



SAMLETTER 181

At the next Assembly 181 meeting, **Thursday, June 1, 2017**, there will be an exciting member lead workshop on Costume Magic by George Hann. Doors open at 7:00 PM. Meetings start at 7:30 PM.



George has been performing Costume Magic for 20 years, as a wizard, a pirate and Groucho Marx, and he is ready to share those experiences.

Following their performance, we will open the stage for others to perform in our "No Judgment Zone", so bring something to share.

Society of American Magicians Assembly 181 of Hightstown meets the first Thursday of every month, September thru June at the **First United Methodist Church, 187 Stockton Street, Hightstown, NJ 08520**. Doors open at 7:00 PM. Meetings start at 7:30 PM.

From the Prez - Another magical year gone by



Well, it looks like another year is coming to a close for SAM 181, and what a year it has been. We have had two stellar lectures by Joshua Jay and Eric Jones, eight great workshops put on by our own members and a load of new things happening. We grew in membership once more and added refreshments to our venue. Now when you come, you have a choice of coffee, soda and water as well as sweets provided by Reba and the club. New opportunities presented itself and all of them inspired by our members. Bruce Langrock (AKA Jay the Magician) had the foresight to use a video camera and project his performance on the screen which was well received. Since it will benefit all who come, we are considering purchasing equipment to use on a regular basis. Also, in the hopes of streamlining the time it takes to get through the meeting, Robert Francis (AKA The Dork of Deception) took it upon himself to organize the order of performers in the open mike section of our meeting. It made things a lot less chaotic. Mitch Geier (AKA Magic Mitch) came up with a couple of good suggestions for the upcoming year.

All this leads me into what a club is about. A club is only as good as its members' contributions. When you think about why someone would take the time to drive to a place and sit for a couple of hours watching, learning and talking magic, there has to be a benefit in their eyes. The old adage is you can not please everybody but we are certainly going to try. Over the summer break, and the next season starts to come upon us, think about helping out if you have not already. There is plenty of opportunity to do so. Maybe you can put on a workshop if you have not done so already. Or, perhaps take on a role such as being responsible for some of the club property. There is probably over a dozen ways you can pitch in and make the club and our time there more enjoyable. Think about it and let us know how you can help.

Magically yours,

Stephan Sloan

FAST AND LOOSE

"Like a right gypsy, hath, at fast and loose, beguiled me to the very heart of loss," wrote Shakespeare. William was not at our last Assembly meeting but described the feeling of watching the scam routine now called the Endless Chain, but known as fast and loose to him, by a manipulator like Bruce Langrock.



Bruce, using the stage name Jay the Magician and is an award-winning magician with over thirty years of experience entertaining families in homes, schools, restaurants, and corporate settings. Tonight he was the teacher of three famous gambling effects and their history, the Three-card Monte, the Endless Chain, and the Shell Game.

The oldest scam is the shell game, which dates back to Ancient Greece. In early Renaissance England, it was called the "thimblorig" game, as it was once played using sewing thimbles. Jay presented the modern version using walnut shells and a pea.

Three-card Monte is actively being played for money in many major cities around the world. Bruce warns it is a scam, and you will not win. Bruce explains that the modern card and shell games are very elaborate operations involving several crew members. In addition to the tosser, the scam depends on a lookout to keep an eye out for the police, a "roper" to bring in potential players and one or more "shills" to get people to play.

After all workshops, we turn the stage over to member performances. Silly Reba was stretching money and finished with an extreme burn. Randy Butters and he is amazing, first performed a Bill in Lemon and finished with Cups and Balls. He does have the wand spin vanish down to perfection.

George Hann performed McDonald's Aces with deuces because as we all know, "deuces are wild". Rocco the Mindbender specializes in bizarre magic.



He performed his original routine called The Bat, which as you might guess, brings a “bat” to life.

Magic Mike performed a sponge to square and a paddle routine. Robert Francis, the Dork of Deception, who will be presenting a workshop on busking in May, started with an Egg Bag routine. That continued into a Card and Egg routine that climaxed with a named card in the raw egg. Robert’s presentation won, against a very strong field, the “Coffee Cup” award, as voted on by the members, as the best performance of the evening.



Do You Believe In Magic - Magic for the general magician



Rick Lax hits another home run. Yes, the poster child for Penguin Magic comes up with another winner. If you're looking for a trick that is quick, easy to carry and something that will make you look like David Copperfield (at least magically) then look no further than **Contact by Rick Lax**. **Contact** is a trick which will allow you to exchange information such as a phone number with another person without you even being close to them. Originally designed to get phone numbers of the

opposite sex, **Contact** can be used to swap all kinds of information. Limited only by your imagination, you can appear to defy space, time and physical barriers as your information is magically exchange with theirs under seemingly impossible conditions.

The trick is easily figured out by magicians if you know some basic card handling. However, don't let this deter you from giving it a try. I did several tricks in a row from mind reading to card tricks but the one that got everyone talking was **Contact**. Perhaps it was the distance factor that makes it seem impossible, but whatever it is, you will get astonished reactions. The basic intro into the trick is a pack of 28 cards and a download. You will ruin a special card each and every time so if you don't like the idea of buying refills, then this may not be a trick for you. After you run through the initial lot of cards, refills are available that will halve the cost of performance. Did I mention easy to carry? You can carry several cards in your wallet and all you need after that is a marker. Highly recommended.

To see a performance of **Contact** click here:

<http://www.penguinmagic.com/p/8315>

Tricks are for kids - Magic for the kid magician



There are so many plots in magic it is limitless. One very popular plot amongst mentalists is Bank Night. The Bank Night plot is basically one in which several people are chosen and there are a number of envelopes presented to them, one of which they are told contains a valuable prize. Each participant gets to pick an envelope and in the end, no surprise, the mentalist ends up with the prize despite the odds. Amongst mentalists, there is an argument as to whether the Bank

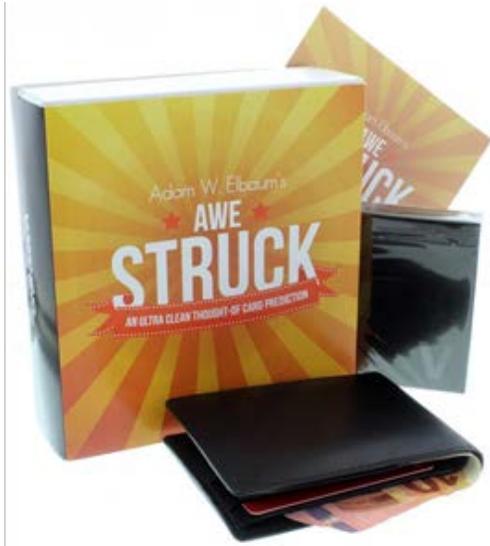
Night premise is (a) entertaining (b) insulting and (c) predictable. You will have to decide for yourself on this. However, comedy magician Stephen Bargatze came up with **I Hate Kids**, a bank night effect that will spotlight a young child in a show. In Bargatze's routine, he presents three leather wallets and explains to the child that there is money in one of them. He tries to use obvious psychology and double talk to make the child pick a particular wallet. The child calls out a number and the flustered and embarrassed magician allows the child to walk off with the bill. However, the magician has the last laugh because in the other two unchosen wallets there were larger bills. This particular version of Bank Night may not be specifically for a kids show per se but will play well when there is a mixed audience. Although, this is still a bank night routine, the wallets pack flat, are well made and are also gimmicked to allow the child to win no matter which one was picked. If you want a Bank Night type of routine with classy props that would fit right in your jacket pocket, I recommend **I Hate Kids by Stephen Bargatze**.

* There is a little controversy in regards to Bergatze's performance. His behavior may not play well on either coast but from where he comes from, the mid-west, this is normal by-play between adults and children.

To see a performance of **I Hate Kids** click here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zDBQjdIssSw>

Psycho Path - Psychic magic for the mentalist



Your spectator is asked to think of a card, and yes it can be any card. You candidly take out a deck of cards and show them their card in the deck. You open your wallet and inside is a post-it note which has that very card written on it. You show them that not only does it only have the one card written on it but it is the only post-it note in your wallet. This is the effect called **Awe Struck by Adam Elbaum**. This is a niche effect, it is almost like any card in a wallet but with a prediction. The nice thing about **Awe Struck** is that the wallet can be shown

empty. There are no indexed cards or multiple outs in the wallet. The wallet can be used as an everyday wallet as well. If you're prone to carrying multiple effects in a wallet like I am, I can see this one as a perfect candidate for that. The wallet is well made and looks like an ordinary wallet, in fact it is, but with one slight modification. It's this modification that makes **Awe Struck** work like it does. In the box comes the wallet, some post-it notes and a deck of cards. The cards are specific to **Awe Struck** and once set up can't be used for any other trick. If pocket space is an issue with you bear that in mind. In addition all the hardware you would need, a DVD is included that covers various types of handlings. There is some minor setup involved to both the cards and the wallet but once done, it doesn't have to be done again unless you give away the post-it note. **Awe Struck** is a nice twist to a plot that is commonly seen, so maybe you may want to give it a try.

To watch **Awe Struck** click here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a1WQW1sdonw>

AFFILIATES & CONTACTS



http://www.mjmmagic.com/store/index.html?referrer=CNWR_67701383693799



Read Jeff Stone's reviews at:

<http://magicreviewed.com/>



LOST ART MAGIC

Visit Eric Jones at

<https://lostartmagic.com>



Visit Joshua Jay at: <http://www.joshuajay.com/>



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MAGIC CALENDAR

	THU JUNE 1	S.A.M. Assembly 181 meeting will be on Thursday, June 1, 2017, at the First United Methodist Church, 187 Stockton Street, Hightstown, NJ 08520. Workshop by on Costume Magic by George Hann and No Judgment Zone performances, usual time; 7:00 doors open. http://magicsam181.com
	MON JUNE 5	I.B.M. Ring 165 on Monday, June 5, 2017, at the First United Methodist Church, 704 Garden Street, Haddon Heights, NJ 08035.
	Wed JUNE 7	Wednesday Wizardry has a new venue and a new show, with Johnny Mass, John Kostyal and Marc DeSouza at the Glover Street Playhouse, 433 Glover Street, Woodbury, NJ 08096 on Wednesday, June 7, 2017 at 7 PM. 856-848-8089. Tickets are \$20. www.sketchclubplayers.org/
	SUN JUNE 11	Bob Little's Super Sunday "The Best One Day Magic Convention in the World" No Registration Required. Sunday, June 11, 2017, 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM All for a Low-Low Fee of \$40.00 http://www.boblittlessupersunday.com/
	TUE JUN13	FOR MATURE AUDIENCES ONLY From the creator of the biggest magic show on the planet comes the worlds naughtiest magic show " The Naked Magicians ". Tuesday, June 13, 2017, 7:30 PM at the Count Basie Theatre, 99 Monmouth Street, Red Bank, NJ 07701. Tickets: \$75*, \$49, \$39, \$29, \$25. Call the box office at 732-842-9000
	THU JUN 15	SAM ASSEMBLY 4 2017 BANQUET & STAGE SHOW. Thursday, June 15, 2017 at the Eddington Room, 1444 Brown Ave, Bensalem, PA. Featuring the superb Magic and Comedy of Norm Klar, PNP Mike Miller, and Mort Feldman. A complete buffet dinner is included. Tickets are only \$35. To purchase tickets, call Helene Schad at 215-639-8782
	FRI JUNE 16	Prepare to be astonished by THE AMAZING KRESKIN at the Broadway Theatre of Pitman in a must-see mentalist mind event! Friday, June 16, 2017 at 8:00 PM. The Broadway Theatre of Pitman, 43 S. Broadway Pitman, NJ 08071. Tickets are only \$25. CALL: 856-384-8381 Visit: http://thebroadwaytheatre.org/
	TUE JUNE 20	I See Magic and the BBBA have partnered up to bring you Unbelievable, A Magic & Illusion Extravaganza at the Bristol Riverside Theatre, 120 Radcliffe Street Bristol, PA 19007 on Tuesday, June 20, 2017 at 7:00 PM. Only \$13 for kids and \$18 for adults. Box office: 215-785-0100. http://www.brtstage.org/special-events/unbelievable/
	WED JUN 28	I.B.M. Ring 123 will be meeting on Wednesday, June 28, 2017 at the King of Kings Lutheran Church, 250 Harmony Road, Middleton, NJ 07748 starting at 7 PM

Visit the Magic Calendar on our SAM 181 website at: http://magicsam181.com/?page_id=95