



The Servante

Official Newsletter of the Bruce Chadwick SAM Assembly 138 Alliance of Illusionists

Volume 2023 - Number 2 - February 2023

Next Monthly Assembly Meeting - Thursday February 16, 2023 - 7:00 pm
Illusion Warehouse, 3917 McCart Ave, Fort Worth, Texas
Three blocks north of Seminary Drive/Across from the Public School

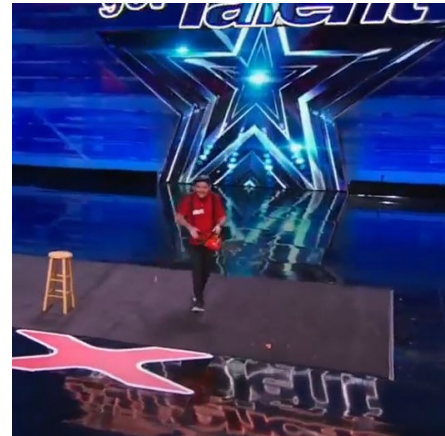
DON'T TELL JOE, AND A LECTURE BY SHELL HIGGINS



The SAM Assembly 138 Alliance of Illusionists will have its regular Monthly Assembly Meeting on Thursday February 16, 2023 at 7:00 pm, the Illusion Warehouse, 3917 McCart Ave, Fort Worth. The title for the meeting is "DON'T TELL JOE!"

The meeting will feature a lecture by Shell Higgins, professional street performer, magician and stunt artist who recently appeared on America's Got Talent.

Google Shell on YouTube to see a clip from his AGT appearance. He has also appeared on Discovery Channel's Fast and Loud, featured at the Busking School and Busking Boot Camp, did two seasons as a street performer in Daytona Beach, and one season in Key West. He has also performed for the NBA Dallas Mavericks/ WNBA Wings halftime show and worked for eight years at the State Fair of Texas.



Magician Shel "Pops" Higgins attempts to escape a straight jacket on top of a ladder.

As an incentive for club members to pay their 2023 dues, the lecture is free for 2023 AOI dues-paid-up members. Others may attend the lecture by paying \$20 cash at the door.

The Executive Committee will meet before the meeting at 6:00 pm. All elected officers should be in attendance, and any other dues-paid-up member of the club may attend at well.

LAST CALL FOR ANNUAL DUES

Annual dues for the 2023 club year were due on January 1, 2023. Dues cover both the local Fort Worth SAM Assembly 138 Alliance of Illusionists dues as well as the national SAM membership dues. The Executive Committee then sends the appropriate amount of national SAM dues for each member to the national SAM office. This procedure assures that all Assembly members are also members in good standing with the national SAM office. Dues are paid exclusively online using a PayPal account, or with a regular credit/debit card and the PayPal guest check-out option. Members pay dues by going to the DUES page at <http://sam138.com/alliance/policy/>. Please note that "Members who fail to pay their Yearly Membership Dues before the first day of March are automatically suspended from the Assembly." Please see section 10.03 Delinquency in the clubs bylaws at <http://sam138.com/alliance/uploads/Bylaws/Bylaws%20of%20Assembly%20138%20v101719.pdf>

JANUARY 2023 INSTALLATION BANQUET MINUTES

The Fort Worth SAM Assembly 138 Alliance of Illusionists held its annual Installation Banquet on Thursday January 19, 2023 in the party room of the Illusion Warehouse magic shop. Twenty-seven members and guests were in attendance to see our 2023 officers installed.

Bernie Trowbridge will serve as President for the year, with Lonnie Olander as Vice-President, Bruce Chadwick as Secretary, Cindy Bighorse as Treasurer, Connor Branch as Sergeant at Arms, Jack McCoy as Historian, and Charlie Montroll as Member at Large. Immediately following the installation, guests enjoyed a catered BBQ brisket dinner with potato salad, beans, garnishes, and lots of desserts.



Then it was on to the entertainment with Scott and Judy Hollingsworth visiting from Austin, Texas. Scott performed an array of very well-done stand-up magic tricks. He started with a silk to egg routine. This was followed with a Tom Cruise prediction, ring and rope routine with the finger ring finally jumping to his magic wand, and Scott's acclaimed Bermuda Triangle coins to glass routine.

His transposition of signatures from one playing card to another, card to "poe-ket," and card appearance in a wallet envelope were all well received. Among the other routines he performed, his version of Cardiographic was fun, as well as his spiral notebook pool ball prediction, and finale with a borrowed bill to lemon. In all, it was a great evening to set the new fiscal year for the dynamic SAM Assembly 138.



JANUARY 2023 ANNUAL BUSINESS AND PLANNING MEETING MINUTES

President Bernie Trowbridge called the Annual Business and Planning Meeting of the Alliance of Illusionists for Thursday January 26, 2023. Officers and club members first met in the Party Room of the Illusion Warehouse for a quick dinner of BBQ and sides. At about 7:30 pm, Trowbridge officially called the meeting to order in the Museum Room. All officers were in attendance, as well as member in good standing Gary Poe.

Trowbridge started by handing out paperwork to help steer the meeting. First was discussion regarding meetings for the year. A wide array of ideas were presented. Trowbridge will mull over the list of ideas produced from the meeting and come up with a proposed calendar of events. He will present those at the February Executive Committee Meeting.

It was agreed that the feature of the February Monthly Assembly Meeting will be a street magic lecture by Shel Higgins. The lecture will be free for 2023 dues-paid-up AOI meetings or \$20 for non-members and guests, cash and payable at the door. Also special recognition will be given to long-time member Joe Rotio, possibly a plaque or trophy commemorating his service, and perhaps a cake produced by Cindy Bighorse. The name of the meeting will be "Don't Tell Joe!"

Treasurer Cindy Bighorse gave a Treasurer's report as well as a list of several budget items for the 2023 club year. She reported that the club currently has about 25 dues-paid-up members. It was agreed that the club would pay the Illusion Warehouse the traditional \$250 use of Illusion Warehouse meeting facilities as needed for 2023..

Duties and responsibilities of the officers were briefly discussed. It was emphasized that the club needs to always make members and guests feel welcome.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



A MAGICIAN'S WITTY DITTY by James R Laudermilk

Once I took the stage with flair,
A trick up my sleeve, without a care.
I thought I'd show off, be oh so grand,
And make my silk change color with a flick of my hand.
But things took a turn, in a fiery blaze,
When my hand shot fire, I was in a daze.
Oh no, what a mess, I thought with a frown,
But then I had an idea, to turn it around.
I tossed it in air, and with a big shout,
I stamped out the flames, and let the magic play out.
The audience cheered, and to my surprise,
My mess up turned into a hit before their eyes.
So if you're a magician, and you mess up your trick,
Just think on your feet, and be quick with a lick.
Turn it into humor, and they'll all roar with glee,
And your luck will soar, like magic from the sea!



As I get older it seems that time is going so much faster and then I became President of the club. Now, it has seemed to of kicked time into high gear! It truly seems like it was just a week ago that Bruce was asking me for the January column and now just reminded me it's time to send him February's. Seems like just last week that we were sitting together as friends and fellow magician and being entertained by Scott Hollingsworth!

Speaking of Scott's performance, I found him quite entertaining. I'm not from Texas and only recently am getting back into magic so this was the first time I had an opportunity to see him perform.

As a person who hopes to be able to perform magic for others and am searching for some type of direction to put a routine together, it's nice to see that you can be very entertaining without making a tiger appear or have an assistant that you take apart, put together wrong and then straighten her out at the end of the trick. Not that I don't enjoy watching someone do the big illusions but they are all out of my budget and not who I am as a performer.

Most of us sat there watching Scott perform knowing the outcome of the trick he was doing, the sleight, gimmick or prop that created the effect or maybe it was even something we perform ourselves. But yet, we were entertained and maybe at moments even surprised. So, imagine what an audience of non-magicians would think?

Several years ago, Bruce performed at our company Christmas party. We were a relatively large group at the time, so we had hired two magicians to perform. It was a walk around type of performance where they did a few quick tricks in a short routine and then moved or had a new group move in to watch. Bruce stuck to much of the stuff he performs for the club and things that he has taught us in his Magic Mentoring Workshop classes that he offered last year (which I hope he chooses to offer again this year at some point). The other magician choose to perform things that used complicated sleights (which sometimes failed), lasted several minutes for a single trick and sometimes were hard to follow (almost more designed for magicians than for laymen). It wasn't long into our event that almost everyone was watching or waiting to watch Bruce! The next day back at the office Bruce's performance was all everyone talked about, as I constantly was asked "How did he do that?"

Fast forward back to the Installation Banquet of 2021 and our entertainment is none other than Bruce Chadwick! He performed some of the same tricks he did at my offices Christmas party, items he has performed at our meetings and some things I had not seen him do but had seen others preform or do myself. A couple were the same trick with just a little different story. But I can honestly say that myself and others I spoke with after the banquet had all been entertained.

The typical audience does not know what is about to happen or how many hours you practiced in front of your mobile phone camera (a mirror when I grew up) trying to learn that fancy sleight. Lesson Learned – Keep it simple! (I was going to say to remember - KISS - keep it simple stupid, but it would have failed to be WOKE). When I was growing up it was an acronym taught in school!

Please bear with me for the next several months as I work on the future performing me! Talking in my head and putting it in this column as I choose a direction for my magical journey. I hope the process helps others along the way!

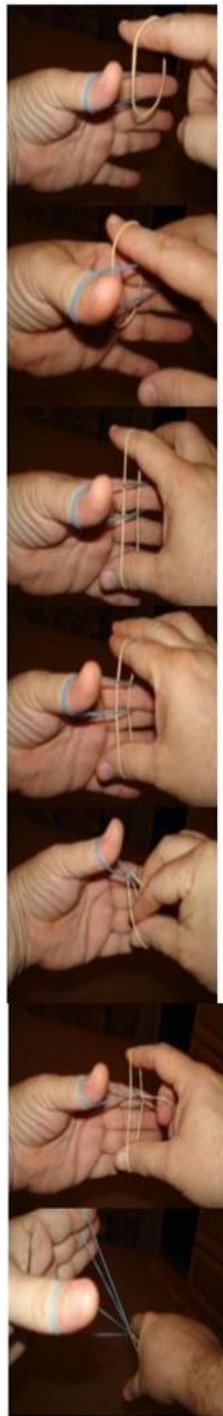
Until next time, Bernie

JACK
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A A O P A
T R I T Y
H D N I !
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Crazy Man's Handcuffs Variation: The following discovery came while toying with the popular rubber band mystery. The patter and speed is explaining there's a property with rubber, if stretched tight enough the rubber will penetrate through one another. It's a quick, matter-of-fact' thing that makes no sense whatsoever yet they see it happen. The selling point is they see the bands mercilessly stretched at their interlocked middles, then 'Pow!', penetration without breakage!



Like the original version, one band is stretched between the left thumb and index. The other band is hanging from the right index.

The right hand band is placed behind the lefts.

The right thumb inserts into the hanging part of the indexes band.

The right middle finger lowers onto the index, locking the top part of the band in place.

The right fingers come together. The top part of the band will transfer to the middle finger. The now free right index moves into the band loop that's coming from the thumb. In normal performance, the hands are more separate from one another than pictured. This is done as you're stretching the bands and talking about how their locked behind each other.

The picture is a freeze frame of the action now taking place. The middle finger keeps control of its band as the right index and thumb separate.

The right hand revolves palm downward as the left hand turns upward slightly. The hands also separate up and down. Two strands will be coming from the right hand band around the left hand's. It will look like the bands are still locked behind one another and are stretch almost to breaking distance. Simply release the middle finger portion of band and the two bands will seem to magically penetrate each other without breaking.

'Crazy Man's Handcuffs' was created by Arthur Settingington (*'Getaway', New Pentagram, May 1970*). Daryl gave it the name "The Crazy Man's Handcuffs" and Michael Ammar subsequently popularized it.

Save the Date!

DALLAS MAGIC CLUBS

The Dallas Magic Club's
MAGIC AUCTION
Saturday March 25th 10:00 am

No Charge for Dallas Magic Club Members in Good Standing
\$20 Fee for non DMC Members
(So you might as well pay your \$25 Dues so you can take part
in this and other upcoming events)



DALLAS MAGIC CLUB

SAM ASSEMBLY 13 • IBM RING 174



A WORLD OF MAGIC IN TEXAS

HOUSTON • TAOM 2023

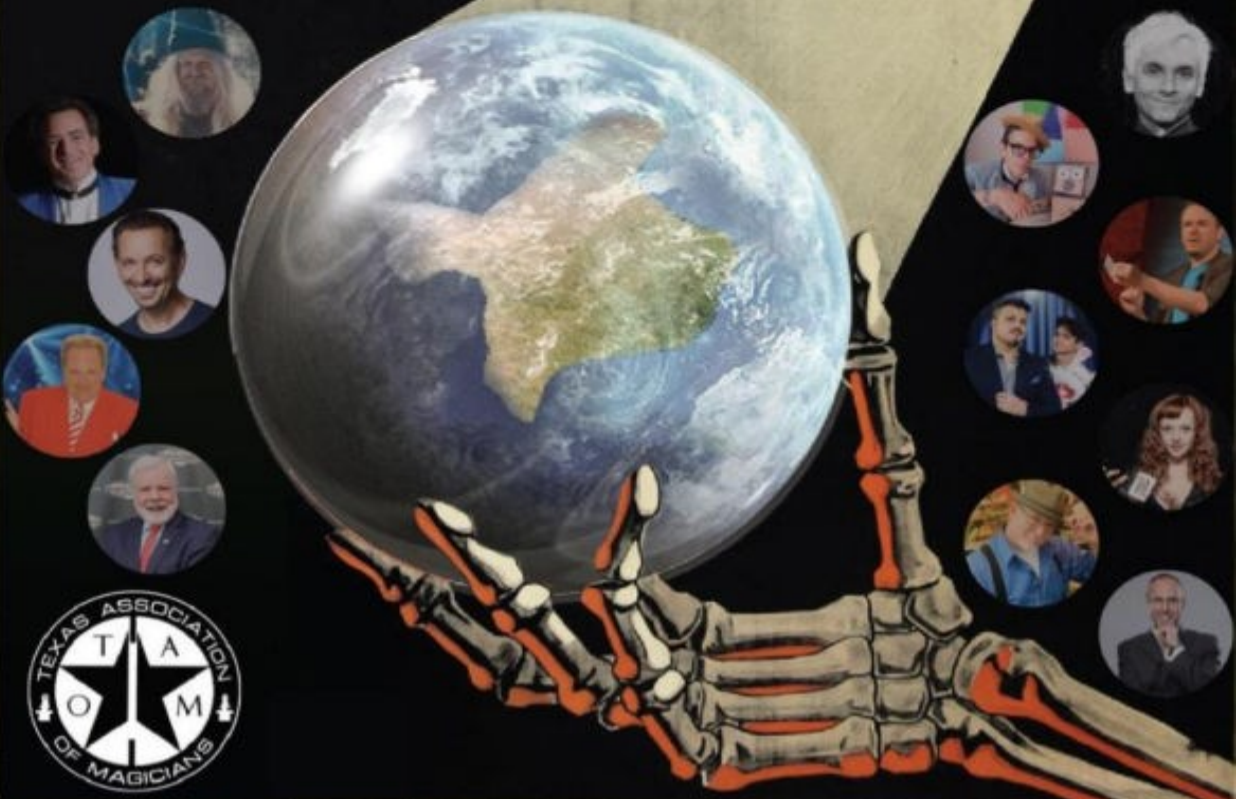
WITH GUEST OF HONOR BILL PALMER

SEPTEMBER 1ST-4TH



SCAN QR CODE TO VISIT
TAOM.ORG/2023
MORE ACTS TO COME!

PERFORMANCES BY: STEVE VALENTINE • MARIO THE MAKER & KATIE •
CHAD LONG • BRENT BRAUN • DAVE & JAKE RANGEL • CHRISTOPHER
CARTER • KATRINA • DOUG CONN • MICHAEL FINNEY • HARRY MAURER •
ERIK TAIT • PLUS SCOTT WELLS WITH THE MAGIC WORD PODCAST!



2023 OFFICERS

1. PRESIDENT:	Bernie Trowbridge	berntrow@sbcglobal.net	214-998-0352
2. VICE PRESIDENT:	Lonnie O'Lander	lonnie_olander@baylor.edu	254-749-0124
3. SECRETARY:	Bruce Chadwick	chadwickillusionist@yahoo.com	817-832-6062
4. TREASURER:	Cindy Bighorse	cabighorse@gmail.com	817-846-4062
5. SERGEANT AT ARMS:	Connor Branach	connorbranach@gmail.com	682-367-0957
6. HISTORIAN:	Jack McCoy	magicjack@charter.net	682-560-8569
7. MEMBER AT LARGE:	Charlie Montrroll	folksingitv@verizon.net	301-530-6786

DFW AREA MAGIC HAPPENINGS

FORT WORTH SAM ASSEMBLY 138 ALLIANCE OF ILLUSIONISTS

Meets on the third Thursday of each month, 7:00 pm at the Illusion Warehouse party room and magic shop located at 3917 McCart Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas 76110. Contact communications@allianceofillusionists.com or go to <http://sam138.com/alliance/> or Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/162025544420781/>



FORT WORTH MAGICIANS CLUB INC AND REN CLARK IBM RING 15

Meets on the first Thursday of each month, 7:00 pm. See <https://fortworthmagiciansclub.org/>

MID-CITIES MAGIC CIRCLE

Meets monthly. See the Mid-Cities Magic Circle Facebook group.

DALLAS MAGIC CLUB, SAM ASSEMBLY 13 AND IBM RING 174

See www.DallasMagic.org for meeting information.



IMPROV COMEDY CLUBS IN ADDISON AND ARLINGTON

Both comedy clubs periodically host weekend comedy magic shows. For more details go to either www.ImprovArlington.com or www.ImprovAddison.com.

MAGIC IN THE LIVING ROOM

Periodic magic shows every 1st Tuesday at 7:00 pm at The Line Public House, 940 E Beltline in Richardson. See www.MagicLivingRoom.com for more information.

