

The International Brotherhood of Magicians Ring #6

"The Delaware Valley Conjurers Club"

May 29, 2001

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Hello fellow conjurers,

I hope everyone enjoyed their Holiday weekend and now you're back to the grind. Here's something to look forward to-our June meeting is going to be great!

We will be discussing one of the most difficult, yet profitable venues in magic - **Strolling Magic!** This is magic that can be done in virtually any situation, right in the hands with no tables! Very popular today in hospitality suites, cocktail parties and the like. It's also something all of us are asked to do at some point, even if it's just at a family party.

We are very blessed in our group to have some of the greatest magicians in the country right under our noses! That is who will be sharing their experience with us at the meeting! First, **Alton Knight** will be conducting the teach-a-trick segment. He is a very accomplished magician and a terrific "stroller" in his own rights.

Next, **Marc DeSouza** and **Dick Gustafson** will lead a panel of experts on the topic. There will be plenty of time for hands-on training and questions. These guys are the best and you really don't want to miss this very informative and fun evening!

See you at 7:30 p.m. on June 11th!

Member Profile - by Aurelio Pontarelli

DAVE KELLY:

You may not realize that we actually have a Colonel (and a veteran of Desert Storm) in our midst. Look for someone quietly jotting down notes for the Linking Ring and you'll find him. Dave Kelly bought himself a REMCO "Sneaky Pete Magic Set with some Christmas money when he was about 10 years old. The set was great, including several small illusions such as a Mirror Box and a Sawing in Half Doll! He performed many shows as a kid with this set, by then he discovered Kanter's Magic shop in Philadelphia. His purchases were few and far between because he didn't have any money, but the Kanter's catalogue got a lot of use in creating dreams of magic!

Like many of us he enjoyed watching Mark Wilson's Magic Land of Alakazam on TV and also the Magic Ranch show, but only rarely saw live magic, mainly magicians who appeared on the Steel Pier in Atlantic City.

Like many of us, he drifted away from performing in high school and college, but kept hold of most of his magical treasures and books. He served in the Marine Corps for three years of active duty, and began a career as a coach and high school teacher after release from active duty.

During his honeymoon his wife Terrie and he went to his first real live illusion type show, the touring company of Doug Henning's "The Magic Show". But what really rekindled his interest in magic was a course in Magic at Delaware County Community College in 1978. After completing the basic and advanced course with an excellent teacher, Mike Adelman, he continued to meet with several of the students including Mark Bruley, Gil Cacciutti, and Joe Van Hart. When John Wade joined the group, they formed the Delaware County Conjurers' Club, the start of our present ring. At first they met in each other's homes, but soon began to meet at the old Fireside Restaurant in Springfield. While secretary, he started the first club newsletter, a little ditto one page thing that he ran off at his school! Greer Cheeseman took it over and published it for many years after that.

Dave served as president of the club at least twice over the years, and was a member when we decided to affiliate with the IBM in the 1980s. He also helped to stage manage some of our public shows at the Marple Players Club. But one of his most important jobs is submitting the ring reports to The Linking Ring.

While doing all of this, he also kept teaching and managed to stay active in the Marine Corps reserve. He often uses magic while doing presentations to military classes all over the country. When he performs today, it is mostly for birthday parties and club-type events, as well as holiday performances in his high school classes.

Dave claims to be one of the "dinosaurs" of the club, there from the beginning and still loving all the magic that he learns and shares with the members. Heck, he also got to meet people like Jeff McBride and Harry Blackstone, Jr., at our club.

Coming soon:

July - "Best & Worst" Night - This should be a hoot! Everyone is encouraged to bring their best & their worst magic purchases and share them with the club!

August - Restaurant Night - Come out and enjoy fine Oriental cuisine with your magic friends and share a few pet routines as well!

September - Lecture - We had a scheduling conflict with our previously announced lecturer and we are working to bring someone else in. Not to fear, we'll get you someone even better!

October 20 - Annual Public Show!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

This is our big fundraiser for the year and a wonderful time. I am meeting with the theater on Monday and will have all the details for you at the next meeting. We will need tons of help, both behind-the-scenes and on stage! I will have opportunities for everyone! Save the date now!

October & November are our contest meetings. Get your acts together now and have an opportunity to win some great prizes!!! These are much, much better than previous years and you have to be a member to compete, don't forget your dues!

That's it for this month, short and sweet! See you on the 11th!