Congratulations to Kaysea Olson on being chosen as the AMA February 2016 Employee of the Month! ✍



*"The reason why we're here is because  
of love—the love of magic."*

Irene Larsen, Co-Founder

# The Magic of MEMBERSHIP

*Trish Alaskey*



**HELLO, MEMBERS!** Happy Spring to you all. Starting April 4, 2016, as set by our Board of Directors and Board of Trustees, the amount of guests accessing the club will be increased on Monday and Tuesday evenings. Performers will be allowed to invite eight guests every Monday and Tuesday evening and when a member is present, you are welcome to bring in a total of seven guests—including your secondary member—every Monday and Tuesday evening without a door charge. All other evenings (Wednesday through Sunday) and brunch days will stay the same at six guests for performers and six guests (including you) for members. Any additional guests will have to pay a door fee but will not be required to dine as long as a member is present. A question I always get is, "If my secondary member comes with me, do they get their own five guests with no door charge?" The answer is no. This rule is per membership, and your secondary member shares your membership with you. A secondary member does have the right to access the club on their own when the primary member is not present. In that case, yes, they are welcome to bring in guests, and the door fees will be waived for a party of eight on Mondays and Tuesdays and six every other evening.

Our 48th annual Awards Show is coming up on Sunday, May 15th. Tickets are on sale now: [CLICK HERE](#) to be taken to Ticketmaster.com. This show is going to be great, and I really hope you join us! We are organizing a shuttle service to the Saban Theatre from the Castle. Anyone who would like to purchase a seat on the shuttle should contact me at 323-851-3313 x301 or [rsvp@magiccastle.com](mailto:rsvp@magiccastle.com) by May 2nd at the latest. We have secured four 28-passenger shuttles which will

make two trips each. You can sign up for either the first round or second. The first shuttle will cost \$20 per person. It will leave the club promptly at 5:00 p.m. to get you over to the Saban for the non-hosted cocktail party before the show (drinks only). The second round of shuttles will cost \$40 per person. These will leave the club promptly at 6:00 p.m., after you enjoy an open bar offering of cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. Payments must be made at the time you reserve your seat on the shuttle by calling me with a credit card.

As I announced last month, all primary members of the Academy of Magical Arts are welcome to celebrate their birthdays with us here at The Magic Castle®. Not only will you get a fun "Birthday Button" (encouraged but not required) from our front desk staff when you come in for your special day, but in the dining room, you will receive a complimentary three-course dinner as well! Dinner will include one appetizer, one entrée, and one dessert of your choice off our regular menu. This offer stands for the month in which your birthday falls; no exceptions to this rule will be made.

To sign up, please log in to the member's only section of our website at [www.magiccastle.com/members](http://www.magiccastle.com/members). If you have trouble logging in, please contact me via email at [talaskey@magiccastle.com](mailto:talaskey@magiccastle.com), and I will issue you a new temporary password to get you logged in.

Once you are logged in, please click on **MY CLUB**, then **MY PROFILE** and **VIEW PROFILE**. From there you will see several options, including a section to add your photo. Right next to where your photo is (or should be), on the right hand side,

(CONTINUED)

(CONTINUED: TRISH ALASKEY)

## ***“I spoke about this section in last month’s column and feel it deserves another mention.”***

there is a button that says EDIT. Click there and fill in or update all of your contact information including the section to list your birth date. That birth date section is what will sign you up for this new benefit. While you’re there doing all of that, please be sure to fill in your emergency contact information, which is right below the contact information area. I spoke about this section in last month’s column and feel it deserves another mention. And don’t forget to hit SAVE!

Any member that has signed up for this offer will be sent an email by the 15th of the month prior with further instructions on how to participate in our Birthday Program.

### Rules and Regulations:

- Offer is valid only for birthday month and expires at the end of that month
- Secondary members and guests are not included in this offer
- Offer cannot be traded in for cash
- Additional discounts of any kind will not apply
- One additional person in party will be allowed to receive the 20 percent member discount in the dining room
- Offer can be used for Brunch, Dinner, or Friday Lunch
- Alcohol is not included but soft drinks are

Enjoy the month, enjoy your club and as always, I’m here if you need me! ✍️

*Trish*  
talaskey@magiccastle.com





Daniel Garcia, Lisa De La Vega  
 Sterling Robertson, Kristin Childers  
 Masanobu Yamamoto  
 Michael Paul Dreiling, Mary Dreiling  
 Steve Kim  
 Mica Land  
 Stuart Ross  
 Liam McIntyre, Erin McIntyre  
 Eric Lampert  
 Debra Disson Hall  
 Mike Fogiel  
 Raffaele Buchacher, Tatum Miranda  
 Joe Brogie  
 Donald Hodson, Suzanne Hodson

Emir Kumova, Melissa Esnal Olquin  
 Markus Cleverley, Katie Cleverley  
 Todd Montgomery, Rachael Montgomery  
 Peyton Crow, Leticia Crow  
 Geraldine Lampert  
 Judy Hong, Steven Schulz  
 Erik Walters, Heather Walters  
 Molly Stephens  
 Julie Giulioni, Peter Giulioni  
 Armen Hagopianian  
 Tommy Gendal, Alicia Rodriguez  
 Keith Fields, Sarah Harfield  
 Mark Bartman  
 Yanan Zhu

New Members: Don't forget to sign up for  
 your New Member Orientation! Contact:  
***memberservices@magiccastle.com***

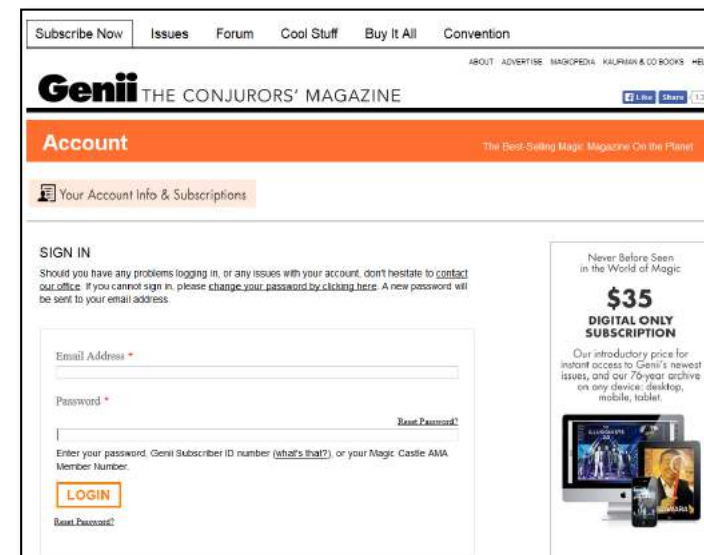
**ATTENTION MAGICIAN MEMBERS:**  
**ANOTHER BENEFIT of MEMBERSHIP in The ACADEMY of MAGICAL ARTS!**



THE BEST-SELLING MAGIC MAGAZINE  
 on the planet, which has been closely  
 associated with The Magic Castle since its  
 inception, is available to you absolutely  
 free of charge as a perk of your Magician  
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 2. Click the orange "Sign In" button in  
 the upper right corner.  
 3. Enter the email address which the  
 AMA has on file for your membership  
 (make sure it's the correct one).  
 4. Enter your AMA membership number  
 (just the numerals).  
 5. Click "Login."

Academy of Magical Arts Members:  
**Take Advantage of your FREE Digital  
 Subscription to Genii!**



# ELECTION COMMITTEE NEWS

## AMA ELECTION RESULTS

**ON MARCH 20**, the AMA's Annual General Meeting was held in the Palace of Mystery. Presiding over the meeting was **VICE PRESIDENT RANDY SINNOTT**. Speakers included outgoing **PRESIDENT ERIKA LARSEN**, **JUNIOR PROGRAM DIRECTOR BOB DORIAN**, **CO-FOUNDER MILT LARSEN**, outgoing **CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES JON ARMSTRONG**, outgoing **TREASURER MAURICE NEWMAN**, and **GENERAL MANAGER JOE FURLOW** who, along with his report on operations, announced the 2015 Employee of the Year, **MARTY ROSENSTOCK**. At the meeting's conclusion, it was my pleasure to once again introduce **DANIEL FAVERO** of the law firm of Agnew-Brusavich to announce the results of the elections. Below are those results, including the vote counts. The winners are in bold type and the officer's positions are parenthetic:

### Board of Trustees (722 valid ballots: 42 invalid ballots not counted)

- |                                        |                       |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| • <b>DAVID REGAL (VICE CHAIR): 545</b> | • DANIEL ULIN: 308    |
| • <b>PAUL GREEN (TRUSTEE): 466</b>     | • HOWARD HAMBURG: 253 |
| • <b>JOAN LAWTON (CHAIR): 465</b>      | • DENNIS FOREL: 250   |
| • <b>MARK WILSON (TRUSTEE): 437</b>    | • CROW GARRETT: 156   |
| • <b>TOM OGDEN (SECRETARY): 419</b>    | • JIM YODER: 135      |
| • <b>SHOOT OGAWA (TRUSTEE): 394</b>    | • DAVID M. PERRY: 100 |
| • <b>GAY BLACKSTONE (TRUSTEE): 385</b> |                       |

### Board of Directors (Magician Members)

(1,045 valid ballots: 77 invalid ballots not counted)

- |                                               |                         |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| • <b>JIM STEINMEYER (VICE PRESIDENT): 775</b> | • DONAL CHAYCE: 440     |
| • <b>RANDY SINNOTT (PRESIDENT): 686</b>       | • NAJEE WILLIAMS: 408   |
| • <b>CHIP CHALMERS (SECRETARY): 594</b>       | • ROBERT JAY GOULD: 356 |
| • <b>JOHN GAUGHAN (DIRECTOR): 528</b>         |                         |

### Directors (Associate Members)

- |                                              |                        |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| • <b>SARATOGA BALLANTINE (DIRECTOR): 773</b> | • ALAN MCFARLAND: 311  |
| • <b>BRIAN TOLMAN (DIRECTOR): 592</b>        | • MARTINA LOTUN: 299   |
| • <b>CATHERINE HAIGHT (TREASURER): 389</b>   | • DANNY ROBINSON: 210  |
|                                              | • CARMEN JOHNSTON: 206 |

Congratulations to all of the winners. Anyone who missed the meeting can watch the video on the AMA site at [2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING VIDEO](#) (the meeting proper starts at the 24:21 mark).

## SHOWROOM AND LECTURER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

The AMA Elections Committee, Board of Directors, and Board of Trustees congratulate the 2015 Showroom Magician and Lecturer of the Year nominees.

(CONTINUED)

(CONTINUED: ELECTIONS)

Those nominees are:

**LECTURER OF THE YEAR**

- RAFAEL BENATAR
- DOC EASON
- JEFF McBRIDE and LAWRENCE HASS (joint lecture)
- SHOOT OGAWA
- PHIL VAN TEE

**CLOSE-UP GALLERY**

- JON ARMSTRONG
- ANDREW GOLDENHERSH
- BILL GOODWIN
- MIKE PISCIOтта
- RICHARD TURNER

**PARLOUR OF PRESTIDIGITATION**

- MICHAEL FINNEY
- DEREK HUGHES
- JOHNNY ACE PALMER
- DAVID REGAL
- ROB ZABRECKY

**PALACE OF MYSTERY**

- DAVID AND LEEMAN
  - MICHAEL FINNEY
  - DAVE KAPLAN
  - TINA LENERT
  - SHOOT OGAWA
  - ARTHUR TRACE
- (Six nominees due to tie.)

**2015 SHOWROOM AND LECTURER OF THE YEAR AWARDS FINAL BALLOT VOTING**

**Magician and Associate Members**

Voting for the 2015 Showroom and Lecturer of the Year Awards is scheduled to begin Monday, April 11 and end Monday, April 24.

**Online Voting Process**

All Members in good standing will receive an email from the AMA Election Administrator (help@election-america.com)

which will contain a link to the election ballots, along with your Member Number and a secret code unique to you that you'll use to login and access the ballots.

All final ballot votes must be made online by **Monday, April 24 at 11:00 p.m.** (Pacific Time).

If you do not have an email address or do not receive the email, you can obtain your secret code by contacting the AMA Election Administrators at:

Email: help+ama@election-america.com  
Helpdesk: (866) 384-9978

Note: You may also want to check your SPAM folder to make sure the email did not end up in there.

For those members without computer access, the computers in the William W. Larsen Memorial Library will be available and the Castle Library committee will also be on hand to assist you.

**Questions?**

Contact **DALE BOATMAN**, Elections Committee Chairman, at: dale175@aol.com or **TRISH ALASKEY** at: talaskey@magiccastle.com ✉

*Dale*

Dale Boatman, Elections Chairman  
**Dale175@aol.com**



# A SPECIAL REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**I AM PLEASED** to report that the **ACADEMY OF MAGICAL ARTS** and **MILT LARSEN** have finalized several written agreements that will replace two contracts that have been in effect about ten years. The new agreements will strengthen our club and our brand, and will cement our relationship with one of our highly respected founders. For those who wish to see them, the agreements themselves are on the AMA's official website. You may access them by clicking [HERE](#) and [HERE](#).

In the years since the original contracts were signed, circumstances changed in a number of ways. The result was that the agreements as written did not coincide with the changed circumstances of the AMA and Milt. After discussions between the Academy and Milt, we reached new, mutually beneficial agreements that reduced a few potential ambiguities and created some win-win financial agreements between the AMA and Milt.

The first agreement that I will describe is between the AMA and Milt Larsen Enterprises (MLE, a dba used by Milt Larsen) regarding the furniture, fixtures, and equipment at The Magic Castle®. The prior agreement listed hundreds of items that are inside the Castle, and identified the owner as either the AMA or MLE. These include light fixtures, furniture, the bars, posters, and many other items.

The new agreement provides that Milt will donate all of his items on the list to the **DAI VERNON FOUNDATION**, which is a 501c(3) corporation. A handful of items with sentimental value will be retained by Milt. The prior agreement provided that the AMA would pay to Milt a royalty of one percent of the AMA's food and beverage revenue at the Castle as compensation for the use of these items. In recent years, that amount approached \$100,000 per year. The new agreement does not obligate the AMA to pay Milt any money for the furniture, fixtures, and

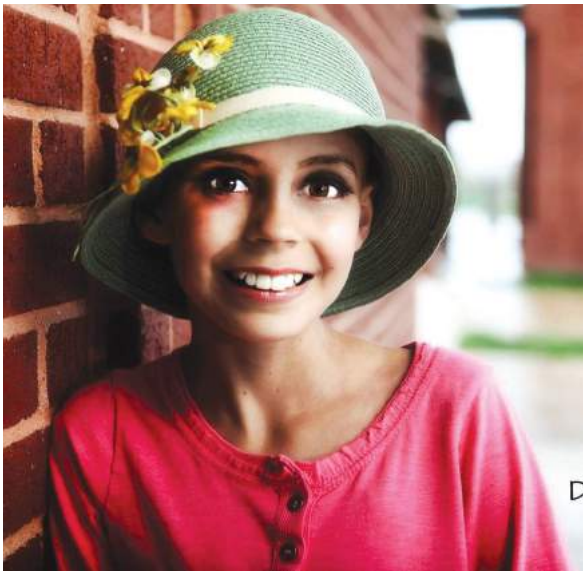
equipment, since Milt is no longer the owner of those items.

The second agreement is the revised Trademark License Agreement between the AMA and Magic Castles, Inc. (MCI), a company owned primarily by Milt Larsen. Generally speaking, the prior agreement gave the AMA the nonexclusive right to use two trademarks—the names of Magic Castle and Invisible Irma—pursuant to a license from MCI. In exchange for that, AMA paid to MCI 4.5 percent of the gross food and beverage revenues at The Magic Castle®, an amount that had grown to over \$400,000 per year.

The new Trademark License Agreement clarifies several key terms, provides for declining percentages to be paid by the AMA to MCI over the next 25 years, and gives the AMA a paid-up nonexclusive license to use the trademarks after 25 years. In addition to the declining percentages paid over 25 years, there is a .5 percent royalty paid for the duration of Milt's lifetime. The new agreement gives the AMA an exclusive license to the trademarks, with a few specific exceptions, within a 50 mile radius. The royalty paid by the AMA for filming rights at The Magic Castle® is also clarified and reduced under the new agreement.

The new agreements are a win-win for both the AMA and Milt. The AMA's payments will decline over time, we have stronger protection for our trademark license, and the furnishings of the Castle will belong to the Dai Vernon Fund. For Milt, the agreements provide a clarity and certainty that did not exist previously, potential tax benefits, and an income stream for many years in the future. ✍

*Randy*  
rsinnott@magiccastle.com



DELANEY CLEMENTS (© FACEBOOK)

# The Greatest Magic Show I Never Did

By Sam Konugres

**I REMEMBER** my first big magic performance. It was my elementary school's talent show. I tied all the boys' neckties since I was the only kid who knew how because I wore one to church every Sunday. Being the troupe's "Necktie Guy" was an important role in the pre-Nehru collar

1960s when even the Beatles, with their "long" hair, still wore neckties while performing.

The auditorium was packed. All were there to see dancers dance, singers sing, and me, the magician, blow a trick. But that's okay; magicians are different.

Magicians know all too well that "magic" is not about the trick. Of all performing artists, only the magician is challenged by the audience. Ironically, however, the magician is attracted to the dramatic tension of this duel by an addiction to the exhilaration that comes from outdrawing the audience, suspending reality, and rewarding gobsmacked spectators with the awe and wonder of their childhood utopia when everyone was healthy and happy and the whole world was a magical place.

Standing on deck behind the beautifully painted asbestos fire curtain I remember thinking today the talent show, tomorrow handcuff challenges and jailbreaks like Houdini and then television like Mark Wilson and Chuck Jones.

I was 13 years old. I had dreams!

Fast forward 45 years. "Necktie Guy" metamorphosed into "Bow Tie Guy" after my peers and I traded our play clothes for professional attire. Wanting to preserve my "knotty" distinction, and since everyone learned how to do neckties, I switched to tying bow ties.

As for those magical dreams, two days after my 21st birthday I passed the Academy of Magical Arts audition and became a member and later joined the Outreach Committee. One day I received an email requesting a magician to perform a private magic show for a young Colorado girl who was visiting California for just a few days. Her name is Delaney. In vetting the request, I discovered that she has a rare form of pediatric cancer called neuromuscular. She was at stage four.

Three years earlier, at the age of nine, Delaney had already accomplished quite a bit for a young girl. She wanted to help other children with pediatric cancer so she braved her own challenges and started a pediatric cancer awareness group. Her best friend, acting on her own, was suspended from school when she defied regulations and shaved her head so Delaney would not be the only bald headed kid there. The school board met to deliberate her friend's appeal for reinstatement. In the process, the panel members were transmogrified from prosecutors to supporters of Delaney



© FACEBOOK

(CONTINUED)

(CONTINUED: DELANEY)

## ***“Delaney also dreamed of meeting Taylor Swift, seeing the Pacific Ocean, and experiencing a real live magic show.”***

and her friend’s cause and allowed the girl back in school. Serendipitously, the imbrolio received national media attention and raised awareness of pediatric cancer beyond Delaney’s wildest dreams.

[\(TODAY SHOW VIDEO\)](#)

Delaney also dreamed of meeting Taylor Swift, seeing the Pacific Ocean, and experiencing a real live magic show. Such are the simple dreams of a 13 year old girl.



PHOTO BY AND COURTESY OF DEAN ANDREWS

She set out to accomplish meeting Taylor Swift by starting a social media campaign using the hashtag #DelaneyMeetTaylor. It gained momentum and Delaney not only got to spend a day with Ms. Swift, she forged a relationship such that they remain in regular contact to this day.

[\(TAYLOR SWIFT/TODAY SHOW VIDEO\)](#)

Delaney’s dream to see the Pacific Ocean came true by the confluence of her family, friends, and the kindness of strangers. Being too weak to fly commercially, it was arranged for her to fly to California on a private jet. The Montage Hotel in Laguna Beach graciously provided her and her family accommodations with a view of the ocean about which she dreamed.

[\(OC REGISTER ARTICLE AND PHOTO SLIDE SHOW\)](#)

Magic show arrangements for Delaney were completed before she landed in California and I was the magician. I was not going to be playing to a packed house; I was going to be playing to an “audience of one.” Although a few others would be there, they would not be there to see me blow a trick. They would not be there to see me do a magic show. They would be there standing beside me, behind the curtain, and hoping along with me to see the spectacle of Delaney’s joy.

After committing to the show I experienced recurring fugues of emotion which can perhaps be better understood by the unique circumstances in which I found myself rather than by description. God willing, I would not be the last magician Delaney would ever see, but there was a chance I would be. Whether or not I connected with Delaney, or my performance was “spot on” or “way off,” I knew I would be the check mark next to “Magic Show” on this amazing girl’s bucket list.



PHOTO BY AND COURTESY OF MINDY SCHAUER  
AND *THE OC REGISTER*

As I put my head to pillow the night before the engagement I wondered, “Am I worthy to approach, much less capable of shuttling, Delaney to her nostalgic utopia?” Then the telephone rang. The show was canceled.

Due to a combination of things, Delaney had to return home earlier than planned so I never met her.

(CONTINUED)

(CONTINUED: DELANEY)

I never did any handcuff challenges or jail breaks and I never made it on television either. I have, however, been blessed with the very common unremarkable story arc of a man who marries a gorgeous wife that is more beautiful after 25 years of marriage than the day they were wed and has two healthy children that mature to young adulthood. My “magical” dreams, however, remained just dreams.

Even though Delaney has no idea who I am, I was touched by her in a way that caused me to value my blessings more and to better appreciate the fact that accomplishing a dream, however humble, is far more important than the grandiosity of the dream itself. For me and for many, Delaney makes a difference.

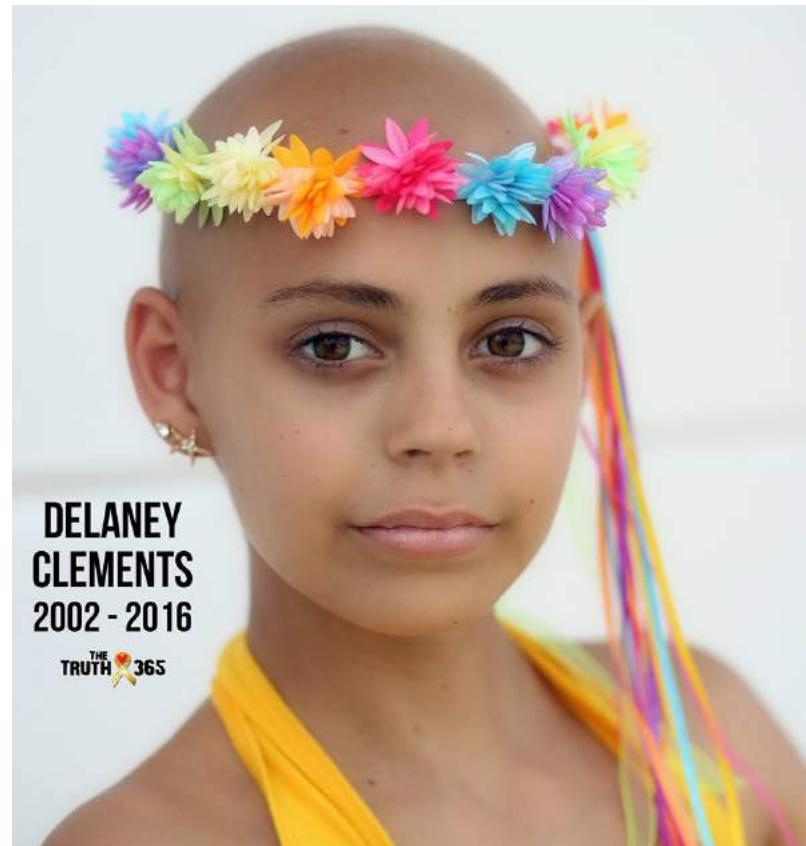
She is 13 years old. She has dreams and I, an anonymous magician, was blessed to be one of them.

It was the greatest magic show I never did.  
...

**EPILOGUE:** An angel on Earth, Delaney is now an angel in fact. She passed away on March 21, 2016.

The Truth 365 is a group that unites and supports childhood cancer organizations and gives voice to the children fighting these diseases. Donations can be made at:

[HTTPS://WWW.THETRUTH365.ORG/](https://www.thetruth365.org/)



Forty-Eighth Annual  
Academy of Magical Arts

Awards Show

Tickets On Sale March 21st  
[www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)  
Search "Academy of Magical Arts"

MAY 15, 2016

SABAN THEATRE  
BEVERLY HILLS

THE ACADEMY OF MAGICAL ARTS

Hosted By  
**DEREK HUGHES**



Six All-Star  
SPECIAL PERFORMANCES:

E.K. and Zeki (South Korea)

Greg Frewin (Canada)

Miguel Muñoz (Spain)

Jerome Murat (France)

Mikael Szanyiel (France)

Yuji Yasuda (Japan)

Honoring Magician of the Year  
**DYNAMO**



Each ticket includes the Awards Show (all-ages) and After-Party (age 21+).



DOWN FROM TOP LEFT:  
E.K. and Zeki, Greg Frewin, Miguel Muñoz  
DOWN FROM TOP RIGHT:  
Jerome Murat, Mikael Szanyiel, Yuji Yasuda



# HOUDINI SÉANCE

## *DID HOUDINI HAVE CHILDREN?*

**ONE QUESTION** I'm frequently asked in the Séance Room is, "Did HOUDINI and BESS have children?"

The answer is no but he loved the little girl you see in the picture that is kept on the fireplace mantel. She was his niece. Her name is MARIE BLOOD. In 1992, Marie reserved the Houdini Dinner Séance Experience for her friends.

After the séance, her friends went to the Palace of Mystery show. Marie stayed in the séance room to talk to me. I cannot tell you how excited I was to talk to her. She not only knew Houdini, but was a relative and lived in his house. She signed the picture that is kept in the Séance Room.

Take the time to come into the Séance Room for a closer look at the picture of Marie when the room is not occupied. Better yet, reserve the Houdini Dinner Séance Experience for your friends, family, and business associates.

The Séance Dinner Package is \$125 per person for the four-course dinner including bottomless house wine, a memory token (the commemorative Houdini Séance coin) for each guest, and tickets to the Palace of Mystery show pending availability.

The evening itinerary requires a 6:00 p.m. arrival for 6:30 p.m. dining in the Séance Room. The Séance begins at 8:00 p.m. The Palace of Mystery show is scheduled for 10:00 p.m.

Please contact JOSH STERN, our Séance Manager, at (323) 851-3313 extension 303 for help planning your Houdini Dining Experience. ✍

May Good Spirits be with you,

*Leo Kostka*  
Resident Medium



Saturday, April 16, 2016

# SWAP MEET



Come join in the fun at the AMA Swap Meet!

The Magic Castle® will be transformed into the greatest one-day convention this year on Saturday, April 16th. You'll find new and used magic books, illusions, antiques, collectibles, and scores of surprises throughout at this gathering. Vendor tables are set up from the Terrace Room to the Peller Theatre.

It's a fun-filled day for everyone. Whether you're a novice to magic or an expert, this is the place to be on this Saturday.

The doors open at 9:00 a.m. (early 8:00 a.m. entry for members). Bring your friends and magic enthusiasts. Free for AMA members and non-AMA members are \$8.00 at the door.

Valet is \$3 for member vehicles;  
\$5 non-member vehicles.  
We are not open to the public.

**Questions? Vendor Application?**

Contact Gary Frank at:

[swapmeetapplication@magiccastle.com](mailto:swapmeetapplication@magiccastle.com)

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

Inaugural

# PRESTO BEANO!

## CHILI COOK-OFF FUNDRAISER

Benefiting the William Larsen Memorial Library, selected members' chili recipes will go head-to-head and a panel of celebrity judges (and the audience vote) will determine which top 3 chilis will go home with the gold!

Only 10 entries will make it into this inaugural competition. Competitors will be selected by random drawing. To vie for your spot, please email your name, member number, and recipe to Ben Roman, Special Events Manager, at: [broman@magiccastle.com](mailto:broman@magiccastle.com) by Monday, April 4th at 8:00 a.m. PST to be included in the drawing. Selected contestants will be announced on Facebook and Flash Paper on the 4th.

All members are invited to taste test! Advance tickets are \$15 per person online: <http://prestobeano.eventbrite.com> (Password: CHILI) or it's \$25 at the door.

**All proceeds benefit the William Larsen Memorial Library.**  
Fabulous prizes and fun for all!

**8:00 p.m. | Inner Circle | ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!**

Castle Perks Presents

Inner Circle

# QUIZ NIGHT

with Jon Armstrong



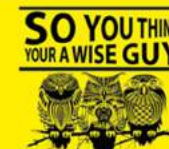
Are you ready for our first ever **Quiz Challenge?**

Modeled after popular trivia nights in Ireland and the UK, your gamemaker **Jon Armstrong** will quiz you and your team through multiple rounds about magic and non-magic knowledge plus everything from celebrities to wordplay to bad television!

Play in **teams of six** or by yourself if you're some kind of savant. The winning team gets street cred, bar cash, and other cool prizes!

**RSVP to Ben Roman, Special Events Manager,**  
at: [broman@magiccastle.com](mailto:broman@magiccastle.com) with your name  
and headcount by Monday, May 2nd!

WEDNESDAY  
MAY 4, 2016



INNER CIRCLE  
8:00 p.m.  
ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!

# NOW PLAYING AT THE MAGIC CASTLE

*Jack Goldfinger, Entertainment Director*

*MARCH 28 TO APRIL 3*

**CLOSE-UP GALLERY**

**Early-Early:** George Tovar  
**Early:** Henok Negash  
**Late:** Johnny Ace Palmer

**PARLOUR OF PRESTIDIGITATION**

**Early:** Jon Stetson  
**Late:** Daniel Sylvester

**PALACE OF MYSTERY**

John Ferrentino  
 Jason Bishop

**PELLER THEATRE**

Tom Frank  
 Shawn Eric

**W. C. FIELDS BAR**

Bob Bolivar

**FRIDAY LUNCH**

Johnny Ace Palmer

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY BRUNCH**

Funny Eddie

*APRIL 4 TO 10*

**CLOSE-UP GALLERY**

**Early-Early:** Jason Tong  
**Early:** John Carney  
**Late:** Brad Henderson

**PARLOUR OF PRESTIDIGITATION**

**Early:** Aye Jaye  
**Late:** David Gabbay

**PALACE OF MYSTERY**

Bruce Gold  
 David & Dania  
 Chris Randall

**PELLER THEATRE**

Dave Cox  
 Bill Chott  
 (The Charlatans)

**W. C. FIELDS BAR**

Terry Lunceford

**FRIDAY LUNCH**

Brad Henderson

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY BRUNCH**

Aye Jaye

*APRIL 11 TO 17*

**CLOSE-UP GALLERY**

**Early-Early:** Harrison Lampert  
**Early:** Robert Jagerhorn  
**Late:** Woody Aragon

**PARLOUR OF PRESTIDIGITATION**

**Early:** Nick Paul  
**Late:** Adam London

**PALACE OF MYSTERY**

J. Neal & Liane  
 Mark Miller

**PELLER THEATRE**

Frank Olivier's  
 "Twisted Cabaret"

**W. C. FIELDS BAR**

Kayla Drescher

**FRIDAY LUNCH**

Woody Aragon

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY BRUNCH**

William Perron &  
 Princess Spendalot

*APRIL 18 TO 24*

**CLOSE-UP GALLERY**

**Early-Early:** Paul Green  
**Early:** Billy Debu  
**Late:** David Regal

**PARLOUR OF PRESTIDIGITATION**

**Early:** Daryl  
**Late:** Daryl

**PALACE OF MYSTERY**

Puck  
 Lisa de la Vega  
 Scott Alexander

**PELLER THEATRE**

Alan Bursky  
 Fitzgerald

**W. C. FIELDS BAR**

Doc Eason (Wed. to Sun.)

**FRIDAY LUNCH**

Billy Debu

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY BRUNCH**

Daryl

*MARCH 25 TO MAY 1*

**CLOSE-UP GALLERY**

**Early-Early:** David Stryker  
**Early:** Jonathan Pendragon  
**Late:** Andrew Goldenhersh

**PARLOUR OF PRESTIDIGITATION**

**Early:** Bob Gebert  
**Late:** Jerome Cadeac

**PALACE OF MYSTERY**

Chris Mitchell  
 Greg Gleason

**PELLER THEATRE**

Mad Tad  
 Shawn McMaster

**W. C. FIELDS BAR**

Doc Eason (Wed. to Sun.)

**FRIDAY LUNCH**

Jonathan Pendragon

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY BRUNCH**

Jonathan Pendragon

# LECTURE NOTES

**3:00 to 5:00 p.m. | Parlour of Prestidigitation\***

*(Magician Members In-Good-Standing Only)*

**APRIL 3**

**JOHN FERRENTINO AND JOE SILKIE**

For over 30 years JOHN FERRENTINO and JOE SILKIE have been working and inventing magic effects together. They have lectured at magic conventions all over the country. Additionally, they consulted for MICHAEL CARBONARO and many other TV shows. This laugh-filled lecture will take you on a creative journey on how to construct magic effects using items from stores that are found in every area. These ideas and many others will help when you show up for a gig and your act doesn't. This lecture has something for every performer.

**APRIL 10**

**CHRIS RANDALL**

In this lecture, CHRIS RANDALL will perform and explain "Fly by Night," his opening effect for over 15 years. In addition to several other effects, Chris will also teach "Scandal Switch," the ultimate solution for your linking ring routine. Only two rings are used and both are examined. This is the centerpiece of his award-winning act. If you hate the rings, then you will love this, and if you love the rings, then you will be in heaven. This is the main feature of Chris's IBM- winning act.

**APRIL 17**

**DARYL**

High-energy DARYL will offer moves, tricks, routine construction, presentational tips, magic theory, etc. The content of this lecture will be entirely up to you! Daryl has assured us that he will share his thoughts and opinions on whatever you would be interested in hearing. Simply email your requests to Daryl@Daryl.net and it will be done!

**APRIL 24**

**BILLY DEBU**

The warm-up, technique, presentation, professionalism, stop-time, distinctive signature (personal identity), flash-effects, and the finale are some of the essential points of his vision of magic that BILLY DEBU will talk about. He will illustrate all with technical examples using tricks and techniques he has invented.

***\*Time and location are subject to change pending capacity, scheduling, and popularity.***

## DEMYSTIFYING MAGIC

Use discount code

**AMA241**



written & performed  
by BOB GEBERT

Directed by Jon Armstrong

Produced by David Gabbay

6470 Theatre at The Complex, Hollywood

Thursdays @ 8p.m. April 7, 14, & 21 May 5, 12, & 19

Tickets \$20 (\$10 with code AMA241)

demystmagic.brownpapertickets.com



*Executive Chef Jason Sperber*



*APRIL 4, 5, & 6*

Bleu cheese crusted flat iron steak, balsamic roasted rapini, garlic whipped potato.

VEGETARIAN: Wild mushroom and burrata lasagna, pesto cream.

VEGAN: Angel hair pasta tossed with sundried tomatoes, baby artichokes, sautéed spinach, English peas, toasted cashews, and spicy arrabbiata sauce.

*APRIL 11, 12, & 13*

Blackened Mahi Mahi, asparagus, lemon herb risotto, tropical salsa.

VEGETARIAN: Fennel and barley gratin with walnut-thyme bread crumbs.

VEGAN: Quinoa chopped salad: quinoa tossed with avocado, grilled corn, cherry tomatoes, pepitas, Edamame, and lemon herb vinaigrette.

*APRIL 18, 19, & 20*

Academy smoked New York striploin, sautéed rapini, rosemary roasted Yukon potatoes, sherry wine au jus.

VEGETARIAN: Spaghetti alla Chitarra with zucchini ribbons, balsamic tomatoes, and three leaf pesto.

VEGAN: Puff pastry filled with roasted red peppers, sauteed kale, wild mushrooms, served with fresh tomato sauce.

*APRIL 25, 26, & 27*

Grilled swordfish, wild rice pilaf, grilled asparagus, tomato olive relish.

VEGETARIAN: Eggplant manicotti with spicy vegetable ragout.

VEGAN: Crispy polenta with roasted kale and spicy vegetable ragout.

As usual, if you have any questions about these or any other items on our menus, please feel free email me. Thanks. ✉

*Jason*  
jsperber@magiccastle.com



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# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Apr. 3: Volunteer Faire**

**Apr. 4: Members Only Night**

**Apr. 5: Irene Larsen Memorial**

**Apr. 6: Who's Hoo Taping**

**Apr. 9: CLOSED: Buyout**

**Apr. 12: PERK: The Magic of Style**

**Apr. 13: "Presto Beano!" Chili Cook-Off**

**Apr. 16: Spring Swap Meet**

**Apr. 18: Volunteer Appreciation Party**

**May 5: Cinco de Mayo**

**May 7: Kentucky Derby Party & Bourbon Tasting**

**May 8: Mother's Day**

**May 15: AMA Awards Show**

**May 30: CLOSED: Memorial Day**

**Jul. 4: CLOSED: Independence Day**

**Jul. 10: Soapy Smith Night**

**Jul. 25 & 26: Young Adults Nights**

**Jul. 25 – 31: Future Stars Week**

**Sep. 5: CLOSED: Labor Day**

**Sep. 10: Fall Swap Meet**

CALENDAR SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

Events are "All Members Welcome" unless otherwise indicated.

Keep an eye out for detailed information on these events and more in upcoming

AMA Newsletters, Flash Paper Emails, our online member calendar on

[www.magiccastle.com](http://www.magiccastle.com), and our Members Only Facebook Group!

Questions? Contact Ben Roman, Special Events Manager, at:

[broman@magiccastle.com](mailto:broman@magiccastle.com)

FROM THE WRITER AND PRODUCERS OF THE HIGHLY ACCLAIMED NOTHING TO HIDE

# IN & OF ITSELF



WRITTEN AND PERFORMED BY

**DEREK DELGAUDIO**

DIRECTED BY

**FRANK OZ**

PRODUCED BY

GLENN KAINO

ORIGINAL MUSIC BY

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**MAXIM FOR BEGINNERS: Concentrate first on doing easy feats well;  
that is better than to do difficult ones badly.**

**~Jean Hugard, Hugard's Magic Monthly, June 1947**

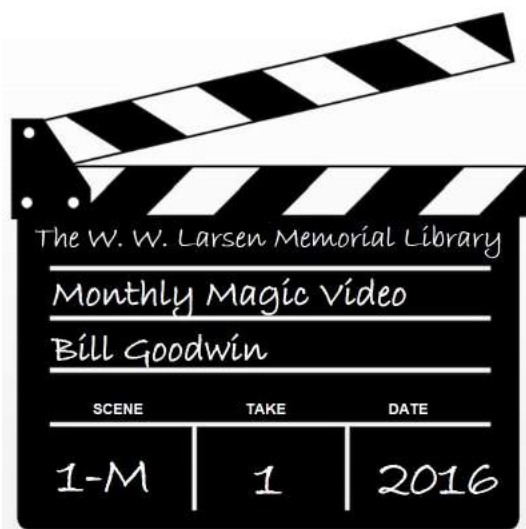
# THE WILLIAM W. LARSEN MEMORIAL LIBRARY

*BILL GOODWIN*



**WHAT CAN I SAY** about **IRENE LARSEN**? She was truly the heart of The Magic Castle®. Her passing has left a void in our club and her vibrant personality and sense of humor will be very much missed. Aloha, Princess.

The recent passing of **TOM MULICA** was quite unexpected. Much to my regret, I never had the privilege of visiting the Tom-Foolery, his magic bar theater in Atlanta. I first saw Mr. Mullica perform at the Desert Magic Seminar in 1984 where his performance won him first place in the \$10,000 Challenge. Needless to say, his magic and humor made quite an impression on me. When those lit cigarettes vanished from his mouth, I was floored. Thanks, Tom, for everything you've shared with us all.



Click on the clapboard (left) to see a few of Mr. Mullica's effects as well as a guest appearance from a dear lady.

The archive footage shown in this month's clip comes from our video vault. We have hundreds of hours of footage that is available to all of our members for viewing. We have **DOUG HENNING** specials, footage from **T. NELSON DOWNS'** birthday party, and AMA Awards Shows, just to mention some of the interesting clips available. To view

the DVDs, simply visit the library and ask to see our video vault spreadsheet. From there you can select the footage you want to see, and we will retrieve the disc from the vault for your enjoyment.

**EDDY WADE** of Magic Methods has gifted our members with the following titles from the late **JERRY MENTZER**. *Cunning Card Miracles, Master Ball and Silk Manipulation, Forcing a Card, Effective Cups & Balls, Magic With Himber Rings, Club Clues, Close Up Clues, Lecture Three, A Cavalcade of Magic, Special Lecture: Close-Up Notes, and Special Lecture: Club & Stage Notes*. There is wonderful magic in these pages, so come on down and learn a new effect.

Mr. Wade has also given us a few titles from **HORACE BENNETT**. My early study of magic included the books of Horace Bennett, and it is nice to have the following new additions to our shelves: *Alternative Handlings* and *Familiar Themes*. Also included with his generous donation is *Mystification* by Richard Bartram, Jr.

Finally, Mr. Wade included some Magic Methods bookmarks to be given away free to our members. Visit the library to pick up your free bookmark courtesy of Eddy Wade.

Our lecturers have presented us with their latest releases. Our own **MIKE PISCIOTTA** gave us his new lecture notes, *From the Depths*. These notes include some of the effects that Mike performs regularly at our Hat and Hare Bar. Be sure to check out "Mike's Two-Cents" for a diabolically clever effect that produces an incredible reaction.

(CONTINUED)

## “The library has also acquired some exciting new items...”

KEITH FIELDS visited us from Great Britain for a week of shows. He also gave a wonderful lecture and has given our members his booklets *If Ever a Wiz There Was*, *How to Handle Hecklers*, and *An Alien With Extraordinary Ability!*

During his recent week performing and lecturing here at the Castle, NORMAN BECK passed along his new set of notes, *Beckreations*, for our members to enjoy. Much appreciated, Norman.

T. PAGE WRIGHT’s *Shadows in Moonlight* was presented to the library by his grand-nephew, member ANDREW JONES. This is a book of poetry originally published in 1927 which doubles as a force book. Thanks, Andrew.

If you have ever wanted to roll up a frying pan with your bare hands, now is your chance. STUART BURRELL and CLIFF GERSTMAN have donated Burrell’s book *Magical Pan Rolling* for all your pan-rolling needs. Seriously, I really want somebody to learn this because I want to see it performed.

GARY DOMINGUEZ has gifted us with RYAN MATNEY’s new book *Ultramodern*. Members will be familiar with the contributor of the final effect in the book. It’s our former librarian GORDON BEAN.

*Skybound* is ERIC STEVENS’ set of lecture notes, and EDEN DRAVEN has donated them to us. They include an interesting idea for LARRY JENNINGS’ “The Searchers.” Eric Stevens later came into the library himself and presented us with a copy of his effect “Happenstance.”

BEN ROMAN, a member of our fabulous events team, brought in The Illusionists program for our archives. We appreciate it, Ben.

MARK WENZEL has given us BRIAN COPENHAVER’s *The Book of Magic*, a work about ancient magic concerning spells, charms, witches, and demons. It contains

discussions on the writings of JOHN MILTON, PTOLEMY, PLATO, THOMAS AQUINAS, and many others.

GREG OTTO has delivered a stack of *Genii* and *MAGIC* magazines which we are giving away free to our members. Thanks, Greg. Other recent donors to the library included Bill Bowers and Phil Van Tee. Thanks, gentlemen.

The library has also acquired some exciting new items. DAVID BEN’s *The Experts at the Card Table*, the first volume in a planned trilogy which explores ERDNASE’s system of advantage play. RICHARD SANDER’s *Fiber Optics* DVD explains one of the finest rope routines in existence. *Framework* by TOM FRAME collects many of the author’s works in one volume. The Winter 2016 issue of *Gibeciere* presents more fascinating articles on magic history including an article by MAGIC CHRISTIAN on the fate of HOFZINSER’s props. Please click the donor link below to see the full, printable list of items presented to the library recently.

Until next month. ✍

Bill

[bgoodwin@magiccastle.com](mailto:bgoodwin@magiccastle.com)

### WE LOVE OUR DONORS!

Please click here for a detailed, printable list of all of the items recently donated to your library by our wonderful benefactors.



## Library Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday:  
6:30 to 10:30 p.m.

Friday & Saturday:  
1:00 to 3:00 & 6:30 to 10:30 p.m.

Sunday (if lecture):  
1:00 to 3:00 & 5:00 to 10:30 p.m.

Sunday (if no lecture):  
1:00 to 5:00 & 6:30 to 10:30 p.m.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: DON’T FORGET TO CHECK OUT YOUR SECTION IN THE LIBRARY

# CHANGING OF THE GUARD

**IN 1936**, after an unsuccessful bid to acquire *The Sphinx*, **WILLIAM LARSEN, SR.** started a competitive independent magic magazine named *Genii*. Following his sudden passing in 1953, his wife and coeditor **GERRIE** became the magazine's sole publisher and editor. After working as the Associate Editor, her son **BILL, JR.** took its editorial reins in early 1955. She remained the magazine's publisher for a decade, then Bill, Jr. moved into the top spot on the masthead. **Ms. LARSEN BAKER** (Gerrie had married television's **ART BAKER**) eventually acquired the title "Comfortably Retired Editor."

With Bill's death in 1993, **IRENE LARSEN** took over as sole publisher. Her children, **DANTE** and **HEIDI**, had been coediting the magazine since 1988, with Dante becoming the editor in 1990. **ERIKA LARSEN** became Dante's coeditor in late 1993, then its editor in January 1994.

In 1998, after 62 years of continuous publication by one family, *Genii's* headquarters moved east when it was purchased by **RICHARD** and **ELIZABETH KAUFMAN** and their partners **DANIEL** and **JANE SOLOMON**.

Last month, it was announced that the third family in the publication's 80-year history will soon take ownership. With his eyes firmly set on the magazine's future, Richard



RANDY PITCHFORD IS SET TO BECOME THE NEW PUBLISHER OF *GENII*, THE CONJURORS' MAGAZINE

Kaufman and his partners sold *Genii* to **RANDY PITCHFORD**. A street magician and then co-founder and the President and CEO of Gearbox Software, Mr. Pitchford has had a longtime love for magic, as well as a solid pedigree given that he is the grandnephew of **RICHARD PITCHFORD** (better known as **CARDINI**).

Randy Pitchford is an active member of the AMA. If you attended the Employee Appreciation Night last year, odds are good that you were greeted at the door by Randy, his wife, **KRISTY**, and their son. Irene Larsen was told of the sale before the public announcement, and she was thrilled that Randy would become *Genii's* new owner.

Richard Kaufman will remain as the magazine's editor and Liz Kaufman will remain as the Creative Director. Richard states that the only changes readers will see immediately is more pages and new content. Important to our readers is that the binds that tie *Genii* with The Academy of Magical Arts and The Magic Castle® remain strong. Magician Members will continue to receive their complementary digital subscription, and those who cannot make it to the clubhouse regularly will continue to enjoy reading about the "Knights at the Magic Castle." ✍

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