



Volume 11, No. 7 July 2020



Message from the President 2020 Perfect Vision for TAOM

Family and friends of the Texas
Association of Magicians,

Well, in spite of our best efforts and most optimistic hopes, our beloved 75th Annual TAOM convention became a casualty of the COVID-19 virus.

We reluctantly gave in amidst tightening state regulations and moving standards. We began months ago by complying with socially distant seating where every seat was six feet from every other seat. Then we realized that we could fit more people into the ballrooms by using what has come to be called "familial seating" - where families, or groups who registered together can safely sit together. Either way, we realized that we could not fit enough people in the ballroom. Additionally, we agreed to move all the close-up shows, lectures, and the close-up contest to the big stage and use cameras, projectors, and big screens. The previously-designated close-up breakout rooms became dealer rooms with two or three dealers per room - social distance compliant style.

We worked with our hotel to establish distancing using the six-foot-separator "Wait Here" signs and elevator maximums. Among ourselves, we hashed out conference room maximums for the dealer space; how many people can be at a dealer table or in a dealer room at once? The hotel had implemented Plexiglas dividers over the customer service counters. They agreed to provide a breakfast buffet served by masked employees, as well as a variety of box lunch choices.

After a final meeting with the hotel during the last full week of June, we thought we had it all addressed. Then Governor Greg Abbott announced his plans to tighten the re-opening criteria regarding public gatherings. Dealers began to cancel. Our out-of-country talent complained of having to deal with a 2-week quarantine procedure coming across. Once we added in the Covid precautions we had to make and the reduced registration maximums, and it suddenly became impossible to conduct a reasonable gathering of any sort.

From the standpoint of the President of the Texas Association of Magicians, what could be more disappointing - right? The convention is to be the president's finest hour; that one shining moment; the chance to hold court at one of the biggest magic parties in the country. The culmination of over two years of hard work, negotiating, and planning all come to fruition at once, and you, the president, are overseeing it all. This is the defining moment for the president - right? NOPE. Not for this president.

The defining moment for this president was to act to ensure our association's members, magicians, and family can all stay safe. I never signed on to be the host of a big party or the ring leader to a celebration...just to guide the ship to a safe destination. I signed on to do a job serving and leading to my best ability. The 2020 TAOM will not go down as the time we failed or were not tough enough to hold our convention. We had already done all the hard work. All that was left was to kick back, reap the

rewards, and enjoy the convention. In contrast, the 2020 TAOM will go down as the time we were tough enough to make the correct decision, in spite of how difficult and heart-breaking that decision was to make, and implement.

Am I bummed that we could not realize our efforts with a culminating convention? YES. But, it does not define us. We proudly and humbly hand over the mantle to Bertil Fredstrom and the Austin team, and wish them the best for 2021.

So, in contrast to being disappointed about our non-convention, we celebrate Texas Magic. How fortunate are we to have the Texas Association of Magicians? I contend that no other state has a regional convention that attracts the attention, talent, and respect that the TAOM does. There are years that the TAOM rivalled (and occasionally outdrew) the big-boy conventions of SAM and IBM. I grew up in a place that did not have such a convention; such an outlet; such an organization. What an opportunity the TAOM is for our youth, our adults, and our magicians.

In the stead of the 2020 convention, we will certainly will offer a virtual event evening show. It will be no substitute for the in-person TAOM experience that we all know and love. However, it will serve as a place-holder, and a chance to say, "Hello Texas." If nothing else, it will be a slot in time to remember that life is all about choices. During this time, I choose not to focus on the disappointment that the convention was cancelled. I choose to shelter and heal at home, practice my magic, perfect my craft, and to evaluate myself and my values. I choose to ensure that I am treating my brother as I want to be treated. I encourage you all to do a similar cleanse.

I hope to see all of you soon at the Austin TAOM convention, in 2021, when we can share all of our scary and crazy stories in person. Until next month, take care, stay safe, and as always, thank you for making Texas magic great!

Joey Byers
Your 2020 TAOM President

(Please tune to the TAOM 2020 Facebook page or www.taom.org/2020 for information about the September 5 virtual convention evening show.)



NICK DIFFATTE RESCHEDULED IN DALLAS

The Dallas Magic Club's Annual Banquet has been rescheduled again and will be combined with the annual Holiday Party in December. Las Vegas comedian/magician Nick Diffatte is still on board to be the entertainment. Watch these pages for details closer to the time.

TRIGG WATSON RETURNS TO CW...

MASTERS OF ILLUSION, hosted by Dean Cain, is celebrating their seventh anniversary season on The CW. Texas' own Trigg Watson will be featured on two different 30-minute episodes airing back to back on Friday, July 23, 2020 at 8:00 p.m./7:00 p.m. and at the same times on July 24th.



BITS AND PIECES OF INTERESTING STUFF

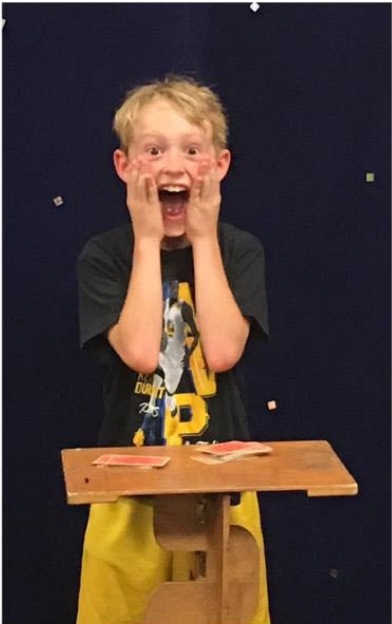
A promotional poster for the 'Cyber Magic Super Star' competition. The poster features four judges: Sam Powers (host), Max Maven, Shin Lim, and Franz Harary. The text reads 'Hosted By Sam Powers The World's Biggest Online Magic Competition CYBER-MAGIC Super Star'. There is a logo for 'Proudly Supporting GetUpPPE.org' and a sign that says 'WIN US \$10,000 CASH'. A glowing blue and pink magic hat is at the bottom center.

ONLINE MAGIC COMPETITION

Would you like a chance to win \$10,000 USD, a chance to win some great magic, and raise money to help purchase PPE for hospital workers? You're in luck!

Host Sam Powers along with judges Max Maven, Shin Lim, and Franz Harary, are looking for your best sleight of hand, mentalism or grand illusion. There is a \$5 USD entry fee. [CLICK HERE](#)

School Closed?
Take an online magic course!



A True
Magician is...

- Respectful
- Prepared
- Enthusiastic
- Confident
- Humble
- Creative
- Authentic
- Giving



DALLAS MAGIC ACADEMY

For details go to <http://www.dallasmagicacademy.com/>

Broken Wand Ceremony for Ramon Galindo

Monday, July 27, 2020 at 7:00 pm CST

Watch live stream on YouTube:

Everyone is welcome to view the event through the live YouTube broadcast, which will begin Monday, July 27, at 7:00 pm at this link: <https://youtu.be/7aSboSHDWN0>

Please share this information with anyone you know who might want to participate!

Participate to share personal stories:

The event will be broadcast from Kent's Cabaret Theatre in the Fantastic Magic Center in Georgetown, Texas. If you would like to attend in person, write kent@magichotline.com to request a seat.

If you cannot attend in person but would still like to share a personal story, here is the information to sign in via Zoom:

Join Zoom Meeting

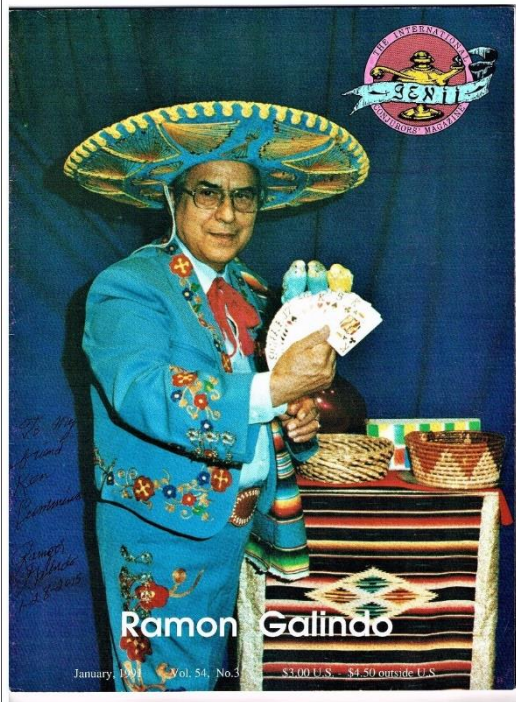
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82718412031?pwd=dzcyQlhXRXFibWJpOWsvWEJnMHltZ09>

Meeting ID: 827 1841 2031

Passcode: parakeet

We will show some video, share some stories, and view some memorabilia. Kent Cummins will conduct the official Broken Wand Ceremony.





**Rest in Peace - RAMON GALINDO
1921 to 2020**

Many years ago, Ramón Galindo secured his place in magic history.

“He breathed magic,” said his daughter, Josie Galindo Caballero. “It was everything to him.” She remembers growing up wondering why every kid wanted to come to her birthday parties. Guests would often offer her candies and other treats hoping she would reveal her father’s magic tricks.

In 1961, Hurricane Carla slammed into the Texas Gulf Coast, sending evacuees to what was then Austin’s City Coliseum. Josie remembers her father taking her as a young girl to the coliseum where he performed magic for all the children whose lives had been turned upside down.

She became his magic assistant, and later a magic coach to her son who inherited his grandfather’s fascination for the art. He was also a mentor and a friend to many of Texas’ top magicians.

Galindo traveled around the performing his magic and was a longtime member of the Texas Association of Magicians, but he was more than that. He was also a World War II veteran, an award-winning film maker, successful businessman, a tailor, and entrepreneur, an inventor, and a photo historian that captured life in Austin life well into his later years. Ramón died in his sleep on July 2, 2020, in the Travis Heights home he had shared for more than six decades with his late wife, Pauline Santos Galindo. He was 99.



He was born near Monterrey, Mexico, but his family immigrated to Central Austin where he was raised in the city’s Mexican American community. After fighting in World War II, where he fought in the Battle of the Bulge, Ramón launched Ace Custom Tailors in downtown Austin. Over the years, Galindo’s clientele included a young Texas congressman named Lyndon B. Johnson as well as blues guitarist Jimmie Vaughan. This of course explains his amazing costumes for his magic acts.



From Galindo's tailor shop, he also set up a studio to produce and edit films. He captured Austin's changing neighborhoods, businesses, and people in hundreds of hours of footage. He eventually became a valued resource at the Austin History Center.

Galindo chronicled his time during World War II and beyond for the Voices Oral History Project at the University of Texas. Maggie Rivas-Rodriguez, founder and director of the project said; "He had the mind of an observer and he was curious about everything." Galindo recounted in his oral history interview how he'd never forget walking into Adolf Hitler's headquarters in the immediate aftermath of World War II as part of the U.S. Army's 571st Anti-Aircraft Automatic Weapons Battalion. Galindo's battalion was stationed in Hitler's headquarters after the war. "I didn't realize I was sitting in a building that was going to be a big part of history," Galindo said in his 2010 interview. [CLICK HERE](#) to read that story.

You can also [CLICK HERE](#) to hear Ramón talk about his career as a photographer, film maker, tailor and a magician. There is also some great footage of him performing his act on this page.

Ramón Galindo was a magician revered all over the world. He leaves an enormous legacy.

ONE LAST THING



Boohoo! Nobody loves me; everybody hates me. I'm goin' off and eat worms. (Remember that from you you were a kid??)

I asked for you to help me get more people signed up for Magic Across Texas, but my email distribution list hasn't changed except for one addition. And that was a nice guy from Houston who found us on his own.

Please make the announcement for me at your next online meeting that EVERYONE can get Magic Across Texas FREE every month. Just send an email to taomnews@yahoo.com

We need this brotherhood more than ever in these trying times.

Judy Hollingsworth
Editor, Magic Across Texas

p.s. Please check your club's listing to make sure the contact information is correct. Let me know.

MAGIC CLUBS IN TEXAS

**All magic club meetings are being held online until further notice.
Please contact each club for log-in information.**

AUSTIN - IBM Ring 60

First Monday at 7:00 p.m. except January and September

I.H.O.P at 11654 Research Boulevard in Austin

Contact: president@ibmring60.org

AUSTIN - SAM ASSEMBLY 206

Third Monday at 7:00 p.m.

Various Locations

Contact bertilfredstrom@hotmail.com or magicpta@gmail.com

CORPUS CHRISTI - IBM RING 157

First Thursday at 6:00 p.m.

Ronald McDonald House at 3402 Fort Worth Street in Corpus Christi

Contact: douglasjp3@yahoo.com

DALLAS MAGIC CLUB - IBM RING 174 & SAM ASSEMBLY 13

Third Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

Addison Treehouse at 14681 Midway Road in Addison

Contact: dalsanders@stagemagic.com

<http://www.dallasmagic.org/>

FORT WORTH - IBM RING 15 and FORT WORTH MAGICIANS CLUB, INC.

First Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at 4055 International Plaza

Call 817-606-7770 for details

Contact: fortworthmagiciansclub@hotmail.com

FORT WORTH - SAM ASSEMBLY 138

Third Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Illusion Warehouse at 3917 McCart Avenue in Fort Worth

Contact: communication@allianceofillusionists.com

HOUSTON - IBM RING 39

Fourth Monday at 7:00 p.m. except May and December

Bayou Manor at 4141 South Braeswood in Houston

Contact: judy4birds@yahoo.com

<http://www.houstonmagic.com>

HOUSTON - SAM ASSEMBLY 19

First Monday at 7:00 p.m. except September

I.A.T.S.E. Union Hall at 3030 North Freeway in Houston

Contact: milesroot@aol.com

<http://www.houstonmagic.com>

LUBBOCK MAGIC CLUB

First Monday at 7:00 p.m.
John Ransom's Home, 6405 CR 7410
Contact: drhonea@gmail.com
<http://facebook.com/magicclublubbock>

MID-CITIES MAGIC CIRCLE
Second Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
The Golden Coral, 465 East I-20 in Arlington
Facebook: "Mid-cities magic circle"

SAN ANTONIO - IBM RING 18
Fourth Thursday at 7:30 p.m.
Beethoven Hall at 422 Perida Street in San Antonio
Contact: paul.mims@hotmail.com

SAN ANTONIO - SAM ASSEMBLY 52
First Thursday at 7:30 p.m.
The Longhorn Café, 12311 Nacogdoches Road
Contact: dougorman@att.net
