



# The Magic & Illusion Show Monthly Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 2

December 2008

## Special Points of

### Interest:

- Our public show schedule
- A magic show review
- Magic news
- Trick of the month
- Entertainment news
- Party Magic news



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## Welcome Back

### This Month

We have lots of Private Parties scheduled for December. We will even be performing a private function for the British Embassy at the Ambassadors Mansion on December 13th.

Our Public shows include:

- \* Dec 5th an Illusion show in Harman WV

Show will start at 7:00pm at Harman School

- \* Dec 31st We will be doing 3 Illusion shows for a New Year's Eve street festival called Celebrate Orange. Show times are 7, 9, & 11 pm. The shows will be held at Orange Presbyterian Church. Call us for more info.

Natalie and I always try to get into the holiday spirit by giving back each and every year. We have performed a free show for the Ronald McDonald house, performed magic for the homeless at a church event, 24 hours of magic for the Children's Miracle Network and purchase toys for the Toys for Tots drive.

We feel truly blessed to be able to do what we love for a living. Even though our schedules are crazy we know we are so lucky to be able to do magic full time.

*With the holiday season already here it can get very crazy. We all need to take time to remember the reason for the season.*

*Have A Magical Holiday Season!*



## Who is this Guy?



This month's magic show review brings us into the Smokey Mountains. All the way to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee; the home of Terry Evanswood. His new show is called "Magic Beyond Belief" held in his new theatre called the Magic Beyond Belief Theatre.

Terry is a graduate of the Chavez School of Magic, and in 1991, Evanswood became the youngest illusionist in history to perform at Hollywood's famed Magic Castle. He has been on the cover of Magic Magazine and he also won the highest honor; the coveted Doctorate of Magic Award presented to him by the International Magicians Society.

## Who is this guy? (cont.)

Natalie & I first saw his show in 2006 while we were performing in Tennessee for the Sunburst Beauty Pageant state finals. His show was fantastic! After the show I introduced myself to him and he gave us a tour backstage, introduced us to his crew, and we discussed magic for about an hour. We were really surprised that he took time out like that and showed us around since we just met. His new show is even bigger and better with his new addition of some big cats. He now is working for a corporation instead of himself. He said it was hard getting used to it because they advertise for him and all he has to do is show up for work instead of doing every little thing.

We got to see him again in 2007 in his new theatre and he was still trying to get used to things; for example, the size of the stage and someone else telling him who his assistants were going to be. It was an internal struggle he was going through, but you would never know it when you saw him onstage; he was still flawless, funny, and a real nice guy. During this show he asked Natalie and I to stand up to be recognized as a magician friend of his from Va. That is just the kind of guy he is, a big name in magic with his ego in check. We are honored to call him a friend.



*Picture of Wes & Terry in 2007*

You can also check him out at [www.pigeonforgemagic.com](http://www.pigeonforgemagic.com) and he also has a few clips on [youtube.com](http://youtube.com)

## 24 Hours of Magic

Natalie & I performed for 24 hours straight December 2007 in front of Wal-Mart in Staunton VA. We did 72 mini shows working 10 min on and 10 min off. All to raise money for the Children's Miracle Network. With the help of our sponsors at Joe Bowman's Auto Plaza in Harrisonburg it was a huge success. We had lot of people come out and see us and the local paper, The News Leader, from Staunton came out with a camera man to document the event from start to finish. By the time it was over we had been on ABC for the 5,6,& 11 o'clock news and had tons of coverage in the paper for 3 days straight, including a big spread on the front page. Not only was this my first attempt at putting something like this together but it made me feel great when everybody came out to say what a wonderful thing we were doing for the kids.

On Dec 2nd-Dec 3rd 2008 we did it again. Although the weather wasn't as great this year, the event was still successful. In 24 hours we had temperatures from 38 to 20 degrees and with the wind chill it felt like 11. It really made us thankful to know we had a warm home to go to when this was over.



## The Magic Castle

As many of you know, Natalie and I got married this year on May 17. While honeymooning in Palm Springs we made a day trip to Los Angeles to visit the Magic Castle. The Magic Castle is an exclusive club for Magicians. It opened in 1963 and since then it has gone on to become world famous. Magicians from around the world perform there as well as come out to see some magic shows themselves. Not only is it the home of a fine dining restaurant upstairs, down stairs is where all the fun is. It has several bars and rooms just to mingle in and share magic with other magicians. It has several rooms where Magicians who are hired by the Castle are waiting to entertain you. Each room has a different kind of show schedule, these include:

\* A Close Up Room it only holds about 20 people who are sat in theatrical seating and the guy is working with only a deck of cards and maybe some coins.



## The Magic Castle (cont.)

\* A Parlor Room it holds about 75 people and it is meant to represent a show in someone's living room. Some of the effects are done with larger props, but nothing too big

\* The stage holds around 300 people. It is the larger Vegas style show

Not only can you come each week and see different entertainers working, you never know who you will run into at the castle. Magicians get in with their membership cards or a guest pass but celebrities seem to just walk in no questions asked. Oh by the way that is one reason cameras are not allowed in the castle.

Magic memorabilia covers each and every wall at the castle from props used in famous magicians acts from the past to posters, 8x10's, and much, much more. Houdini even has his own room with his personal memorabilia and props everywhere.

Magic is everywhere at the castle even from the start. Once you get your reservations checked you will not make it out of the lobby with out saying "Open Sesame" to make the door open to the next room.

For a virtual tour and more info check out [www.magiccastle.com](http://www.magiccastle.com)



## Magic News



You probably haven't heard from Siegfried & Roy since the attack, but according to their web site it looks like they are both doing fine. They just recently welcomed in a bunch of new cubs and are preparing for this year's Santa run held on Dec 6th at 10:00 am. This is all for charity, last year they had 7,269 suited runners. This year they hope for more.

We wish them luck!

**Sarmoti**

Siegfried and Roy Masters of the Impossible



Keep up with them on [www.siegfriedandroy.com](http://www.siegfriedandroy.com) / check them out on [youtube.com](http://youtube.com)

*Pictures are of Siegfried & Roy at Santa run in 2007 and new pack of cubs*

## Entertainment news

Jason Alexander (George Constanza) of "Seinfeld fame" has been in so many movies and TV shows I was surprised when I saw how long the list was. One thing for sure he has certainly been working since 1981 according to Wikipedia. An interesting fact you may not know about him is that he not only loves magic but is a magician himself. He performed at the Magic Castle and was recently named "Parlor Magician of the Year" by the Academy of Magical Arts. He did some mentalism & comedy magic that kept his audience in awe the entire time. He was truly an actor playing the part of a magician, which is what magicians strive to pull off. **Way to go George!!**



## Steve Martin Comedian, Actor, Magician

A young Steve Martin was a writer for the Smothers Brothers when they invited him out on stage for a great magical comedy routine. This was the earliest performance I have ever seen of Steve doing magic.

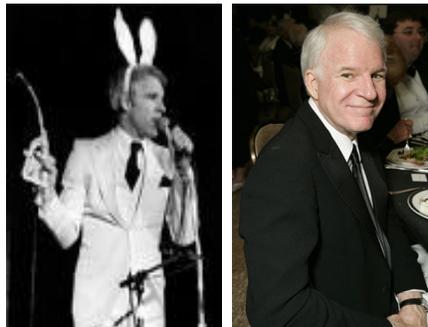
Steve did magic as a kid and as a teen worked as a demonstrator at Disneyland's magic shop, called Merlin's Magic. He performed on Late Night with Johnny Carson as Flydini the most original and funny magic routine you may ever see.

Not only did Steve Martin love magic, he has lots of other talents you may not know about. He does balloon animals, tap dances and plays the banjo. He has won 3 Grammy awards; in 1978 for a

comedy album, in 1979 for a comedy album, and in 2001 for his banjo playing with Earl Scruggs. He has played in some great movies such as Parenthood, Planes, Trains & Automobiles, Father of the Bride, Cheaper by the Dozen, and many more.

Check him out on Youtube.com

Look for the Flydini and Smothers Brothers clips as well as many others.



## Magic for the homeless

On Wednesday the 26th of November I performed magic for the homeless with the help of some of my friends in magic.

This is an event held by the First Baptist Church in Charlottesville. The church invites all the homeless people in the area to come in for the night and enjoy a warm meal and a warm bed. The church also provides games and a movie and lots of volunteers who are trying to help them help

themselves. It was a great turnout, lots of people enjoying the magic and having fun in tough times.

Dick Gallagher & Ron Schneider both members of that church asked me to come out and take part. All 3 of us did close up magic around the tables. It was a very humbling experience and I'm glad to have been able to do it and I will be happy to be a part of the event again next year.



*Picture of me, Dick & Ron*

## Tiny Tots Village Illusion show

We did an illusion show on November 25th for a daycare in Vienna Va. called Tiny Tots Village. The show took place at James Madison High School. The show went great & after the show we found out that Joyce Decker, the contact for the event, was doing an informal poll to see if the audience would come back again to see the show in the spring. She said

every single customer said absolutely. The next show is a fundraiser for the Little League program in Vienna. They have not yet chosen a date but when they do we will let you know.

Thanks again to everyone who helped make this event so successful. We look forward to seeing you again in the spring!



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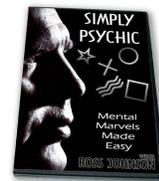
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*You're going to love this one!*

# Trick of the Month

## X-Ray Vision Magic Trick

A jaw dropping trick that will stun your friends! The object of this trick is to cut a pack of cards into three face down piles. You then gaze at the three piles for a few moments in total concentration and correctly name the top cards of the three piles.

**Here is how the trick is done.**

Before you start the trick you must know the name of the top card of the pack, which is easy to find out. Simply glimpse at the top card as you spread the pack to show the spectator that it is an ordinary pack of cards!

Now put the pack of cards face down on the table and ask the spectator to cut it into three roughly equal piles, keeping all the cards face down. As the cards are being cut you must keep track of the pile with your known card on top, let's say the "*King of Spades*".

You now say to the spectator "I have x-ray vision. I have enough of this x-ray power to see through paper and other materials to a depth of about a millimeter, which is just about deep enough to read through a playing card, most of the time!"

Now tell the spectator to write down on a piece of paper each card that you have seen with the "*x-ray vision*" so that no mistakes can be made.

Now point at one of the piles (**not the one with your known card on top**), frown for a second and say "That card is the King of Spades" Lift the card up from the pile with your left hand without the spectator being able to see the face of it, smile as if you were right and remember the card (**let's say its the five of diamonds**) and keep it hidden in your right hand.

Now point to the other pile with the unknown card on top and say, "**That card is the five of diamonds**" Lift the card up with your left hand and look at it again smiling confidently. Remember this second card, let's say it's the "Jack of Hearts" and hide it with the first card in your other hand.

Now look at the third pile (**the one with the King of Spades on top**) and say, "That card is the Jack of Hearts". Lift up the card and smile again as you look at it and then place with the other two cards.

Now ask the victim "What cards did you write down?"

As the victim reads out the names of the cards you turn them over one by one showing that you do indeed have *x-ray vision!*