

# HOCUS FOCUS



June 2017

[ The Official Newsletter of Ring 12 ]

Meeting Dates:

Monday June 5, 2017

6:30 PM – Doors

7:00 PM – Teaching Table and Meeting

Screening Room Cinema and Café

880 Alberta Dr.

Amherst, New York 14226

**Please note the new address**

The Screening Room entrance is on the Alberta Dr. side of the Boulevard Mall. You drive in the Mall parking lot from Alberta Dr., and the Screening room is between JC Penny and Macys. You cannot enter the Screening room from the Mall.

Teaching Table: **Mike Harmon**

# Wednesday Lunch Crew

## June Birthdays

June 7	Mike Joseph
June 10	George Fidel
June 10	Scott Hood
June 16	Mark Falzone
June 19	Victor Trabucco
June 28	Rosemary Maloney-Hoffman



## July Birthdays

July 11 Ryan Lehman  
July 18 Bill Price  
July 20 Matt Whittaker  
July 24 Willis Utter  
July 28 Mike Baron  
July 31 Ed Blaszak



## August Birthdays

August 3 Tim Harrington  
August 6 Jim Hyland  
August 10 Ryan Martinucci  
August 10 Helen Wismer  
August 16 Jim O'Neill  
August 21 Dave Wiedemer  
August 25 John Tykoliz  
August 28 Andrew McLaughlin



**Happy Birthday**

## **President's Letter**

My how time flies! Here we are at the end of the 2016-2017 program year and what a year it has been! I would like to thank everyone for participating in RING 12 this year. I feel honored to have served as President of this fine organization over the past two years and appreciate all of hard work and cooperation of our Membership and Board of Directors. Thank you all for a memorable time!

Thanks to GARY ROG for volunteering for the Teaching Table and thanks to MARK LEVERIDGE an excellent lecture!

I would like to encourage everyone to attend the June meeting as we will be holding elections for the Board of Directors. Each candidate will have an opportunity to speak to the membership during the business portion of the June meeting and we will conduct the voting during the break.

Stay tuned in email and your mailbox as we will be scheduling the Ring 12 Summer Picnic for sometime this summer. We will be sending out postcards and email notifications with the details.

Magically Yours,

Brian Blake

## **Editor's Letter**

Welcome to June, the final Hocus Pocus of the season. We had quite a year. Two Wizard Wars, bonus meetings, auctions, the Hare Ball with our gang as well as Losander. Our final meeting is our own ring members. That's exciting. A great way to end the season. I enjoy this task of writing the Hocus Pocus. I appreciate all of you who take the time to read this. We can use articles here about anything, or, like Mike Harmon got the ball rolling on, we can have profiles. I've thought of having a space to sell stuff, but the odds of it making into the Hocus Pocus are slim because I might wind up just purchasing it. If you have ideas for anything, let me know. I'm that guy at the meetings with a notebook. I don't have a hat with a "press" sign on it yet. Thank you all and I will be back in August with your September Hocus Pocus. I'll also probably send an e-mail blast regarding another bonus meeting. Monday August 7<sup>th</sup>, with Martin Mercy.

Thanks for reading,

Shlomo Birkan

## **May's Meeting**

As per usual, we began with our teaching table, we got two magicians for the price of one. First Ed Barszcz. He performed a card illusion with a face up face down mixed up deck with several predictions (ex. How many reds up, etc.). Next up was Gary Rog. He talked about using magic as an ice breaker and minor tricks to impress. One such illusion was when a strip of paper was cut, once turned over it was cut right where it read "cut here" and the spectator had free choice to cut anywhere on the strip.

Now onto the main event. Our ring lucks out being so close to the FFFF convention. We often get a member the next Monday. This year was no different. We had Mark Leveridge. He performed many effects, I'll just go over a few of them. One was with 5 DVD's. All classic titles from the 80's and 90's. One of the 5 DVD's disappeared and ended up in Mark's pocket. He had a routine with a ring on a string. He also performed what looked like professor's nightmare. The effect began with 3 different lengths of rope, became the same size and remained the same size, unlike professor's nightmare where the ropes go back to different lengths. He had another rope effect where rope's knot turned into a silk. There was a lot to learn. Instead of selling lecture notes, he sold access to his web site. This site has many illusions, moves, stories and much more. I've earned a lot from his sight. He'll be on my computer for a long time.

## **FUTURE FILE**

JUNE 5 – General meeting LUNCH BUNCH lecture; Teaching Table MIKE HARMON @ Screening Room

JUNE 12 – Board of Directors dinner at Shamus Restaurant, 98 West Ave, Lockport

JULY 12-15 – IBM/SAM Combined Convention, Galt House, Louisville, KY

AUGUST 7 – Special lecture MARTIN MERCY at Screening Room