



**MAGIC  
ACROSS  
TEXAS**

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Texas Association of Magicians

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***FOR ALL MAGICIANS EVERYWHERE!***



**MESSAGE FROM THE  
PRESIDENT**

It is November and that means that finally the election is behind us. No more political ads. That is something to be thankful for. No matter whether your side won or lost, it is time to get back to what is really important...magic. I do wish the best for you and yours over Thanksgiving.

As for the convention, things are humming right along for next year's TAOM in Frisco. As I said last month, the hotel is fantastic and a great deal at \$119 for a suite with breakfast and cocktail hour every day. The special website link is open to grab your room. <http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/D/DALFSES-TXA-20170830/index.jhtml>

I have been holding off announcing the talent because as we know from past years things change. Talent that is booked often gets conflicts and can't make it. It happens. I was just out in Los Angeles at the Magic Castle to talk to a few of our performers who will be coming. However, we can guarantee that David Copperfield, Chris Angel, David Blaine, Penn

and Teller will most likely not be in Frisco. But there will be great talent and a good mix for newcomers and veterans. Go to the webpage <http://www.taom.org/assoc/2017-convention-registration/> to register for the best seats. It is a heck of a deal at \$175per person and even better for students at \$125.

The rate for the convention goes up at the end of the year, so take advantage of the low rate today before it costs more.

Frank Seltzer  
President TAOM 2017

**Remember to register early for the best seats at the convention! You don't want to miss this one!**

**Go online and register at [TAOM.org](http://TAOM.org)**



### **MICHAEL AMMAR IS COMING...**

Michael Ammar is arguably the world's greatest magic teacher, and he's doing a private workshops in our part of the country. This is a private, live event and will not be broadcast. His Philadelphia workshop last month got INCREDIBLE reviews. Participants will be in a small group where they will REALLY workshop with one of magic's greats, and get 1-on-1 hands-on help as he teaches you his VERY favorite magic tricks. The value of this experience is truly immeasurable.

#### **WORKSHOP SCHEDULE**

##### **Penguin Magic's Dealer booth opens.**

Featuring Brent Braun, showing and selling Penguin's newest and hottest items, some of which aren't even available online.

##### **The Ammar Experience**

Michael Ammar will be teaching hands-on the tricks that he has used for years to make a professional living as a magician.

##### **The Lightning Round**

Michael will teach you 8 amazing tricks in under 15 minutes. All of which can be made up with items you can find or purchase very inexpensively.

##### **15 Minute Break**

##### **The Experience Part 2**

Ammar will return for another 45 minutes to teach the single strongest magic trick he has ever created. Did we mention it's almost self working?

##### **Q&A Session with Michael Ammar.**

This is your chance to ask a master creator, performer, and teacher anything you have ever wanted to ask.

##### **PM Autograph and Picture Session.**

Your chance to get Michael's autograph and photos with a **living legend**.

**Penguin Magic Dealer's booth reopens.**

Brent Braun will stick around as long as you want to share ideas, answer questions, and sell you the best products Penguin offers.

**TOUR SCHEDULE**

Nov 26: Amarillo Michael Ammar EXPERIENCE

<http://penguinmagic.com/p/7660>

Nov 27: Oklahoma Michael Ammar EXPERIENCE

<http://penguinmagic.com/p/7661>

Nov 28: Dallas Michael Ammar EXPERIENCE

<http://penguinmagic.com/p/7662>

Nov 29: Austin Michael Ammar EXPERIENCE

<http://penguinmagic.com/p/7663>

Nov 30: San Antonio Michael Ammar EXPERIENCE

<http://penguinmagic.com/p/7664>

Dec 1: Houston Michael Ammar EXPERIENCE

<http://penguinmagic.com/p/7665>

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**Vinny Grosso**  
**Lecture *Nothing New...Just Different!***

**Monday, January 2, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at IATSE Local 51 Meeting Hall, 3030 North Freeway in Houston. [Click here for directions.](#)**

**Who is Vinny Grosso?** Past National President of The Society of American Magicians, Member of the Inner Magic Circle with Gold Star, world record holder for jumping on broken glass (WRR), tour manager and technical director for artists like Cesar Millan (the dog whisperer), Colin Mochrie & Brad Sherwood (Whose Line), Ina Garten (the "Barefoot Contessa") & Mel Brooks. *Oh, and he is a winner on "Penn and Teller Fool Us"!*

**What's in this lecture?** As the title suggests - unique handling, technique and performance

premises for several existing routines including a tossed out deck (without a deck!), name a card, Kellar rope tie, fish bowl production, confabulation and more. In addition Vinny will discuss his routine Tasteless that fooled Penn & Teller. Vinny will reveal the genesis of the routine, earlier methods and the entire experience. All the behind the scenes info including walking off the stage thinking he didn't fool them!

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## BITS AND PIECES OF INTERESTING STUFF



Three members of The Dallas Magic Clubs are part of a new children's television show that debuted in Dallas, Houston, McAllen, Las Vegas and Sacramento last month. Dal Sanders hosts the show as "The Ringmaster" and Cinde plays "Boopsie The Clown" while Pix Smith performs with his marionettes. Locally, Kartoon Circus can be seen on HOT TV Saturday mornings at 9:30 am and nationally on the AMGTV network at 9:30 am Eastern Time - 8:30 am Central. Check your television provider for details. Click here to see a preview of the show: <https://vimeo.com/191036648#t=10s>

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### John Magic's Theater and Museum

Elaborate stage shows start at 7:00 p.m. every Saturday night and doors open at 7:30 p.m. on Friday's for outstanding close-up magic featuring various magicians. Cody Fisher, Arsene Dupin, Brad Henderson, John Wright and others perform from time to time. The theater is located at 13419 Fitzhugh Road off 290 past Oak Hill west of Austin. You'll need to make reservations by calling 512-289-4461. Go to [www.magicstheater.com](http://www.magicstheater.com) for details.



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### Second Saturday Magic Sale

**Magic, Etc.**, Fort Worth's premier magic shop hosts a Second Saturday Sale every month where magicians can score good savings on props and supplies. Magicians get "special" treatment and special prices. Magic, Etc. is located on Forest Park Boulevard at I-30 in Fort Worth.

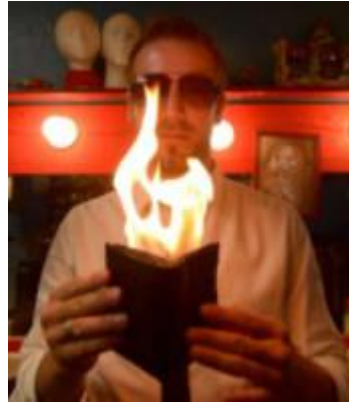
## THE MAGICIAN'S AGENCY IN SAN ANTONIO

Magician **Scott Pepper** is bringing his show, "The Magician's Agency," back to Magik Theatre in San Antonio.

### 'The Magicians Agency'

When: Saturdays and Tuesdays, 7 p.m.,  
Sundays, 2 p.m.

Where: Magik Theatre, 420 S. Alamo Street  
in San Antonio Tickets: \$14.95 for children  
and \$19.95 for adults at [magiktheatre.org](http://magiktheatre.org)



# HUMPERDINKS

*Restaurant & Brewpub*

## Monday Night Magic in Arlington

All magic aficionados are invited to attend informal gatherings at Humperdink's Restaurant at LaQuinta Inn, #6 North Six Flags Drive in Arlington every Monday night. Bring your cards and props to practice your "choips" in the back room.

**But wait...there's more! Second Tuesday TOO!** This special interest group, the Mid-Cities Magic Circle, focuses on performance. They meet on the second Tuesday of each month from 7 to 9:30 at Humperdink's.

The purpose of the Mid-Cities Magic Circle is to provide a venue for Dallas/Fort Worth performing magicians to study their art and improve as public performers. Each meeting focuses on a single theme -- development of performance skills, routines, and other elements important to the public performance of magic.

There is no formal membership, no officers, no notes or minutes. For more information -- forget it! There is simply no one in charge to respond. Just show up on the second Tuesday of the month at Humperdink's and join the fun and magic!



## Shane Wilson and Chris Alonzo at Sakura in Houston

Pearland's superb hibachi restaurant, Sakura, is proud to present the magic talents of **Chris Alonzo** every Friday and **Shane Wilson** every Saturday evening at 7:00 p.m.

### **Cards in South Austin**

The **South Austin Card Group** meets on the last Saturday of each month, usually at the home of Ron Cartledge. Get in touch with Lou Hornung at [lhornung@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lhornung@sbcglobal.net) for details and to be added to the meeting notice distribution list.



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# IMPROV

**In Addison EVERY SUNDAY** at 2:00 p.m. Doors open at 1:00 for lunch and pre-show entertainment. Details at <http://improv.com/>

**In Houston - Ted Schwank and Carter Blackburn** take you on a high-energy adventure in magic, illusion, and comedy. For dates and times, go to <http://mprov.com/>

**In Arlington EVERY SUNDAY** at 2:00 p.m. Various magicians from North Texas will entertain you royally and make you laugh. Details at <http://improv.com/>



### **Magic on the Grill at Tokyohana 3239 Southwest Freeway in Houston**

**David Rangel** coordinates a covey of local area magicians who perform close-up magic every Thursday and Saturday night at Tokyohana Grill and Sushi Bar, 3239 Southwest Freeway, in Houston. Enjoy excellent Oriental cuisine or sit at the sushi bar with top talent magic on the side. Thursdays from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 7:00 - 11:00 p.m.

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# ONE LAST THING



I'm sad to report the passing of two elder statesmen in our world of magic. Bill Amstead and Earle Christenberry are no longer with us.

Bill was a long-time friend from Austin. He died on November 10, 2016 at the age of 95 after a brief illness.

Earle, a life-long Louisianan, was well known in magic circles around the world, having served as I.B.M. President and as life member of S.A.M. and the Magic Circle. He was 89.

Each was a true gentleman in every sense of the word. They will be missed.

The holidays are upon us - Turkey Day, Christmas, New Years and other national celebrations around the world. I hope you take time to appreciate all the good things in your life and your family and friends for a joyous season. Cheers!

Judy Hollingsworth  
TAOM Club Coordinator  
Magic Across Texas Editor  
TAOM Past President