

# MAGI-GRAM

Official Newsletter of IBM Ring 50 -- The National Capital Ring -- Volume 66 No. 5 May 2012

## Geoff Williams Lectures at Ring 50

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The National Capital Ring**

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### May Meeting Highlights

President **Danny Selnick** opened the meeting with 46 members and guests in attendance. He announced our new meeting place for the June and August meetings: Agudas Achim Congregation in Shirlington (Alexandria, VA) for THURSDAY June 7<sup>th</sup> and August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Address is on page 5 in the Magi-Gram. New members **Linda Barrett** and **Alec Negri** were voted into Ring 50. After other announcements were made, and without further adieu Vice President **Kevin McGuire** introduced our lecturer for the evening, Geoff Williams.

### Geoff Williams Lecture



**Geoff Williams** is a 3 time "Magician of the year" winner awarded by the International Brotherhood of Magicians. Geoff has won over two dozen comedy and magic awards over his 26 year career. He has performed in over 17 countries and throughout most of the U.S. He frequently performs at the

world famous Magic Castle in Hollywood. Geoff is a full time comedy magic entertainer who is known for cutting edge sleight of hand illusions mixed with an offbeat, zany sense of humor. He is a member of the 4F, an ultra-exclusive gathering of some of the best sleight-of-hand artists on the planet. Many of those attending the lecture were blown away with his



magic and humor.

#### *Sausage Finger Illusion*

He opened with his "Sausage Finger Illusion". Remember the old optical illusion in which the tips of your forefingers are held together and, by focusing your gaze to a distant point, a little two-ended "sausage finger" appears in between? While explaining the premise to the audience, his sausage finger can actually be seen floating in space between the tips of his fingers! Just as quickly as it appeared, it vanished completely!

This was followed by "Electrical Artlet". He had a Boom box with a cord too short to reach the wall outlet.

(continued on page 2)

# Geoff Williams Lecture

(continued from page 1)

No problem; he just drew an outlet on a pad of paper and plugged in the cord and the music started right up! As the music played he did the "Miracle Coin Vanish" with a silver dollar. This got a lot of ahs from spectators. It looked like real magic.



## *I Hate David Copperfield*

Next came the "I Hate David Copperfield" Trick. This was based on "Close-Up Illusion" by Larry Jennings; a card visibly melts through another. The visuals here went way beyond the original.

Then Geoff did "Kewpie". With the wave of a pen, a coin cleanly vanished from his fist, only to be visually dumped out of the cap of the pen. Everything was examinable before and after as both pen and quarter were un-gimmicked! Pure sleight of hand and a little help using the JW grip.



Another effect everyone enjoyed was "Devastation". This just might be the best impromptu card trick you can do! This is a version of Tom Daugherty's totally impossible card location that'll devastate your audience. There's was not one sleight in the entire trick! It works with a borrowed deck and the spectator does all the handling of the cards.



## *Everything's a Radio*

In closing he did "Everything's a Radio". This was a real reputation maker! He made a radio station broadcast come out of everything: a drawing on a piece of paper, touching another person's finger, you could use a ketchup bottle, card box...just anything for a radio!

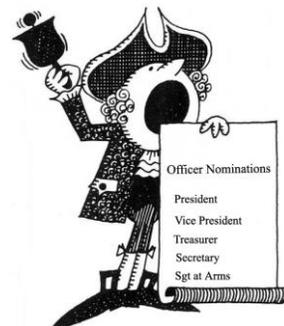
Geoff had lots of unique ideas and techniques that many Ring 50 members will add to their performance. Overall this was a very good lecture and Geoff was an excellent very personal presenter and everyone enjoyed all the effects that he presented.



Calling all comedy  
Magicians to enter the  
Winton Carroll  
Contest June 7<sup>th</sup>

**Don't Miss August  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lecture with  
Joshua Jay**

# Ring 50 Officers Elected



President Danny Selnick read the list of nominations for the available offices of Ring 50. The nominations read by **Larry Lipman** were: President, **Danny Selnick**; Vice President, **Kevin McGuire**; Treasurer, **Bob Patterson**; Secretary, **Wayne Spillner**; Sgt at Arms, **Scott McDonald**. Board of Directors: Senior Director **Louis Meyer**; Former Ring President, **Arnie Fuoco**; Director at Large: **Arnold Levin**. There were no other nominations from the floor. Members of Ring 50 unanimously voted upon the Magic Slate for the 2012-2013 session.

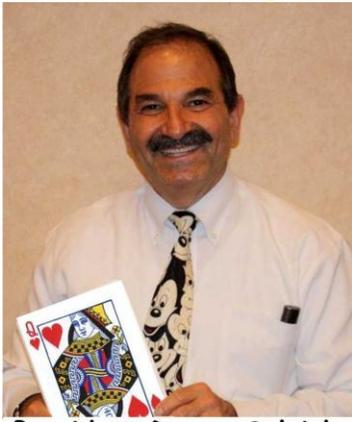
The new officers will be inducted into office by the Territorial Vice President, **Dwight Redman**, at the June 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**RING 50 NEW  
LOCATION &  
NEW MEETING  
TIMES**

I.B.M. Ring 50 meetings for **June 7<sup>th</sup>** and **August 2<sup>nd</sup>** will be held at Agudas Achim Congregation, 2908 Valley Drive, **Alexandria VA 22302**,

**New meeting times: THURSDAY**  
Counts of Conjuring: 6:15 pm  
Teach-in (When Scheduled) 7:05  
Regular meeting - 7:30 pm  
Adjourn 9:30 PM

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



President Danny Selnick

As you may know, Ring 50 held officer elections at the May meeting and I wanted to thank those in attendance who voted for the "magic slate" -- that is, with me continuing as president, **Kevin McGuire** as vice president, **Bob Patterson** as treasurer, **Wayne Spillner** as secretary, **Scott McDonald** as Sgt-at-Arms and **Arnie Levin** as board member, at-large. At the same time I want to thank out-going board member **Mike Taggert** and Secretary **Arnie Fuoco**, for their hard work and dedication to the Ring.

I'd be remiss in forgetting to offer **Louis Meyer** a special thanks for giving Ring 50 use of "ChildTime Magic Party Place" over these past months. While we will re-locate to Agudas Achim Congregation in Shirlington (Alexandria, VA) for June and August, we will be considering other meeting places, as well, for planning purposes. So stay tuned and read the Magi-Gram, Meeting Reminders, and website.

So what can you look forward to this year? ...to make Ring 50 even better ... by offering members the best in magical events, including big-draw lecturers, newly themed member performances, specialty teach-ins and even some field-trip events. And with that, I will soon be reaching out to you again with a brief survey asking what you'd like to see at Ring 50. Remember, it's your Club and your voice is

important (don't let others speak for you).

There will be no "teach-in" this meeting as we organize ourselves at the new location. Also I'm looking for any volunteers and ideas for future "teach-ins.

One last final note, I am so proud to be part of Ring 50. I hope everyone will agree with me when I say that we are a very special community. We have great and long-lasting friendships and still welcome and embrace every new member as part of our growing family. Let's have a fantastic and fun magical year! **Danny**

### Ring 50 New Member Applications

New members voted into Ring 50: **Linda Barrett** (68187R) and **Alec Negri** (25218M). Linda recently moved here from Richmond. She has been doing magic for about 3 years and was a member of Richmond's Ring 180. Alec began magic when he was 6 years old and again when he was 30. About 6 years ago he began performing in restaurants and private gigs on a regular basis. He prefers close-up but can do stand-up as well. Alec is also a member of S.A.M. Assembly 252.

An application for membership in Ring 50 has been received for **Richard Klein** (70611R) of Springfield VA. Richard has been interested in magic or many years and is interested in expanding his magical skills and knowledge.

### IBM Ring 50 Schedule

2012	
Jun 7	Humorous Magi Contest
July	No Ring 50 Meeting
Jul 3-7	IBM Convention Norfolk
Aug 2	Joshua Jay Lecture
Sep 5	Teach-In by Members
Oct 3	ESP/Mentalism Night
Nov 7	Simon Lovell Lecture
Dec 5	Children's Magic Show

## Most Humorous Magician Contest Scheduled for June 7<sup>th</sup>

For great laughs and comical magicians you won't want to miss Ring 50's meeting on June 7<sup>th</sup>. The sixth annual Winton Carroll "Most Humorous Magician" competition will be staged. This event is held in memory of Winton Carroll, a former Ring 50



president, who performed as "The Magical Major" incorporating humor into his act. Ring 50 members attending the show will vote on the winner who displays the most unique humor in their presentation. The winner will be awarded a cash prize donated by Bert Udovin in memory of Winton Carroll as well as a magical staff. Only Ring 50 members with dues paid-up are eligible to compete. **Louis Meyer** is the current titleholder. Contact **Danny Selnick** at (daniel.selnick@yahoo.com) or 202-250-3834 if you would like to enter the contest. **He needs to know 4 days in advance (by 3 June) so the ballots can be printed.**

## Membership

Have YOU brought a prospective member to the meeting? They must be interested in magic and be a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians.

Applications are available from the Treasurer, **Bob Patterson**.

One of the many benefits of belonging to a magic club like Ring 50 is learning from each other. So come, enjoy, and perhaps learn. See you at the meeting.





**Ring 50 Magic Youth International**  
**“The Counts of Conjuring”**

The Counts of Conjuring will continue with the theme “Stage Illusions”. Unfortunately the stage effect (Gut Buster by Andrew Mayne) that was ordered from Penguin Magic had been discontinued. So the Counts leader Theo Rushin presented a smaller but just as powerful effect for Counts of Conjuring - a somewhat impromptu dancing napkin. It used very old principals and very simple materials. All in attendance were satisfied and the meeting was a success.

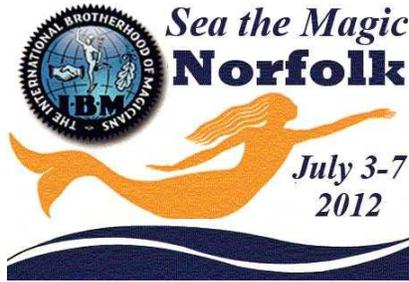
At the next meeting we will be revisiting the theme of Street Magic! As the weather gets warmer and summer approaches it's time to look forward to hitting the pavement and performing!

Don't forget to encourage a youth to attend the Ring 50 MYI. The youth meeting starts at 6:15 pm at Agudas Achim Congregation in Shirlington (Alexandria, VA) for THURSDAY June 7<sup>th</sup> and August 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Youth Ring is open for children ages 7-17. Please let **Theo Rushin**, Chief Instructor for the youth group, know if you are bringing any youths so that we can be better prepared for them.

A reminder that all Counts of Conjuring must become members of IBM and then apply for membership with Ring 50 -- within a few of your first meetings. Should you have any questions on membership, please see Theo or Bob Patterson, Ring 50's treasurer.

See you at the meeting! **Theo**

**Coming Events**



**Marriott Hotel – Norfolk VA**  
**July 3 thru July 7, 2012**

The 2012 I.B.M. Convention will be held in Norfolk Virginia, July 3-7, 2012 at the Norfolk Waterside Marriott Hotel.

There will be three big evening stage shows in the Chrysler Theater! Lectures galore! Optional is a banquet with an exciting cabaret show. Learn from the best in the business with a stellar line-up of lectures and great close-up shows, fantastic youth activities and events are in the works, and some great new activities for spouses, and the Order of Merlin.

The lectures and performers that have been line-up todate are: **Geoff Williams, John Bannon, Dani DaOrtiz, David Acer, Hannibal, Wayne Houchin, Paul Gertner, Master Payne, Chris Capehart, Rich Bloch, and George Saterial.** Also on the schedule is **Chip Romero.** He is taking a break from nearly three decades at sea to show us what he does. **Justin Flom** who once had the Imaginary Theatre in Branson and most recently released Card Artistry will be sharing his newest and most popular material, along with **Vlad Kryvonogov** from the Ukraine and FISM award winner **Arthur Trace.**

The Gold Medal and Gold Cups Contests - often regarded as the best-run contest in magic are always a favorite. The 40+ dealers have uncontested time to show you their latest and greatest and they have even designed a 24 hr hangout area to jam. Yes, there was a bar just feet away too. We have lots more talent



*Augie & Bud have their seats for the Norfolk I.B.M. Convention.*

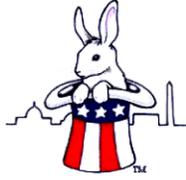
to announce and some very special extras.

**Register early** to get close-in seats and before the price goes up, at [www.Magician.Org](http://www.Magician.Org) or see the I.B.M. International **Registration Chairman, Bob Patterson.**



This year's Kapital Kidvention was reportedly one of the best children entertainers' convention in the last three years. Oscar Munoz, award winning illusionist and humorist, was so surprised at all the events that he is returning next year with a big new lecture and show. If you are a children's entertainer, and didn't attend the Kapital Kidvention, you missed a good one! Keep February 2013 open for the Kapital Kidvention.

Ring 50 members seen at Kapital Kidvention February 10-12, 2012 running the convention was Louis Meyer with Bob Patterson at the Registration Desk. Also seen were: Greg Clements, Laurie Curry, Arnie Fuoco, Eric Henning, Silvia Lett, and Geoff Weber. All of them have expanded their expertise and knowledge at being a children's entertainer.



**Hare ye, Hare ye!!!!**

**Ring 50 will be moving to a new location,  
new day, earlier starting time...**

**Location: Agudas Achim Congregation**

(located just off I-395, Shirlington exit)

2908 Valley Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22302

**Meeting Day: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month**

(except July)

**Agenda/hours:**

- 6:15 pm -- Counts of Conjuring
- 7:05 pm -- Teach-In
- 7:25 pm -- Meeting starts
- 9:30 pm -- Meeting ends

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## **ESTATE AUCTION**

### **THE RICHARD CHRISTIAN COLLECTION**

Assisting the estate of the late Dick Christian, Rich Bloch's *Dickens Parlour Theatre* has agreed to list for auction his sizeable magic and mentalism collection through the e-Bay "Store" that is run in conjunction with the theater.

The collection, amassed over more than 50 years, includes Petrie-Lewis (the extraordinary Blooming Rose Bush will be listed), Milson Worth, Alan Warner, Collectors Workshop, Norm Nielsen (a mint condition vanishing bird cage with custom case, among others) and a huge variety of a working professional's apparatus, gimmicks and tools of the trade.

Additionally, the Estate's book collection is substantial, including the two-volume Christian Fechner Illusion books, Fechner's extraordinary two-volume work on Robert Houdin, the multi-volume Robert Albo series and thousands of other useful and collectible titles.

The items will be listed, and the auction will begin, June 1, 2012, and can be accessed at:

<http://stores.ebay.com/DICKENS-MAGIC>

## **S.A.M. 23 LECTURE – May 16<sup>th</sup>**

### **NATHAN KRANZO's ALL NEW STUFF LECTURE!**

Kranzo is now one of the top magical entertainers in the country. His original magic creations have been published in national and worldwide publications like Magic Magazine, Genii Magazine, The Penumbra, Antinomy, Channel One, and The Linking Ring Magazine. Nathan has performed and lectured all over the United States as well as Canada, Mexico, France, England, Holland, and Japan. Most recently Nathan was a consultant for Penn and Teller's NBC special "Off The Deep End". He is the other half of the TWO PROS TALKING web series AND of the "Mad, Magic & Mental" Stage production with Kieth Fields. Kranzo has also been a columnist for MUM Magazine for the last few years.

This is an **\*EXCLUSIVE\*** benefit lecture for the Society of American Magicians (SAM) Assembly 23. All proceeds go to Assembly 23.

One price includes a dinner buffet AND lecture! Come early for the food and drink and stay for the lecture.

**May 16th, 2012**  
**Dinner Buffet Starts @ 6:00pm**  
**Lecture Starts @ 8:00pm**

**Chapala Restaurant**  
**15530 Old Columbia Pike**  
**Burtonsville, MD 20866**



**Current SAM 23 Members - \$5**  
**Current SAM Members - \$10**  
**All Others - \$20**

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Don't miss the fun: check out what he's going to try to stuff into this lecture!

NO SMOKING ZONE  
PSYCHOMATIC DECK  
THE MEAN COIN ROUTINE  
GRANT'S MAGAZINE TEST UPDATES  
COMEDY THOUGHT OF CARD REVELATION  
MENE TEKEL MIRACLES  
THE GIFT

Plus Kranzo's work with comedy and gags, how to APPROACH PEOPLE WHEN PERFORMING, Kranzo's finesse of The Haunted Pack. All this and much MORE!!! See more and watch clips at [www.KranzoMagic.com](http://www.KranzoMagic.com)

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RSVP NOW! To save your seat, send an email to Theo ([rushint@yahoo.com](mailto:rushint@yahoo.com)) or George ([george@georgebradleymagic.com](mailto:george@georgebradleymagic.com))