



The Servante

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

Volume 2023 - Number 11 - November 2023
Next Monthly Meeting - Thursday November 16, 2023 - 7:00 pm
Illusion Warehouse, 3917 McCart Ave, Fort Worth, Texas
Three blocks north of Seminary Drive/Across from the Public School

DOUG GORMAN LECTURE

The main core activity of the 7:00 pm Thursday November 16 club meeting will feature a LECTURE BY SAN ANTONIO MAGICIAN DOUG GORMAN. Doug will talk about the value of storytelling magic, include demonstrations of a few of his own effects, provide members with a chance to ask questions, and view a few effects he has for sale. Doug regularly performs for private parties and corporate events in the south Texas area. He also performs at the Magic Castle and is a regular attendee of the famous 4F convention (Fechter's Finger Flicking Frolic). Doug is an excellent magician, knowledgeable, and a great entertainer. Please see the President's column for more biographical information about Doug.

Club Meetings are normally held at 7:00 pm on the third Thursday of each month at the Illusion Warehouse magic shop, 3917 McCart Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas. The Executive Committee will meet beforehand at 6:00 pm. All members in good standing may attend the Executive Committee meetings. Visitors may not attend Executive meetings.



AN INTERESTING CONVERSATION

CUSTOMER: How much do you charge?

PERFORMER: Our fee is \$1250 for our one-person Comedy Magic Show or \$2500 for our big illusion show.

CUSTOMER: Wow! Our budget is only \$500.

PERFORMER: My apologies but that fee won't cover our costs.

CUSTOMER: You are only going to entertain us for 30 minutes. Where I work I only make \$25 per hour!

PERFORMER: Maybe you could develop your own act and provide the entertainment yourself?

CUSTOMER: How would I do that?

PERFORMER: For your \$500 fee, we can consult with you and help you develop a show. We have knowledge and experience that has taken us many years to learn. You will probably also have to purchase a couple of hundred dollars worth of magic equipment and spend some time learning how to do the effects and routine them entertainingly. You will also need a good sound system, some lighting equipment, and maybe even some background scenery. Don't forget liability insurance and you will need a van to transport everything. Also be sure to designate a couple of weekends for rehearsal, and you may need to hire a couple of people to help with your show!

CUSTOMER: I think it might be easier to just hire you.



MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER MONTHLY MEETING

We were a small group at the October 2023 Monthly Clubs Meeting of the Fort Worth SAM Assembly 138, but the excitement and warmth inside the Illusion Warehouse party room was big as ever! The main core activity for the evening was MINI-LECTURE NIGHT. Four different performers each presented about 20-25 minutes of magic and then lectured with demonstrations and explanations.

Up first was Jack McCoy who performed and explained variations of the Radar Deck, some original principles of double lifts with cards, a rendition of a Paul Harris effect, and a variation of the Balducci Cut Deeper force.

Jack was followed with the incomparable Gary Poe who did an excellent job discussing the “paddle move” principle in magic. He performed an array of paddle effects including a color changing lighter, stick, Hot Rod of course, large stick, wand, and a color change brass double coin. Gary also discussed some of the interesting paddle moves he has innovated and modified for various effects. He was well received.

Next up was Bruce Chadwick who did some interesting rope magic. He started off with the Vanishing Knot effect that is attributed to Hudson and others. He then talked about his philosophy regarding the cut and restored rope effect and showed some handling that fools even the most knowledgeable of magicians.

Following Bruce was SAM Regional Vice-President Bronson Chadwick. He led off with “ummmm” (you had to be there). Following that he demonstrated a hypno glasses card effect with visitor Robert Hernandez. He also discussed his favorite card forces and then closed a “Horsing Around” zebra mask card effect. In all the evening was a lot of fun for all who attended.



MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 2023 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Vice-President Lonnie Olander called to order the October Executive Committee Meeting of the Bruce Chadwick SAM Assembly 138 and the Alliance of Illusionists to order on Thursday October 19, 2023 at about 6:0 pm in the Museum Room of the Illusion Warehouse.

A quorum was present with Vice-President Lonnie Olander, Secretary Bruce Chadwick, Treasurer Cindy Bighorse, Historian Jack McCoy. Not in attendance were President Bernie Trowbridge, Member at Large Charlie Montroll, or Sergeant at Arms Connor Branach. Also in attendance were members in good standing Lisa and Jimmie Fulce.

The September Executive Committee minutes as presented in the September SERVANTE were approved. Treasurer Cindy Bighorse delivered the October Treasurer's report. From the previous club balance were expenses for \$13.86 for Mail Chimp, \$50 paid to Maxam graphics for the new magic club meeting sign, \$75 paid for Chadwick funeral flowers, and \$506.61 for Wix (36 month pre-payment), which leaves the club with \$4634.43 plus the Helmer/Dolenz pillow.

Secretary Chadwick reminded the committee that Donna and Steve Byrd never joined the national SAM organization. With the recent changes in our club requirements of national SAM membership, it was agreed that Treasurer Bighorse will return the application fees paid by the Byrd's and with it a request that they pay the \$25 clubs annual dues for 2024 online and be solely responsible for joining the national SAM organization themselves.

It was announced that the club would either send flowers not to exceed \$75 or a \$100 cash gift to Sara Pylant regarding the recent loss of her son.

The Executive Committee suggested the following slate of officers to serve for the 2024 club year. They include Jack McCoy for President, Lonnie Olander for Vice-President, Bruce Chadwick for Secretary, Bernie Trowbridge for Treasurer, Jimmie Fulce for Sergeant-at-Arms, Cindy Bighorse for Historian, and Lisa Fulce for Member at Large.

The committee assigned Cindy Bighorse and Lisa Fulce to once again chair the planning of the annual December Christmas Party.

With no further business, the meeting concluded at about 6:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Chadwick, Secretary

CONDOLENCES TO SARA PYLANT

The SAM Assembly 138 and the Alliance of Illusionists extend condolences to club member Sara Pylant in the recent loss of her son Adam. In lieu of funeral flowers, our magic clubs sent Sara a small monetary gift to help her offset the enormous expenses of her travel to the Dakotas, help her with funeral arrangements, and related costs.

Sara responded with a return card with the inscription, "Thank you for your Kindness. Adam loved magic too. Sara." As any parent would have in the event of the loss of a sibling, please keep Sara in your thoughts and prayers during this tumultuous time of her life.





Well, here we are in November, the month we had scheduled our public show and fundraiser. When we started planning this year's monthly events, we were not sure when the best month to have it would be. It seems like there were cons to every month with scheduling conflicts that reared their ugly heads often. At the time of planning the year, November seemed like it would be a good month for the show. However the closer we got to November, the more likely it seemed we would need to cancel. As President, I apologize for this happening.

So, we won't be performing this month but we will be having a lecturer! Bruce suggested to the Executive Committee that we fill this month's monthly clubs meetings with a lecture. He suggested Doug Gorman, someone he has known for years and caught up with this year at this year's Dallas Magistorum convention. After getting all the details from Doug, the committee quickly agreed that we should invite him to lecture. Doug will be lecturing on the value of storytelling magic which will include some demonstrations and a question-and-answer portion. He will also have a few effects available for purchase at the end.

I thought it would be nice to know a little bit about Doug before he lectured so I reached out to him for some information I could share. As you will read below, Doug's magic journey was not your typical got involved in magic as a child story.

Doug Gorman was born in Cincinnati, Ohio and grew up in the small southwestern Ohio town of Monroe. He graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in 1969, where he majored in general psychology. He immediately married his high school sweetheart, Fran, and the newlyweds moved to San Antonio for Doug's first Air Force assignment at Lackland AFB.

During that first tour of duty, their son, Scott, was born. Doug also earned his Master of Arts in Industrial Psychology from St. Mary's University, attending school in the evenings. Then it was off to pursue his PhD in Industrial and Organizational Psychology, which he received in 1976 from Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio. Returning to San Antonio for another assignment, Doug and Fran welcomed their daughter, Crissy, to military life. Shortly after Crissy's birth, the family moved to Melbourne, Australia for a two-year exchange tour with the Royal Australian Air Force.

Following three years on the faculty of the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs and a year at Maxwell AFB in Alabama attending the Air Command and Staff College, the family returned to San Antonio for a third time, now at Randolph AFB. In 1987, they moved to Washington DC, where Doug, now a Lt Col, became Chief of Air Force Testing Policy in the Pentagon. Following that tour, the Gormans made their last move, once again back to San Antonio and Randolph AFB, where Doug retired from active duty in June of 1991.

Following retirement, Doug was hired at USAA, a San Antonio-based financial services organization catering to the military community, to teach leadership and employee development courses and consult with executives on leadership issues. After 10 years with USAA, Doug retired again, this time to pursue his newfound passion.

During a trip to Las Vegas in 1993, Doug visited a magic shop at Caesar's Palace, purchasing two tricks from the demonstrator, and he was hooked for life! In March of 2002, Doug was hired as the house magician at the Spaghetti Warehouse in San Antonio, where he performed table-side magic every Friday night for over 10 years. He and Fran together created "Feats of Wonder," a 45-minute magic show they performed monthly over 100 times at the Spaghetti Warehouse in San Antonio.

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In August of 2009, Doug performed for the first time in the Parlour of Prestidigitation at the Magic Castle in Hollywood, California. For the next twelve years, he performed annually in the Parlour, ultimately doing almost 250 shows there.

Doug has received numerous awards for his magic, including San Antonio's Magician of the Year for 1998. He won first place in the Texas Association of Magicians close-up competition in 2000; first place in the Columbus, Ohio Magifest of 2001; was a Gold Cups Finalist at the 2002 International Brotherhood of Magicians close-up competition in San Diego, California; and was a finalist in the International Close-up Contest of Magic at the combined IBM/SAM convention in Louisville, Kentucky in 2008, all with fellow magician and friend Michael Tallon. For the last 20 years, he has been a regular invitee to Fechter's Finger Flicking Frolic, an invitation-only convention of the world's top close-up magicians, in Batavia, New York.

Doug has been an active member in local magic organizations since he began in magic in 1996, having served as both president and secretary/treasurer of both the IBM Ring 18 and the SAM Assembly 52 clubs in San Antonio.

In addition to performing magic, Doug has created a number of effects which are available commercially. In the last several years, his interests have turned more to storytelling magic, and he has created over 40 storytelling effects, many of which have sold out. He has performed and sold his wares at several bizarre and storytelling conventions, including the East Coast Spirit Sessions in Myrtle Beach, the Poe Magic Conference in Baltimore, and the Magistrorum convention in Dallas.

These days, Doug's schedule is crowded with magic and non-magic activities. When he isn't conjuring or creating, you can find him on the golf course or joining Fran in enjoying and supporting their five grandchildren.

Thursday night should be a great night! - Bernie



CHANG AND TARBELL AT THE 1950 TAOM CONVENTION



TEXAS MEANS MAGIC IN 2024!

THE ROAD TO FISM 2025 GOES THROUGH DALLAS IN 2024!

Book your room at Loews Arlington. Only \$154 a night!

RESERVE YOUR SPOT NOW.:

- S.A.M. Members: \$495 (Includes banquet)
- Non-S.A.M. Members: \$565 (join the S.A.M. and SAVE!)
- Family Registration: \$345 (includes all shows)
- SYM / Youth Academy: \$239 (Magic Camp and supplies at Convention)
- Youth Chaperone: \$239

Hotel: Loews Arlington \$154 a night

**TAOM - S.A.M.
COMBINED
CONVENTION
DALLAS, TEXAS**

Aug. 30 - Sept 2 2024



Register Online at: fism-nacm.com



CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DALLAS MAGIC CLUB - ASSEMBLY 13



TAOM 2024 NEWS

Greetings –

I should begin by saying that that I am very excited about our plans for the TAOM – SAM Combined Convention (and you should be excited too). This looks like it is going to be the biggest magic convention to ever be held in Texas.

For those of you that do not know, The Texas Association of Magicians is combining with The Society of American Magicians to help the Dallas Magic Club celebrate our 100th anniversary. But wait, there's more...We will also be hosting the FISM North American Championship of Magic. The only path for someone in North America to be able to compete at the World Championship of Magic in Italy in 2025, is to first compete in Texas in 2024. The fact that you will see the BEST of the BEST compete here in Texas should make you VERY excited. But wait...there's more! We are also planning on bringing in many past FISM winners as our featured performers. These are acts that have already come home with prizes and are now performing at some of the finest venues in the world.



But wait, there's more...The hotel we will be holding the convention in the BRAND NEW Loews Arlington that is being built across the street from the new Rangers Ballpark (and next door to our old Ballpark). This is an incredible facility that also houses the new Arlington Convention Center. The hotel won't open until February 13th so by the time we are there, all the kinks will be worked out and it will still have that "New Hotel Smell". The hotel hasn't opened yet but several of us took a "Hard Hat Tour" of the facility last week. This is going to be an incredible home for our convention.

But wait, there's more! We have contracted with Texas Hall on the UTA Campus for our official theater for our Gala shows. That means we will have over 3,000 seats to fill (including the balcony) in a fully rigged, beautiful theater. We will be enjoying magic under the very best possible circumstances, on stage and in a theater.

But wait there's more, Trixie Bond and Cinde Sanders are planning the "extra events and parties" that make conventions on this scale memorable. Unless you have been to a FISM event, you have never experienced anything like this. We have many exciting things planned but we are definitely going to need more money to make these things happen. One way to make sure we make money is for folks to register. The earlier you register, the easier it will be to move ahead with some of our plans. We have some very cool gifts and opportunities for our earliest registrants.

We are also looking for sponsors. Our TAOM Vice President, Eric Hogue is heading up the Sponsorship Committee. If you know anyone who might be willing to sponsor a theater, an event or even the Magic Youth Academy then please let him know.

I'm not going to mention the FAMOUS names that have reached out to me, asking how they can be a part of what we are doing and how they can help. Believe me, we will have some major magic stars as part of our celebration. I will mention that Stan Allen of MAGIC Live called me last week (he has called to talk about our plans several times in the past few weeks). He referred to the TAOM SAM Combined Convention, Hosting the FISM NACM and celebrating the DMC "the Magic Thing in Texas". I realized then that our convention was an alphabet soup of acronyms for all the organizations involved. I didn't think that we wanted to be known as "that magic thing in Texas". Our team started looking for a "nickname" for the event that would be easier to remember. Derrel Allen suggested Magic Texas. Not only that, but he already owned the www.MagicTexas.com URL. I asked various team members what they thought, and it was unanimous...we should call ourselves, MAGIC TEXAS.



I hope you like the direction we are headed and I hope you like our new moniker. I can't wait to write next month's column when I can reveal more of our plane.

Next month I will say it again..."But Wait, there's more!"

Handwritten signature of Del Sanders

TAOM President





The Rough & Smooth— One of the greatest discoveries in the world of card magic is where you in some fashion roughen 1 side of 2 playing cards and place both cards' messed up sides together, they'll cling together as 1 and can be handled freely and casually. The spray coating method I use and will be explaining is standard fare which a few popular trick decks use. In Mike Caveney's excellent book of Harry Anderson magic (Wise Guy) he explains in Harry's introduction to the 'half-roughed' principle (Half-Roughed Cards, pg. 97) came from a purchase at the late Jack Sutherland's 'Sun Magic' in Phoenix, Arizona. That particular trick was Senator Crandall's 'Jumbo Nightmare'.

I knew of the rough-smooth principle already but not the aspect of only partially sprayed card areas, where the clinging can involve 3 cards, the middle card (2) caused to cling with either the card above it (1) or below it (3), depending on the location on the top card the pressure is applied when spreading the deck or packet. Instantly my brain came up with several ideas not explained in the book and to this day I assert the use of this principle is unfairly underused. There are some absolutely incredible effects possible, way beyond anything I've ever seen, and I'm getting old, when it comes to magic I've seen a lot. I hope to one day make a manuscript, small book (whatever the heck it's called) of my ideas for using this excellent principle.

Effect: A small packet of 8 cards are spread and openly handled, it's seen they run in order from ace—eight. The spectator is asked to simply think of any number from 1 to 8. The magician gazed into their eyes for a moment, removes a card from the packet and puts it in his pocket. The packet is held face down in the left hand. The magician enquires if the spectator chose '1'(ace). If they say their not, the top card (ace) is dealt face up off the packet and onto the table. This is repeated with each number in sequence until the spectator says 'Yes', that's their thought of number. They are asked to remove and look at the top card of the packet. It's not their number but the next beyond it! All the remaining cards are shown and their number card is missing. The magician removes it from his pocket, apparently correctly removing their number before they even revealed it! This can be repeated over and over!

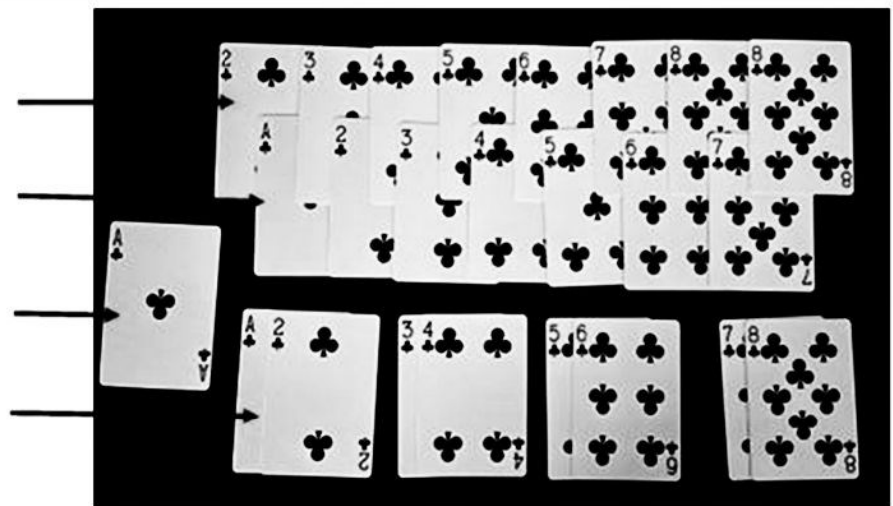
Method: This isn't limited to 8 numbers (or 8 whatever, pictures, drawings, symbols, etc.), the packet can be built to any size. For explanation purposes I chose to go with 8 card values in order. You will need some clear matte spray paint (aka dull coat) and something to block parts of the cards so only a portion gets the coating. More on the process of coating the cards and types of sprays can be found online though suffice to say any clear non-glossy spray will work. When you coat the cards it is a very light coating, holding the spray can a couple feet away from the card(s) and quickly sweep across, applying a very fine coating on the exposed portions of the card(s). You will need 3 sets for this particular routine.

This row is coated on the top half of the faces & bottom half of the backs

This row is coated on the bottom half of the faces & top half of the backs

An extra ace (uncoated)

Shortened cards (very small strip cut off one end) paired off.



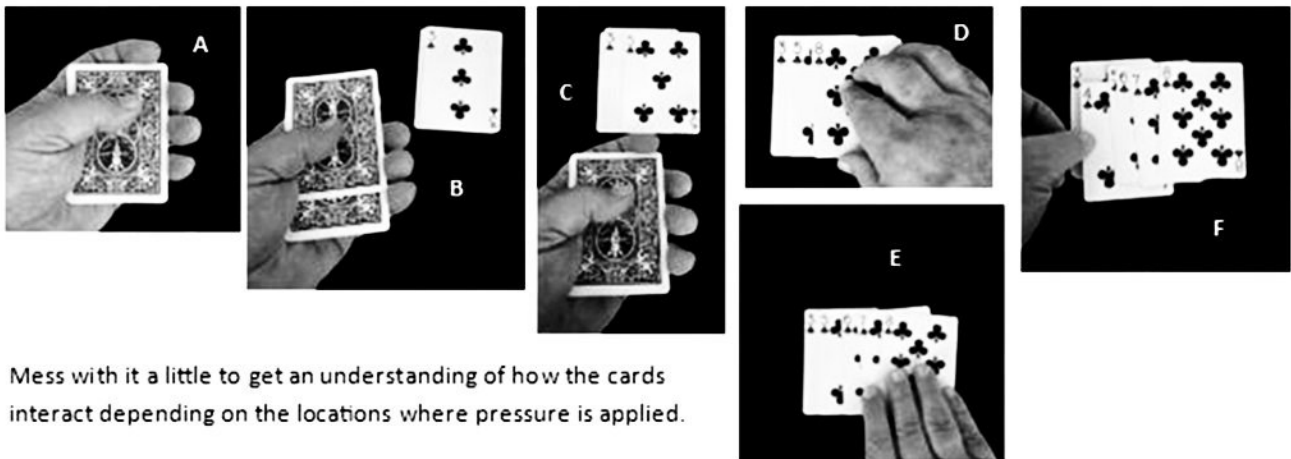
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Take the 4 pairs of short cards and place them in a pocket where any one of them can be quickly removed without hesitation, whether using a card index or paper clips, each pair clipped together for easy locating and removal of any card. Take the extra ace card and set it on top of the packet. You're ready to perform.

Performance: With the rough/smooth packet in the order shown on the previous page, hold squared and face down in the left hand. Duck the hand into a private pose, the packet's back mostly obscured from view. Remove the extra ace off the top and without showing its face, place it into your pocket, during this explaining you've removed a card from the packet. Ensure they can't see where you removed the card from. The roughed half of the of the top card's back should be nearest you. Ask the spectator to think of a number from 1 to 8, for explanation purposes we'll assume they think of four (4). Ask if they're thinking of one (1). After they'd acknowledged not picking one (1), place the left thumb on the forward (unsprayed) area of the top card (ill. A) and push rightward. The right hand takes the double card (per rough/smooth principle) and deals it face up to the table. An ace will show. Continue the process, this case they'll acknowledge not choosing the two (2) or three (3) so just like the ace, deal each face up onto the table into a stack. Ask if they chose four (4) and in this case they said 'Yes'. Place the thumb on the near portion of the top card and push forward (ill. B). A single card will be forward-jogged. Ask the spectator to take it and turn it face up onto the pile. It will be a five (5) (ill. C). Make sure when they do the card gets rotated the same manner from face down to face up your previous deals were done, if not simply pick it up, show it to not be the four (4) and rotate it as you place it back down. It's important so the rough/smooth arrangement of the packet doesn't get disrupted (for repeat performances). With the right hand take the remaining cards from the left hand, turn face up and place them on top of the stack (ill. D). Place the fingers on the near part of the top, add pressure and spread rightward (ill. E) to show the remaining values. Reach into your pocket and remove the short four (4) from the paperclip, bring it out, show it and poke it into the tabled spread in its numeral position (ill. F). Close the spread, pick it up and rotate face down into the left hand again.

Still holding the packet in the left hand, the right hand moves over top where the thumb can rifle up the near end of the packet. You will feel a natural stopping point at the short card. Remove the short card without showing its face and put into the pocket. The effect is ready to be repeated.

If they choose number eight (8): The handling is different but tougher as it involves bottom palming the bottom card (8) away as you hand the spectator the packet to hold for a moment. Reach into a pocket, leaving the card and pretending to come out with some magical dust or other excuse for reaching into the pocket. Sprinkle the magic pixie dust on the packet, take it back from the spectator. Turn face up and spread, applying pressure on the smooth area of the seven (7). The ace—seven will show. Reach into the pocket and remove the eight (8) you'd put into it earlier. Place it on the face. The packet is reset and ready for a repeat. If you're not into palming, simply request a number in the middle somewhere. It's not an unreasonable request as you explain *"to make the trick more interesting."*



Mess with it a little to get an understanding of how the cards interact depending on the locations where pressure is applied.

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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.



Look at you - Folding laundry. Last night it was the dishes! What part of, "NO you're not buying another magic trick" do you not understand?