



# Ledger-Demain

A newsletter of the Tom Prete Assembly No. 127  
The Society of American Magicians

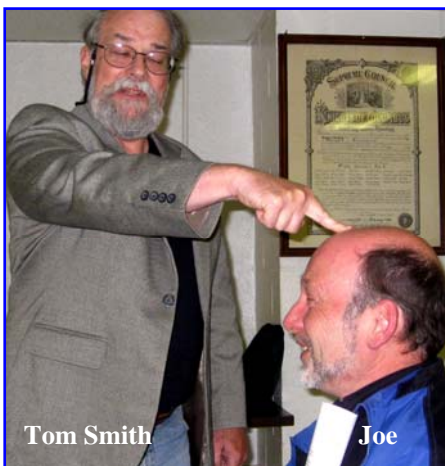
June 2008

Editor - *Henry Holava*

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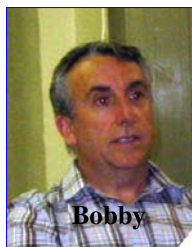
Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 279 Quinipiac St. in Wallingford. Meetings start at 7:00 pm with a magic video, a 7:30pm business meeting followed by the members performing theme magic.

## May Assembly Meeting High Lights



Tom Smith

Joe



Bobby



John



Brian



Pat



Robert



Chick Kelman

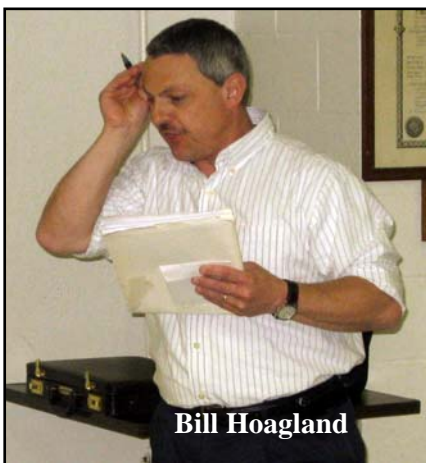
Marlene Clark



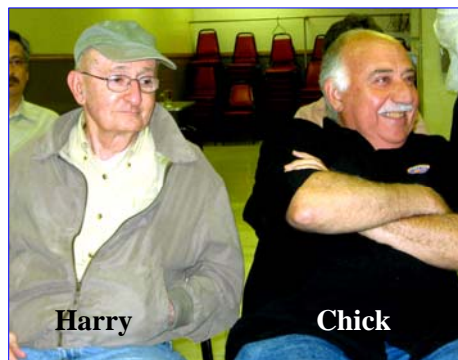
John



Dick Hodes

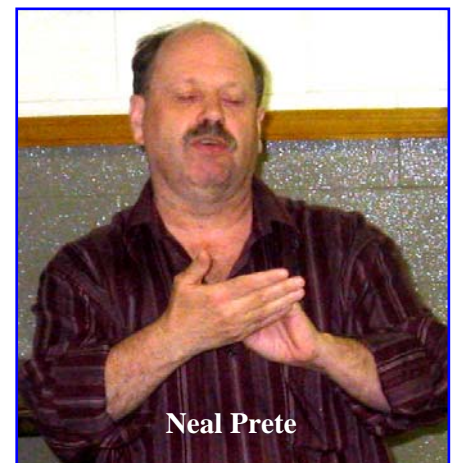


Bill Hoagland



Harry

Chick



Neal Prete

## Henry & Joe Attend 4F Close-up Convention



Assembly members Joe Cabral and Henry Holava performed at the 29th annual **FFFF** (Fechter's Finger Flicking Frolic) Close-up Convention held in Batavia NY; a small town twenty miles east of Buffalo NY. The 4F is an invitation only convention limited to 220 participants. Henry did his Chop Cup routine and Joe performed for the first time, a zombie routine with a jumbo card.

The convention started on a Wednesday night and ended on a Saturday night. During the four days of 'marathon' magic, there were six lectures, a teach-a-trick session, a workshop, four afternoon close-up shows and two gala evening close-up shows (a total of 85 magicians performed).



The most hilarious routine was when Bargatze and Rick Merrill dressed as doves, produced a magician (Bob Sheets) from a bunched up bed sheet. The magician (Bob Sheets) then ran off and kept banging himself into a window while Bergatze held out his finger to get the magician to come back.

The afternoon close-up shows ran 2 hours each and the two gala evening shows ran 4 hours each. I never heard one person complain that the shows were to long.

*-Henry*

**YOU MAY BE A MAGICIAN IF...** You've opened a can of soup and found a signed card inside.

## Troy Hooser Lecture

**Tuesday June 10th**

**7:00pm at the Knights of Columbus Hall**



Troy Hooser has long been one of the magic underground's best-kept secrets. He has published his work in major magic magazines around the world; the Linking Ring, Magic Man Examiner, Trapdoor and The Minotaur. He exploded from magic's elite underground in 2001 with his "DesTROYers" book; exposing his incredible skills to the entire magic community at large for the first time.

*Now, you have the chance to witness and learn these visual miracles for yourself straight from Troy!*

**Lecture is free for members of Assembly 127. The cost for non-members is \$15.**

## NEMCON UP DATE



Bob Little



Eugene Burger

Eugene Burger from Las Vega, Bob Little from Pennsylvania and David Boyd out of NYC have been booked to date do NEMCON 28' and we have tentative commitments from Eric DeCamps out of NYC. We are looking to book two or three additional performers. Plans are to hold a special event Friday night for people who register early and stay over Friday night. Watch for details in future newsletters.



David Boyd



Eric DeCamps

NEMCON XXVIII will take place March 14, 2009 at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Cromwell. It's going to be a great convention to start out at our new hotel.

## Did you know - Harry Houdini's Death?



Contrary to popular myth, Harry Houdini did not die in the infamous Chinese Water Torture trick as erroneously portrayed in Tony Curtis' film. Instead he died of diffuse peritonitis (his appendix ruptured) which was a direct result of being playfully punched in the abdomen by a first-year student of McGill University named Whitehead. He died at Grace Hospital on Sunday, October 31 and was buried in the bronze coffin he had planned to use in yet another underwater burial illusion.



## The Magic in Mary Poppins by Bill Hoagland



My family and I recently went to NYC to see Mary Poppins, the Broadway Play. It is not a magic show but there was sure a lot of magic in it. When Mary Poppins arrives at the house, is when the magic starts. She puts her carpet bag down on the table and reaches in and pulls out a 6' coat stand and places it in the corner and hangs her coat on it. Then she takes out a 4' plant and a 5' floor lamp and when she claps her hands the lamp goes on too. After a little while she takes a blanket out of the bag, and Jane (little girl who Mary Poppins is the nanny for) open up the blanket and when they lay it down, it is on a bed that wasn't there 1 second before, pretty cool.

Things go along like a regular musical and suddenly a wind whisks through the kitchen and the table falls apart, the dishes and shelf fall off the wall and then they go back together and everything goes back to normal. Then there is a rising cake, wilting flowers, and Mary Poppins flies for the first time.

I think the most amazing part was Bert (Mary's friend) is going to dance on the ceiling; He walks to the side of the stage and walks up the wall. Everyone did see the harness and the cables but it was so amazing to see him walk straight up the wall, it didn't even matter, it was at least 40' tall. Then he turned and was upside down and tap danced his way across the ceiling to the other side of the stage and then walked down the other side of the wall. The audience broke out in thunderous applause when he took his last step. Finally it was time for Mary Poppins to leave and she flew into the air and then over the audience, she was close enough to touch the people in the first balcony, but she didn't stop there she went up over the second balcony and into the ceiling somewhere.

This was a great way to see how magic trick could be used to enhance an ordinary story and not just a magic show. We all should learn from what they did with these simple magic tricks.

Editor's note: Mary Poppins is at the New Amsterdam Theater, Broadway & 42 St. Tickets can be ordered on-line at [www.DisneyOnBroadway.com](http://www.DisneyOnBroadway.com).

## MUM Editor Announces his Retirement



John Moehring, MUM Editor has decided to retire when his contract expires this year on July 31, 2008. He will remain through a transition period through the end of the year. A search committee has been appointed to fill the position. The search committee is made up of the same three Past National Presidents who originally found and negotiated with John three years ago; they are *Craig Dickson*, *Richard Dooley* and *Gary Hughes*.

## Notes from the President



We just finished up with the May meeting and we have a lecturer coming up in June. A lot of people at the meeting say Troy Hooser is excellent. The lecture will be the Tuesday before the June assembly meeting.

What a lot of work it has been revising our By-laws. We are really not changing anything major; rather just bringing them up to day. We have been looking at the National by-laws to be sure we conform to what is in theirs too.

Keep your eyes on the newsletter and our web page [www.magicsam127.org](http://www.magicsam127.org) for all the things coming up in the next few months; lecture, picnic, Nemcon meetings. It is going to be a busy summer. Remember our motto for the year, "Get Involved"

*-Bill Hoagland*

**CONGRADULATIONS**

I think Assembly 127 should congratulate our editor Henry Holava for the publication of his "Altoid Card Production" in the June issue of M.U.M. The layout of his effect on page 43 is especially striking, with detailed photographs and "cool" graphics. Henry's fertile "magic brain" is at work again!

*-Dick Hodes*

**SUMMER SALE  
THE STUDIO OF MAGIC  
1771 Silas Deane Hwy.**

**EACH SATURDAY IN JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST  
THE STUDIO OF MAGIC WILL PLACE TRICKS AND BOOKS  
SELECTED BY THE WEEK'S PROPRIETOR  
ON SALE AT SUBSTANTIAL DISCOUNTS.  
NO RAIN CHECKS AND NO SPECIAL ORDERS**

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**Next Meeting**

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**Tuesday June 17, 2008**

7:00 pm – Watch a magic video

7:30 pm – Business Meeting

8:00 pm – MC Adam Parisi

Tribute to Dai Vernon

(Mini Lecture on Dai Vernon Magic)

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**Save the date!**

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Tuesday June 10.....Troy Hooser lecture

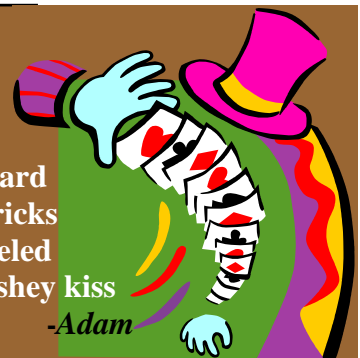
Tuesday July 15..... Summer meeting  
Works-in-progress

August picnic.....Date/place TBA

Tuesday Aug. 19.....Regular meeting  
MC Pat Guida  
No slight card tricks

**The June after Meeting Magic**

Adam Parisi is MC & plans on doing some classic Dai Vernon Effects with his own spin including his Triumph meets Card Under Glass effect called "High Definition". Adam wants to also focus on card effects that are not card effects, getting away from the pick a card tricks that start so many routines; by showing his blank deck routine modeled after Aldo's "Y2K" effect and his effect "Sealed with a Kiss"; a Hershey kiss from a card routine.



*-Adam*