



The Apparition



Garrett Thomas Lectures in February!

Garrett Thomas, a close up magician based out of the Western NY area, has made a name for himself as a master prestidigitator and as an innovator within the world of magic.

As a magician, Thomas is known for being not only one of the top card, coin, and ring manipulators; but also as a magician who thinks deeply about the

psychology of what is "real" magic. His original effects and extreme technical skill culminate in highly visual, entertaining routines.

This combination of imagination and skill has led to him being sought out by other world class magicians as a personal instructor as well as a consultant.

Thomas also teaches novice

magicians and has produced several instructional books and videos on the subjects of coin, card and ring manipulation. In addition to this, he often travels worldwide to present lectures on magic and performance art for such groups as the International Brotherhood of Magicians, the University of Delaware and the 4F Convention.

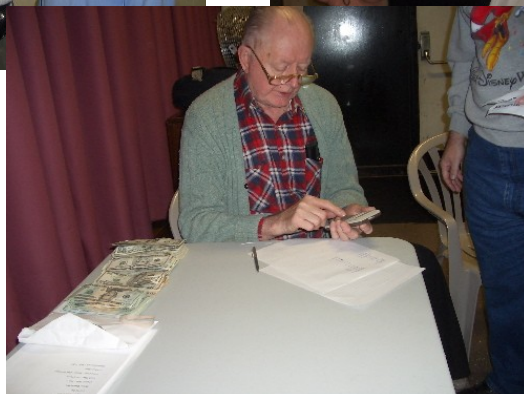
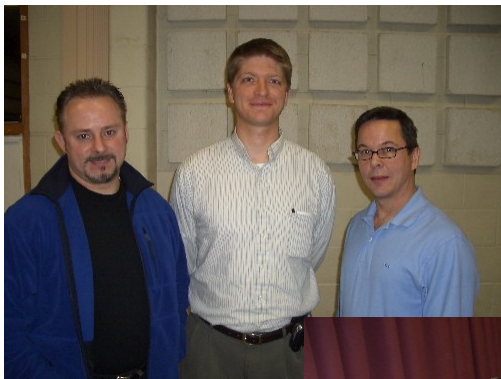


I.B.M. Ring 6

Volume 2, Issue 2

February 2007

Pictures from The Auction



Meeting Times:

February 12, 2007

7:00 PM Doors Open

7:10 PM Dealers

8:00 PM Business Meeting

8:30 PM Garrett Thomas

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So You're a Magician...

I often hear comments after my show like, "Wow, you actually did magic!" or "I've never seen a magician do magic before," or "How come the last guy we hired didn't do magic?"

I am somewhat out of the loop of mainstream children's entertainment, although the majority of my shows are children's shows. I sort of purposefully stay out of the loop so that I can try to stay fresh and creative. I have noticed that many children's performers are doing the same things. Also many of the experienced children's performers do very little magic in their shows.

I began doing children's shows like most other magicians: trick after trick after trick after trick. This gets old for the children. Most performers recognize this. However, instead of creating interesting presentations that capture the children's imaginations, they ditch the magic almost completely and fill 45 minutes with play time. In other words, they might as well be an expensive babysitter. Here's what I mean. I watch experienced children's entertainers and it seems as if the majority of their shows are just playing with the kids. For example, they purposefully miscall something so that the children scream the right answer at the performer ("that's not in your pocket, it's in your mouth!!!" etc.). This is alright and it is humorous and it is fun. But when 20 minutes of a magician's 45 minute show is spent purposefully miscalling things and the children screaming back at him, he is being a funny babysitter, not a magician (and parents pick up on this). I have even heard performers admit that the majority of their show is just playing

with the children. They get the kids screaming, or arguing with the magician, or correcting her, or just breaking prop after prop after prop. These things can be entertaining, but keep in mind, you are a **MAGICIAN**.

Spread throughout your show some of these things, but keep the main thing, the main thing. Unfortunately it is usually the other way around. The show is mainly babysitting sprinkled with magic.

Be creative. Step outside the box. Pepper your show with fun and humor and miscalls, but please, do magic. Leave your audience with a sense of wonder and amazement. Don't just use dope expensive props all the time. Practice your sleight of hand and wow your audience with magic.

So why are parents and children so surprised and pleased that I actually did magic? Because the other magicians they have seen in the past did not do magic. You are a magician so **DO MAGIC!**

Next issue: How do you spell love?



Members in the News!

I was watching television the other day and it was time for another of those ever-present commercial breaks. Well, I usually take that time to do something other than watch the TV. This time I just couldn't seem to take my eyes off the screen. I was mesmerized by the sheer talent that I saw on the commercial. It was an advertisement for Window Wizards. Their new spokesman (or should I say spokes-magician) was none other than our own Marc DeSousa. I just couldn't believe my eyes. It was really him. Now not only a star of magic, but now a "commercial" success as well. What will be next for our intrepid prestidigitator? Perhaps TV shows, Movies, or better yet an entire Marc DeSousa Magic Special Series.

Congratulations Marc. You did a great job, and I can say, I knew you when...



Don't forget that it is time again to pay your local dues to the Ring. If you have already paid, thank you.

January Ring Report by Dave Kelly

Ring #6 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania - Delaware Valley Conjurers' Club Meets 2nd Monday, each month, 7:30 pm Hancock United Methodist Church, Rte 320, Springfield, PA Dave Kelly, Recording Secretary, 90 Worrell Drive Springfield, PA 19064

January 2007

New president, Forrest Chapman, welcomed us to the first meeting of the new year. We began the meeting by presenting Certificates and Gift Certificates to the winners of the 2006 Close Up and Stage Competitions. Forrest Chapman, Richie Baccare and Ed Schmitt took top honors in both categories - the first time that has ever happened in club history! Forrest outlined some ideas to increase membership, improve lectures, and improve our magic.

Marc DeSouza graciously acted as Auctioneer for the Club Auction. Thanks to Marc, everyone present got a real education on every effect, DVD, video and book that came onto the auction block. Marc has a deep knowledge of so much magic, it was fun just to hear his descriptions of the wonders offered for sale. Also, thanks to this, sellers made nice profits and buyers knew exactly what they bid on.

The auction started off small with a Roger Klaris \$5 Bill Transpo, then went onto some some collectors items - like a Mail Bag Escape with a Carl Brema brass bar. Nice. We bid on Egg on Fan, Production Flowers, Diminishing Cards in mint condition, the "Phil" card trick, an early edition of Jean Hugard's Greater Magic, a beautiful stainless steel Wonder Box. A new Card Duck and an old Professor

Cheer's Rope trick sold quickly. Tenyo Magic and books came and went quickly.

Several times Marc told us that he had several versions of the same trick. And he told us why: Years ago an older magician advised him to buy several versions of a trick that he liked to see how they were all done. He then decides which approach to use with the trick, sometimes combining methods or routines. Good advice.

The results: Third Place - Richie B, Second Place - Ed Schmitt, Champion - Forest Chapman. We will award their certificates and magic gift certificates at the January meeting.

Dave Kelly

Web Site Update

This month will begin the public web site design in earnest. Our webmaster will also be coordinating with Bob Jensen to determine who has paid their dues for 2007. All paid members will receive a unique user id and password for the member only portion of the web site. If you would like a link to your own site to drive business, just get your information to David Hale and he will set that up.

The public side of the web site will explain what the I.B.M. is about and some detailed information about Ring #6. It will also display the information for the next meeting and where we are located. There will also be links to the I.B.M. National web site. The members only portion of the site will contain member contact informa-

tion, former and current newsletters, announcements, events, pictures and discussions of interest.

All ideas for inclusions to the site are more than welcome. Feel free to speak to David Hale during the meeting.

It is very important that all in the Ring take part in ideas for the Public portion of the web site. It is also very important that the Members of Ring 6 take an active role in the contributions to the Member's only portion of the web site. Each paid member has full permissions to add their own events and contributions to the Member's Only section of the site. I also encourage you to add your contact information to the contact area of the Member's only site. Let's really make it our own and please add information to the site. If you have any questions on how to add your own content, please just ask David Hale and he will be happy to teach you how to do it.

I.B.M. Ring 6

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www.phillyibmring6.com

International Brotherhood of Magicians

Submit Articles to "The Apparition"

The Apparition is your newsletter as much as it is any other member's of Ring 6. We encourage you to submit your ideas, articles, tricks and anything else that you may think of to make it better for all. It is a big job to create the entire newsletter all alone every month. I am happy to do it, but all of your voices will make it more enjoyable to the membership. Feel free to bring your articles to any Ring 6 meeting and I will include them in the next issue. You can also email your content to me at :

dshale@ccn1.com or fax them to (610) 692-0275

The newsletters are going to be published two weeks prior to each meeting. This will allow time for the post

office to deliver them to the recipients that receive them through the mail. That means that the deadline for any contributions from the members is the last Monday of the month. Articles that are submitted after that date will be placed in the following issue.

It may take a village to raise a child, but it takes an entire Ring to produce a great newsletter.

David S. Hale—Newsletter.

International Brotherhood of Magicians Ring 6

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