



**Vol. 10, No. 3, March 2019**

### **Message from the President**



As I proceed with the production of this year's convention, the wheels on it seems to be moving faster and faster the closer we get to Aug. 30th. The saving grace that keeps me on track and from losing more of my mind are the fantastic chair people that have volunteered to assist in production of the TAOM 2019 convention for all of you. Come to San Antonio Labor Day Weekend and "Discover Unforgettable Magic" at TAOM 2019.

### **Just Added to the Lineup -- David Charvet**

David is a well-known author of magic books (Alexander: The Man Who Knows and Willard: A Life Under Canvas among others). But David is also a performer with a foot in the past showing great respect for those coming before by recreating some of their signature effects.





### **And.... David Deeble**

David Deeble's career in comedy began at the age of 8 when he joined the Long Beach Mystics, a now-legendary magic club in Long Beach, California. There, he was schooled relentlessly in the importance of being a polished entertainer - not just a magic act.

Why are you waiting to sign up for the TAOM 2019 convention? We have the talent, lecturers, dealers, contests, a great city, a theater for evening shows, even a great price on a River Walk hotel. The city is celebrating our convention as well by declaring Aug. 30–Sept. 2 to be Magic Weekend in San Antonio.

I was able to arrange with the staff of the Magik Theatre a tour of the facilities for the midyear meeting, which will be April 13th at the Hilton Palacio del Rio. We will start by meeting in the hotel lobby at noon to walk over to the theater, then back to the hotel for the meeting and a tour of their facilities.

Should you have any questions about this year's convention, by all means contact me at [taom2019@gmail.com](mailto:taom2019@gmail.com) or by phone (512-799-3176). I might not be able to answer it right away, but you will get an answer. The only bad question is the one not asked. Don't forget to like and follow our Facebook page (Facebook.com/TAOM2019) to keep up with what the latest news, or you can go to <https://www.taom.org/assoc/>

Are you thinking about competing in one or both of the contests that will be happening at the convention? You will have to be registered for the convention. Also did you know that in winning, you will be among the few that will have won the respected and honored TAOM Trophy?

Sal Manfredo  
2019 TAOM President

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# Wine &

Friday & Saturday  
March 22nd & 23rd  
7 & 9:30 pm

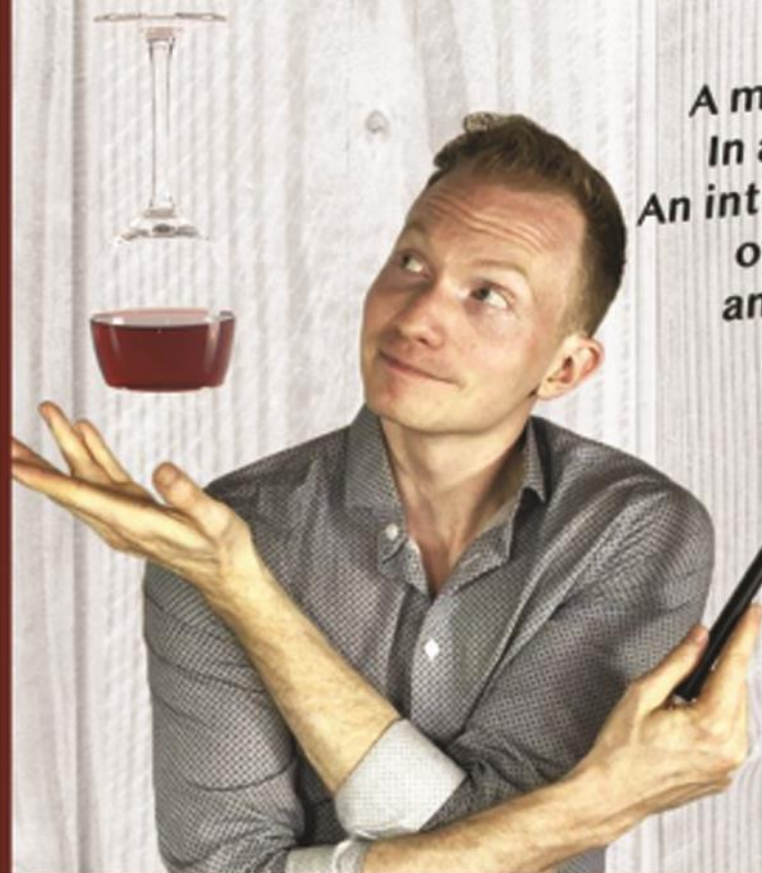


# Magic

[WineAndMagicDallas.com](http://WineAndMagicDallas.com)

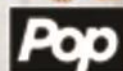
\*Food & drink sold separately

with magician  
Trigg Watson



A magic show.  
In a wine bar.  
An intimate evening  
of libations  
and illusions.

As seen on:



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**NICK PAUL AT MAGIK THEATRE IN  
SAN ANTONIO**

March 22, 24, & 24

Nick Paul is a Los Angeles based magician and comedian. He known for his unique combination of physical comedy and magic. Nick performs worldwide for colleges, fortune 500 companies, cruise ships and theaters and is a regular at the Magic Castle in Hollywood.



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**BEN JACKSON PRESENTS  
Magic, Music, & Mayhem**

*An unforgettable evening of sophistication and  
sorcery*



Ben performs two shows a day on a monthly schedule. Coming up: March 29 & 30\*, April 27 & 28, May 24 & 25, and June 28 & 29. Go to <https://www.benjacksonmagic.com/live/> for tickets. \*March shows are sold out.

Ben's delightful one-man show has moved to the Houston Museum of Natural Science. He has earned numerous awards during his career, the most recent being a trifecta of First Place, People's Choice, and Medal of Merit at the United States National Close-up Magic Competition at the Golden Nugget Casino in Las Vegas. The Medal of Merit has been awarded only 7 times since 1902.

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Amazing  
ATTRACTIONS PRESENTS...

# MAGIC

IN THE  
LIVING  
ROOM

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## APRIL FOOLERS EDITION



**TUESDAY**  
**APRIL 2**  
**7PM.**

**THE LIVING ROOM @ THE LINE** PUBLIC HOUSE  
**\$15 IN ADVANCE · \$20 AT THE DOOR**  
**WWW.MAGICLIVINGROOM.COM**

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## MICHAEL FINNEY LECTURE

Austin - April 6 at 1:00 p.m. at Heroes Night Out, 1150 South Bell in Cedar Park

San Antonio, April 7 at a location to be decided; contact [Jim Cook](#) for details

You know Michael Finney. He is one of the funniest comedy magicians in the world. He has been on countless network television shows, including Comedy Central and Laugh Factory, He has made Card on Forehead an unforgettable routine.

He was a comedy finalist on the television program Star Search, nominated for 'Magician of the Year' by the Magic Castle. received the Silver Lion Head award for excellence in comedy and magic from magicians Siegfried and Roy

Michael was a regular performer on NBC's World's Greatest Magicians and World's Wildest Magic shows, Now, he performs primarily corporate and charity events and at casinos.

It is not often we get a magician of Micheal Finney's caliber to come and lecture to us. This is one you will not want to miss.



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## THOM PETERSON LECTURE

Dallas - April 7 at 2:00 p.m., 8330 LBJ Freeway, 8th floor Room B838

Houston - April 9 at 7:30 p.m., IATSE Meeting Hall, 3030 North Freeway



Thom Peterson

THE  
AMAZING  
GUY



In this lecture Thom will be drawing on his 30+ years as a full-time performer to provide a great mix of Stand-Up and Close-Up material — not stuff that was developed just for a lecture, but the stuff he actually uses day-in and day-out. No knuckle-busting pipe-dreams here, but stuff you can immediately slot into your regular performing repertoire! There's something for everyone in this lecture. Whether you're a seasoned pro or just getting started in magic, you're sure to get something fun and functional out of Thom's lecture.

Join Thom for an evening of fun explanations, and find out why he truly is, "The Amazing Guy!"

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### **MAGIC AT THE GASLIGHT**

Theatre goers in Lockhart and surrounds will be delighted and mystified by the magic of Don Moravites, Paul Amerson, John Murphy and Trixie Bond April 13. The theatre is located at 216 South Main in Lockhart. Shows start at 2 and 6 p.m. Great magic at a lovely theatre!



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### **JOE LIBBY AND FRIENDS AT KING WILLIAM FAIR IN SAN ANTONIO**



Famed ventriloquist Joe Libby will entertain at the King William Fair on April 27 in the King William Historic District of San Antonio. Come out and enjoy the fair and watch Libby amaze you with feats of ventriloquism.

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# EXPERIENCE



WILL BAFFLE'S

FAMILY  
FUN

# SHOW OF WONDERS

FOR ALL  
AGES

# MAGIC



AND



# ILLUSIONS

## APRIL 28TH, 2019

## 2PM & 4PM

**FARR  
REST**  
*Theater*

109 N MAIN ST  
MANSFIELD TX  
76063

PRESENTED BY:



FOR TICKETS AND INFO



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## SCOTT ALEXANDER LECTURE

Dallas - April 28, 2:00 p.m. at 8330 LBJ Freeway, 8th Floor, Room B838

Houston - April 30, 7:30 p.m., IATSE Meeting Hall, 3030 North Freeway

Scott's lecture is a sparkling cocktail of time tested effects, with some of his own clever twists. He will cover the ins-and-outs of serving up a well-rounded stand up show program. He provides you with a recipe of how to blend trick selection with audience engagement, levels of interest, and how to play the small stuff bigger. Scott tips some of his stand-up routines from his Standing Up On Stage Video Series featuring the Chop Cup, Invisible Deck, Ring Flight, and Cards Across. He talks about the importance of opening strong and conveying your personality early with his hilarious Candle to Flower Routine.



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### Down the road....

May 10 - Justin Willman on stage at the House of Blues in Dallas

May 12 - Dallas Magic Club Banquet and Show with Kerry Pollack & Ruben Vilagrando

May 18 - Experimental Magic at Confetti Eddie Magic Parlor in Dallas

May 21 - Nathan Kranzo Lecture in Houston

May 25 - Parlor Magic Show at Confetti Eddie Magic Parlor in Dallas

May 26 - Glen Morphew Lecture in Dallas

May 27 - Houston Assn. of Magicians Annual Picnic & Show with Michael Vincent

October 26 - Shin Lim at the Majestic Theater in Dallas

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## BITS AND PIECES OF INTERESTING STUFF



### MAGICIAN OF THE YEAR - SCOTT HOLLINGSWORTH

Houston's magic icon, Scott Hollingsworth, was honored as the Houston Association of Magicians' "Magician of the Year" at the Annual Installation of Officers Banquet and Show on February 17, 2019.

This is his fifth time in taking this prestigious award. Scott has exemplified the spirit of Magic in Houston for decades, having been the Entertainment Director for Houston's Magic Island for over 20 years. He still performs regularly throughout south Texas and beyond and is an excellent ambassador for our clubs. His dedication to the art and multi-layered participation in the three Houston Magic Clubs and civic contributions make him one of the busiest magicians in Texas.

Congratulations, Scotty. Some people clap; some people throw money; but all we can say is "WOW!"

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### JACOB RANGEL AWARDED

For the first time in over a decade, the Junior Magic Award was presented by the Houston Association of Magicians to Jacob Rangel at our annual Installation of Officers Banquet in 2019. Jacob Rangel who exemplifies the commitment and passion for magic and serves as an example to other young magicians.

Jake has a YouTube Channel called "Curiously Enquiring" where he does interviews and a travelogue of his magical adventures. He meets interesting people he meets on his journey. Be sure to subscribe to his YouTube Channel at:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyTIVVTxR0>



Congratulations, Jake. We look forward to watching you continue your magical journey in life.

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## **RING 39 RECOGNIZES BURT ROSENBLUTH**

Burt Rosenbluth was presented with the prestigious IBM Ring 39 Bob Blau Award at the Annual Installation of Officers Banquet in 2019. This award is not given out every year; only when someone has done something of exceptional merit for the club. This past year, Burt has spent a great deal of his time researching magic history and making it come alive at the I.B.M. Ring 39 meetings. Each month Burt gives a presentation about some aspect of magic that is of interest to our community and reveals little-known facts that enlighten and educate us all on our rich magical heritage.

Thank you, Burt, for your service and congratulations on earning this award.

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### **Mid-Cities Magic Circle...**

Meeting the second Tuesday of every month at Humperdink's in Arlington at 7 for dinner. Magic gets underway about 8 p.m. The topic is "Your Favorite Trick". Bring any trick and perform. Check out Mid-Cities Magic Circle on Facebook for more details!



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!

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# **IMPROV**

## THE IMPROV IN ADDISON...

Mike Williams heads up an all star line-up in Addison every other weekend. It's Comedy and Magic that you won't want to miss.

Visit [www.improvaddison.com](http://www.improvaddison.com) for show information or to purchase tickets.

CELEBRATING 12 YEARS OF MAGIC!

"Funny beyond belief!"

**Family Comedy  
& Magic Show**  
For All Ages

Starring Mike Williams

Saturday at 2pm



Addison Improv Comedy Club  
[www.ImprovAddison.com](http://www.ImprovAddison.com)



## THE IMPROV IN ARLINGTON...

Mike Squires headlines shows at The IMPROV in Arlington on alternate Saturdays. Mike will casually blow your mind. Doors open at 1:00.

Go to [www.improvarlington.com](http://www.improvarlington.com) for tickets.

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## John Magic's Theater and Museum in Austin

Elaborate stage shows start at 7:00 p.m. every Saturday night with family-friendly magic entertainment. Friday evenings feature close-up magic by John Magic and Chris English. Private close-up shows are available Monday through Thursday by appointment.

The theater is located at 13419 Fitzhugh Road off 290 past Oak Hill west of Austin. Buy your ticket at the door or make reservations at

<http://www.magicstheater.com>

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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.

### **Thrifty Third Thursday**

**Magic, Etc. and Fort Worth Costume** started a new monthly gathering of magicians from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. You are invited to wheel and deal for the best buys ever only at Fort Worth's own Magic, Etc. and Fort Worth Costume.

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# **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 "chops" in the back room.

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**Cards in South Austin**  
**MEETING DATE CHANGED TO**  
**SECOND SATURDAYS**

Cardicians in Austin get together once a month to swap moves and stories, routines and fun. To confirm times, locations, and dates and for more info, contact Lou Hornung at [lhornung@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lhornung@sbcglobal.net)



### **MAGICIANS' INSURANCE**

S.A.M. has a new insurance policy that is much better than the previous one offered. Here are some numbers!

Old policy with Specialty Insurance; rate was \$283. The new carrier is PEEP Insurance Agency (Performing Entertainers & Event Professionals) and costs \$175 for the same coverage. The General Liability limits are \$1,000,000 per occurrence with a \$2,000,000 aggregate. PEEP also offers free Additional Insured Certificates (downloadable) that are processed instantly 24/7 using the self service portal. It also offers optional equipment coverage of \$15,000 insured value, coverage for audience volunteers and other great benefits. For info, go to <https://www.magicsam.com/page/Insurance>

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# In Memoriam



## **Donald Billings 1943-2019**

Long-time TAOM member Donald Billings passed away on March 5, 2019 at his home in Houston at the age of 75.

Don was a dedicated and devout Mason his entire life. He became a Demolay at the age of 13. In 1968 he was raised to Third Degree Master Mason. Later Don became an Arabian Shriner and held numerous staff positions. In 1973, Don devoted his passion to becoming a Arabia Shrine Clown.

He would go on to spend 41 years with the Shrine Circus. On August 30th 2018, he became a 50 year Master Mason.

Don held a passion for magic. In addition to TAOM, he was a member of the Houston Association of Magicians and Ring 39 of the International Brotherhood of Magicians. In earlier years, he performed frequently at hospitals and for charity events. He often performed and lectured at magic club meetings. At the HAOM Annual Installation Banquet and Show In 2017, he received the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award from I.B.M. Ring 39.

Don is survived by his loving wife Darla, three children, and four grandchildren.





## FAREWELL, JOHNNY THOMPSON

Johnny Thompson, who was revered among magicians not only for his own deft performances but also as a teacher, advice-giver and historian of the field, died on March 9 in Las Vegas. He was 84. the cause was complications of respiratory failure.

Johnny, whose colorful résumé also included stints playing bass harmonica with Jerry Murad's Harmonicats, was well known to casino, cruise ship and television audiences as the Great Tomsoni, a pompous caricature of a magician. His act, full of deadpan humor and often performed with his wife, Pamela Hayes, as his indifferent assistant, left spectators laughing so much that they might not have fully appreciated that they were also seeing expertly executed tricks.

Magicians and audiences around the world are laughing and crying -- remembering the great joy he brought and sad that he is no more.

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### MARSHALL BRODIEN

*So long, Wizzo*

Beloved Chicago celebrity, Marshall Brodien (84) passed away peacefully early morning on March 8, 2019. He may be best known for creating the Marshall Brodien Magic sets and TV magic cards with his famous tagline, "Magic is easy, once you know the Secret."



He's also fondly remembered as the magical, wacky character Wizzo on Chicago's Bozo Show for 26 years. Marshall, aka Wizzo, would wave his stone of Zanzibar and say the magic words, "Do-dee-do-dee-do".

He was drafted into the army in 1957 and commissioned to the Special Services Entertainment Division at Fort Carson, Colorado. He performed more than 700 shows at hospitals, officer's clubs, and private parties over his two years in the military. Marshall continued entertaining by performing magic and stage hypnosis at lounges, clubs, and county fairs as well working as a trade show spokesperson for corporations such as Owens-Corning Fiberglass, Bethlehem Steel, Reynolds Aluminum, and the American Gas Association.

Marshall's charisma and gentle spirit drew people to him from all walks of life. Fans, neighbors, and long and short time acquaintances called him friend, because that is how he treated everyone he met. He wouldn't hesitate to stop and talk or offer a tour through his home museum. Well-mannered and thoughtful, caregivers testified to his gratitude for their assistance until the very end.

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# ONE LAST THING

## Practice Time

Any time is the right time to practice your magic. The best tool you can use to improve your skills is a video. Watching the moves, listening to each word, and making minor adjustments can make the difference between an "OK" performance and an outstanding one.

You were probably overwhelmed with all the flyers and announcements in this month's issue of Magic Across Texas, but it's a GOOD THING. The more magic that's out there, the more the public will want! Please send me info about your public performances and your club's activities.



Judy Hollingsworth  
TAOM Club Coordinator