

Special Edition

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS RING 19 - ACCEPT NO SUBSTITUTES

Close-Up Convention Highlights

Minnesota Magic Conference Close-Up and in the Parlour II

The weekend of June 7-9, 2002, brought together an amazing line-up of magicians, both professional and hobbyists. It was the second annual Close-Up and in the Parlour magic convention in Bloomington, Minnesota. The convention was organized by a strong group of people from our IBM Ring #19, headed by current president, Paul Chimzar.

The national talent included Doc Eason, Paul Cummins, Thom Peterson, Gregory Wilson, Jerry Andrus and Shoot Ogawa. Some local faces involved with the big shows were Suzanne, Dave Walbridge and Norm Barnhart. What a great group of magicians.

The weekend started with the Friday Close-Up show, where each of our national guests performed a 12-15 minute set, including some of the most unique close-up seen. Following that, Gregory Wilson lectured for a



good 90 minutes, presenting much of the material he is

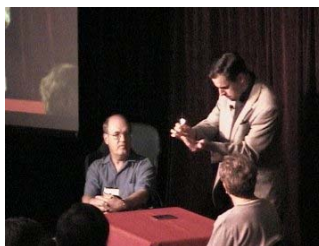


Ring 19 President Paul Chimzar presided over the conference events.

famous for, including Re-Cap and his own "Pitch and Ditch" all around vanish. Greg's energy and great magic were enough to keep anyone from falling asleep during his lecture.

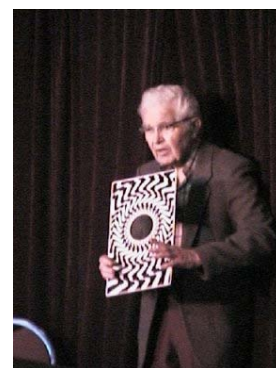
Magical voices were still heard at 4:30 AM in the hospitality suites in the hotel.

After very little sleep, an astonishing number of people pulled themselves from bed to attend Thom Peterson's lecture. Many folk, not having heard of Thom, were not sure what to expect. Thom came through with flying colors and presented some of his top hospitality suite routines such as a 3 card monte with some



special handling, as well as how to smash a tomato in your bare hand and make it funny.

Right after lunch, topological magic master, Jerry Andrus, came and showed us his amazing mix of magic illusions, optical illusions, and hints and tips about being the best magicians possible. Jerry emphasized ENTERTAINMENT over SKILL, and told how to blend both to-



gether correctly.

Also, throughout the entire convention, Jerry had a full display of his optical illusions, as well as explanations of how and why each one worked the way it did. If you were lucky enough, you might even have heard some of Jerry's wonderful poetry read. What a treat.

From Japan, via Los Angeles, California, our surprise lecturer for the weekend was Shoot Ogawa. Shoot



Convention Highlights

displayed some unique and interesting variations on the



Matrix principle, coins across, visible coins to glass and a routine created by his magic teacher, the Ninja Rings. Shoot's magic was heard during each performance to bring gasps of awe and "no way" from those watching very closely.

Following dinner was the Parlour Show, once again featuring each of our magical artists. The show was a non-stop 2-hour ride of amazing magic and bust-a-gut laughs. Each performer contributed his or her own style to make the show a nicely woven show that was great.

Just when we thought we had seen it all, along came Doc Eason, who lectured until 11 PM with his greats such as Copper/Silver/Brass, and his thoughts on the Multiple Card Selection

routine.

Once again, some people



stayed up until the wee morning hours, sharing magic routines and ideas with each other. I later found out that some never even went to bed between Saturday and Sunday. Crazy what we'll do to see more magic, huh?

At last years convention, the surprise Sunday lecture by Bill Goldman was the sleeper hit of the conference. This year's Sunday lecturer was no different. Paul Cummins took to the platform, and showed what he is known for: Uniquely



designed routines, with a simplicity of action and effect. Paul performed card miracles from his original FASDIU notes, and some from his latest set, FASDIU 2.

And just when we thought the weekend was closing down, Paul headed up a special lecture, the Acme Card Magic Workshop. This extra fee lecture involved self-working card magic that really fools people. Through both of Paul's lectures, he showed that he is capable of entertaining audiences with self-working routines, as well as those that require a sufficient amount of practice and card handling skill.

Our dealer room had some of the best folks from around the Midwest, including Eagle Magic Store (the oldest magic shop in the country), Twin Cities Magic & Costume, Joe Stevens Magic, Bob Miller Magic, Doc Eason, FASDIU Magic, Coin Maker Todd Lassen, and Shoot Ogawa Magic. Whatever you wanted, it could probably be found there.



Thom and Greg trying to break into Paul's room to try get an advanced

Upcoming Performances

Thin Air brings Magic to the Fringe

Thin Air is a funny, inventive, and sometimes touching comedy magic show starring Washington, DC magicians Mark Phillips and Karen Beriss. Their original magic and off-beat comedy is fun for everyone; kids, grammas, teens and first dates. It's a bit Penn & Teller and a little bit Burns and Allen and a lot of fun.

Cost: \$10

Where: The Women's Club
410 Oak Grove, Minneapolis

Dates: Aug 2 @ 7pm,

Aug 4 @ 8:30pm

Aug 5 @ 7pm

Aug 9 @ 10pm

Aug 10 @ 4pm