

International Brotherhood of Magicians RING NO. SIX

Delaware Valley Conjurers Club

Newsletter



JUNE 1994

Notice is hereby given that the next stated meeting of the Delaware Valley Conjurers Club will be held on Monday, June 13, 1994, at 7:30 post meridiem. How long has it been since we've had a lecture? I don't know either, but we're having one Monday night. Hispanic legend Jose de la Torre will be lecturing on knives, close-up, and stand-up. Since his fee is a little higher than that to which we're accustomed, we will have to charge accordingly: \$5 for members, \$8 for others. Use the money you made at last month's auction.

Yes, I know that this newsletter is later than usual, but I have an excuse. This past week I've been subjected to the raging hormones of a teenage daughter and (1) the Senior Prom, (2) graduation, and (3) Senior Week. If I start speaking in tongues, you'll understand.

As an added bonus Monday night, we will be anarchous, as Prez Dave "Commando" Kelly will be off on yet another of his military junkets at the taxpayers expense.

Before Dave left for the wilds of Quantico, he presented me with an idea for the July meeting (what's that? planning ahead?). Dave received a couple of video catalogs from some company in California. They're basically dealer demo's on tape, but Dave said some of the presentations were worth watching (translation: watch, learn, use). So, somehow Dave will get a TV and VCR to the church in July for Video Night.

Up and Coming Events:

June 18 - Magi-Conn, Waterbury, CT.

July 1-8 - IBM Convention, Orlando, FL.

July 13-16 - SAM Convention, Chicago, IL.

Reminder: MAES in Carlisle, September 8-10. Rick Westhafer at 717.671.9272.

Next Month: July. Video Night. Popcorn optional.



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BROKEN WAND CEREMONY
in memory of
JACK STECK
Magician and Friend
June 21, 1994

Although we have gathered together in the shadow of a great loss, we have also moved out into the sunlight of a precious memory.

We cannot help but feel that our colleague in conjuring is away between visits, perhaps bringing sunshine and happiness to others through the power of his magical gifts.

Jack was drawn into our fraternal circle by his interest in the mysteries of Magic, but he has now learned a still deeper secret, one that is withheld from even the greatest of magicians until the day of separation from this life.

Jack Steck is not gone. He has simply preceded us in mounting a stage upon which all of us must someday play a role. He has read a script which still remains unseen by those of us on this side of tomorrow's curtain.

Some persons so lift the environment in which they live that all people walk on higher ground. Through the Art of Magic, our friend Jack was able to bring liveliness to the hour, joy to the spirit, and stimulation to the mind.

Since time immemorial, the wand has symbolized the power through which the miracles of Magic are consummated. As long as our friend Jack wielded this wand, it gave amazing life to the feats of wizardry he performed. His knowledge of the inner secrets of this timeless craft developed under the shield of this instrument. Without its master to control it, the wand is devoid of its vital force. It becomes but a stick which others would sully were they to employ it.

Friends, the breaking of the wand symbolizes the turning over of our brother's spirit into the keeping of the ages.

Jack's life has taken a new form in our own inner perception. The good that he has done lives on; memories of him left within us will not die. We now entrust his spirit and legacy to the ages. The seal is set upon all that was noble, uplifting, and eternal in him.

May we render a worthy tribute to our friend Jack, by picking up the burdens he has laid down, perpetuating the best for which he stood, and enhancing the Art which brought him such pleasures. May the sense of wonder that makes life worth living, the act of sharing that creates a warmer fellowship, and the creative process that lifts all persons together grow stronger as we leave this service of memory.

Amen.