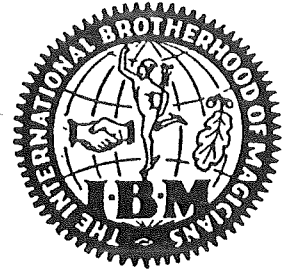




International Brotherhood of Magicians  
RING NO. SIX



## Delaware Valley Conjurers Club

# Newsletter

JANUARY 1992

Notice is hereby given that the next stated meeting of the Delaware Valley Conjurers Club will be held on Monday, January 13, 1992, at 8:00 post meridiem. The program for this Monday evening is that old chestnut, Bring-A-Trick-And-Perform-It Night. Hopefully, you all got some new magic tricks and/or books for Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanzaa, or whatever you celebrate, and this is the perfect opportunity to try out something new.

Election results: In an unprecedented move, President Mark "Boris Yeltsin" Bruley staged a mini-coup of his own by postponing elections until this month. If we have enough members show up Monday night, we can overthrow the tyrant and put in power somebody we like. You better come and vote, or you might wind up in office.

Guess what? It's a new year, and time for my annual Plea for Dues. Pay your \$10 now, and perhaps avoid the increase the new Executive Bored may impose.

Trivia alert: This year marks the 600th anniversary of "modern" playing cards. It was back in 1392 that the court painter to King Charles VI of France designed the new setup of 52 cards and 4 suits. Each suit represented a class of French society: spades for the soldiers, clubs for the farmers, hearts for the clergy, and my favorite, diamonds for the artisans, because they wore those funny diamond-shaped hats. I've done some further extensive research and have discovered that the very first four ace trick was performed shortly thereafter. History does not mention whether the performer was applauded or pelted with stones.

VCR Alert: The National Geographic Explorer, a show on cable's TNT channel, will feature a segment about an Abbott's Get-Together. Air times: Sunday, January 12, 9:00 p.m., Monday, January 13, 12:05 a.m., and Saturday, January 18, 10:05 a.m.

Philadelphia Magic Co. update: (1) David Harkey will be in for a lecture on Wednesday, February 5. (2) Spectacular III is still set for Sunday, March 29. Any questions, call Marty or Danny at 215.627.5128.

Here's an amazing fact: on January 2, 1992, Jack "Forever Young" Steck turned 95! In tribute, let me give you one of my favorite Steckisms, replayed recently in Edgar Williams' column in The Philadelphia Inquirer. When asked for an instant one-liner about *virtue*, Jack replied, "Our virtues we learned at our mother's knee; our vices we have picked up in other joints." Accompanying the article in the paper was a picture of Jack that was taken, I'd guess, around 1935.

Next month: February - the new bored takes over.