



OFFICIAL WEBSITE:
WWW.OAKLANDMAGICCIRCLE.COM

The Oakland Magic Circle
meets the first Tuesday of every month except July at
Bjornson Hall, 2258 Macarthur Blvd., Oakland, CA 94602
Doors open at 6:00 pm
February 2011

Tuesday, February 1, 2011
Annual Installation Banquet and Show
6:00 Doors open
7:00 Dinner
8:00 Show

President's Message

John Carney.

Wow.

As this is my first message as new president I should probably begin by telling our community a little more about myself...but first...I just have to take a moment.

Wow.

John Carney. Those of you in attendance know what a treat we all experienced. Simply put, by the end of the evening I feel we were each inspired to go out and improve our magic. What a wonderful message for the beginning of a new year.

Okay, so a little about your new president. I grew up in New Jersey, got the magic bug about the same time most of you did, started performing birthday parties in high school, and got nicknamed "Presto" at my first college. Not exactly sure what I was doing in college, I took a leave of absence (okay, kind of dropped out and lost my scholarship - sorry Dad) my second year. A highlight of that year off was a 10,000-mile, cross-country, magic, balloon-twisting, juggling, street performing episode with a good friend that took us from Jersey to San Francisco and all up and down the country.

Returning to school the following year (this time at Wesleyan), I started taking private lessons with Jamy Ian Swiss. He kind of kicked the crap out of me and in the process made me

start to really care for and respect the craft and the art of magic. After college, in Boston, magic was always there but acting and comedy were my passions. And now, after being on the West Coast for about six years, I've fallen back into magic. And that's what you'll find me doing when I'm not busy teaching second grade at Berkeley Unified or spending time with my wife, Joanna, and my seven-month-old son, Leo.

That's enough about me for right now. I look forward to hearing your stories as well. Now I'd like to share with you three goals I have for our club:

Goal #1: To increase membership by making sure those who might be interested know what a great community we have, and to make that community even more welcoming.

Goal #2: To make ourselves a larger and more positive presence in the Oakland community with an outreach program that draws from our resources and talents.

Goal #3: To ensure the OMC continues to function as a valuable resource for both professionals and enthusiasts of the magical arts.

While I have some ideas, I don't know what these goals will end up looking like in practice, and in that regard welcome your comments, suggestions, support, and critiques. I encourage you to email me at president@oaklandmagiccircle.com with any thoughts. If you're getting this via email, you can also just respond to this newsletter. I will receive those messages as well. I will continue to revisit these three goals throughout the year and keep you informed of their progress.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the installation banquet! Here's to a great year!

All the best,

Mike Della Penna

Minutes of Meeting 4 January 2011

The meeting was called to order by outgoing president Scott Alcalay at 7:15 p.m. Frank Biafore showed a CD on Playland at the Beach, available at Playland-not-at-the-Beach. He also suggested using a special card at some local supermarkets as a portion of the sales is given to Playland NATB. Mark Tarses mentioned that he still has a few OMC jackets available at a bargain price. Scott told us that after three rewarding but grueling years he is turning the presidency over to his successor, Mike Della Penna. Scott then introduced our guest lecturer for the evening, John Carney, who was outstanding.
Byron Walker, Secretary

Call for Help with Banquet

Love your magic club? What can you do to help out? Here's a great opportunity! Set-up for the installation banquet starts at 4:30pm. Be at Bjornson Hall at 4:30pm to lend a hand. All those arriving at 4:30pm will be officially known as awesome. Can't get there early? Stay late and help us all clean up. It'll be fun!

Pay Your Dues!

In spite of the great turn out for the Carney lecture, collection of dues this year has been very disappointing and well behind last year. This is a request for 2011 dues. \$20 members, \$15 life members, check made out to Oakland Magic Circle, mailed to the OMC Treasurer Manya Casto, 1853 Lamplight Ct, Walnut Creek, 94597.

Future Events

February- Installation Banquet and Show
March- Film and DVD Teach-In: Start to look around for an up-to ten-minute magic-related film clip that you would like to share with the club. At this point, we don't know what formats will be accepted... but assume at least DVD.
April- The Largest and Finest Magic Auction and Flea Market in Northern California!
May – TBA
June – Lloyd Jones Close-up contest for OMC Members
July – Annual Scott Alcalay Trip to the Alameda County Fair (no regular meeting)
August – OMC Intra-Club Stage Competition
September – OMC Inter-Club stage competition and Spaghetti dinner.
October – TBA
November – Nominations for 2011 officers
December – Election of 2011 officers

Finally

I realize that many of our members continue to receive our post via U.S. mail and do not use email. I would like to invite the opinions of these members as well. Please write and address your comments/concerns to: The Oakland Magic Circle c/o Byron Walker POB 3186 San Leandro, CA 94578

All news for the newsletter is due by the 3rd Tuesday of every month. Please send submissions to president@oaklandmagiccircle.com or byron.walker@comcast.net

