



The Magic & Illusion Show Monthly Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 1

January 2009

Happy New Year!

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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This Month

As always we have a lot of private parties scheduled for January.

Our Public shows include:

* Jan 9th an Illusion show in Onley, VA

Show will start at 7:00 at Nandua high school

February public show schedule

* Feb 21st an Illusion show in Ruckersville, VA

Show will start at 7:30 at William Monroe High School

* Feb 27th an Illusion show in South Boston, VA

Show will start at 7:30 at Halifax County High School

* Feb 28th an Illusion show in Preston, MD

Show will start at 2:00 at Preston Elementary School

For more info about any of our shows please feel free to call us toll free at 1 877 987 4201 anytime.



Natalie & I after our show at the British Embassy

Natalie & I wish all of you a wonderful and Happy New Year

Who Is This Guy?

Rick Thomas started his magic career at the early age of 7. He began performing magic professionally at the age of 13 earning \$5 per show. Now, Rick makes his dreams a reality in his latest version of the show, "The Art of Dreaming". This show will amaze you with original illusions, exciting choreography, beautiful dancers, exotic birds and royal white and orange Bengal tigers. Watch Rick magically appear out of nowhere atop a Harley Davidson motorcycle while his talented leather-clad female dancers wave racing flags around him.



Who is this guy? (cont.)

Renown for his "Incredible Shrinking Tiger" illusion, Rick leads his full-grown white tiger, Samson, into a box marked "Wild Animal", shrinks it in size and then reveals a smaller version of Samson. "Majestic" is the word that best describes the Bengal Tigers in Rick Thomas' spectacular magical productions. Rick's love for magic is matched only by his passion for exotic cats. Thomas is quite dedicated to these beautiful animals.

Natalie and I saw Rick in 2006 in Vegas, we did not know much about him then. When the show started we were both very surprised to see a man who worked with tigers for the right reason; not to sell tickets, but to help in conserving them and continue to bring their struggle to the audience's attention. He truly loves his cats and the audience loves him for it. During his show he did wonderful dove magic, illusions, and lots of dancing. At one point he produces a baby tiger and lets it walk out and play among the audience and lets the members of the audience pet it as it walks by. As far as I know he is now working overseas fulfilling a 2 year contract, and then hopes to come back to Vegas.

When Natalie & I met him after the show he was really nice and very cool. He spoke with us about his cats and his show.

The casino we saw him at was being imploded the following month and he told us about his plans to keep on working after that gig ended. I would recommend his show to anyone.

Check him out at Rickthomas.com

He has several videos there you will enjoy.



Wes & Natalie perform for the British Embassy

On December 13th 2008 Natalie and I got to perform for the British Embassy at the Ambassador's Mansion. We knew from the start this was going to be fun, but challenging. When they booked the show they also wanted us to perform one of our large stage illusions. We both knew taking the van while pulling our trailer down all those roads in DC wasn't going to be easy. We decided to pack the van with everything we would need for the show and also load the sound system and the illusion in the van. It all fit, but it was really tight.

When we arrived at the Ambassador's Mansion we met up with our contact and looked around. The place was beautiful and the Christmas decorations were amazing. We performed for about 150 people and the show went great. They all said how cool it was that I was able to make Natalie vanish right in front of them on a marble floor.

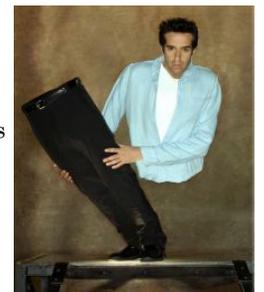
Thanks again! We hope to see you again in 2009.



Magic News / David Copperfield

David Copperfield, I'm sure you have heard the name, you may have even seen his show, but did you know:

He has a secret passion: preserving the history of the art of magic for present and future generations by providing a safe, permanent home for old props, books, and other historical artifacts related to conjuring. His vast collection, known as the International Museum and Library of the Conjuring Arts, is housed in Nevada. Copperfield's goal is to build a monument to the history of magic as a performing art, an ongoing museum that will survive us all. "Every contemporary magician stands on the shoulders of giants." says Copperfield, "and this museum is eloquent proof of the rich mosaic of contributions by men and women throughout the ages to this most compelling of all art forms." It is not open to the public. In other news, *Forbes Magazine* reported that Copperfield earned \$57 million in 2003, making him the tenth highest paid celebrity in the world. It also estimated that he made \$57 million in 2004 and \$57 million in 2005. (WOW! See mom, magic can pay off!)



Our New Year's Eve show 2008

This New Year's Eve Natalie and I performed at the 3rd annual Music on Main Street Celebration also called Celebrate Orange. We did our shows at 7:00, 9:00 & 11:00 pm. We performed 3 illusions and lots of magic in 45 minutes and then hung out in our dressing room after each show while a classical pianist performed in front of the stage we were just on. They had 11 acts in all, mostly all music except for us and a magician friend of mine named Dennie Huber from the Philadelphia area. Dennie performed a grind type of show doing balloon animals and a close up show for kids from 7-11 pm without a break.

We were very happy with all the positive feedback. Natalie and I signed so many autographs and posed for so many pictures after each show it made us very pleased to ring in the new year with those folks. Our shows drew in more people than any other venue according to staffers, even though they believed the numbers of attendees were down from previous years. It was not their fault, it was mainly due to 60 mile an hour winds and temperatures in the teens.

Thanks again Orange for a wonderful New Year's Eve. We had a great time and hope to see you again next year!



Party Magic News

2009 starts off Party Magic's 13th year in business. I started Party Magic right after graduating from high school. Since then it has grown to include DJ's, jugglers, magicians, clowns, face painters, balloon artists, seasonal characters & more.

In 2008 my brother Jay Iseli joined the company as a DJ. He has said he has been having a blast performing at weddings, school dances, private parties, company picnics, & corporate events.

In 2008 my brother, Jay Iseli joined the company as a DJ.

Jay not only does a great job, but he actually customizes music for each & every show.

Jay is 9 years older than I am and that can make things interesting. I know sometimes it is hard for him to take advice from his little brother, but he seems to swallow that bitter pill reluctantly with half a smile.

We look forward to working with him for a long time....

Entertainment News / Neil Patrick Harris

Neil Patrick Harris may be mostly known for playing the roll of Doogie Houser and now stars on the TV show called How I Met Your Mother, but you may not know that he is a huge fan of magic. In early 2008, according to sources, he has become a board member of the Magic Castle's Academy of Magical Arts. The board has governed over the castle since its opening in 1963. Neil is the first celebrity on the board since Cary Grant.

He is hoping to help bring fresh blood into the castle & he also wants to oversee and help discourage high rises being built next door which could take away a huge chunk of ambience from the castle. Neil calls himself an amateur magician, but I have seen him perform on Ellen's daytime talk show and other places, he did a great job. He may not be able to pull off a full evening show, but he can do magic very well.



Wayne Alan's New Magic Cook Book

I first met Wayne at a magic lecture in Northern Va in 2007. I walked in not knowing anyone and he introduced me to everyone he knew and made me really feel at home. I kept in touch with him after and just by talking to him I could tell he knew magic and magic was not just a hobby for him. A few months later I met him in Maryland for lunch and we had a blast discussing magic ideas and swapping stories. Not until it was time to leave did I realize who Wayne Alan is, I had been having lunch with a FISM winner. After translation, FISM stands for "Federation International of Magic Societies" it is the Olympics of magic. In 1982, Wayne won for most original illusion, the exact same year that Lance Burton won overall at FISM.

Back in 2007 I over heard Wayne telling someone about a book he was working on and he said it was a magic cook book. I didn't understand what a magic cook book was until the book came out. Here is the run down: Wayne Alan shares over 100 healthy and delectable vegetarian recipes collected during his storied and award-winning career in show business.

Magical Meatless Meals is a unique collection of tasty recipes, intriguing stories, and fascinating tricks, brought to you by America's renowned magic chef. Also included are 25 amazing and easy to learn magic tricks that can be performed in the kitchen or at the dinner table.

My copy is on order and I can't wait!

For more info check out www.magiccookbook.com



Picture of me & Wayne in 2008

Harmon School Illusion show

On December 5th Natalie and I performed an illusion show for the Harmon School in Harmon, WV.

It was really cold loading & unloading all of our props from the van and trailer. It was around 14 degrees and the wind was really blowing.

The show was great and they had a great turnout. They opened the doors at 5:30 for a 7:00 show and people started trickling in. By show time you

could feel the energy of the room and people were ready for something to happen, especially the ones who had been there since 5:45.

After the intermission the Harmon School raffled off some prizes including food and the 50/50 raffle winner was announced. Then I called up the contact for the event, Ben McKean, and he brought up the box I mailed him 1 month prior to

the show. Inside was a bottle with a note inside. He opened everything up and I broke the bottle and the note matched the headline of that day's USA Today.

Everyone was shocked that I was able to pull that off, especially since Ben himself had the bottle locked up in the bank vault at Grant County Bank the whole time.

Hey, it's Magic Guys!

Wes & Natalie Lecturing for Magicians

Natalie & I will be teaching magic and business techniques to magicians in the International Brotherhood of Magicians also called the IBM. The local IBM club is held in Staunton, Virginia. This is my first time lecturing for magicians, although I have taught magic to beginners for years. I will be focused on helping other magicians realize their potential and get started in the business while teaching them to be as professional as possible. I will also teach them some of my favorite tricks as well as let them in on some office secrets. We are very excited to have been asked to come out and share with the guys. This lecture will take place at the end of January. Although a date is not finalized yet, it will probably take place during the last week of the month.

For more information on the lecture or to find out more about the IBM, feel free to call us toll free at 1 877 987 4201.

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Money magic is very popular because it seems very impromptu. Coins and cash can be borrowed for a lot of the tricks. This DVD is a must have!

On this DVD, you'll learn a host of minor miracles that can be performed with everyone's favorite ordinary item - money. Bills and coins grab interest immediately, and can be rustled up at a moment's notice, making the tricks on this DVD ready to perform practically any time and anywhere. And best of all, there's no difficult sleight of hand to learn.

With DVD Technology, these tricks are extremely easy to learn. By freezing frames, jumping to specific performances and explanations, mastering these tricks becomes elementary for everyone.

This DVD will teach you how to:

- Balance a dollar bill on your hand and cause it to slowly lay down on command!
- Push a pencil through the center of a bill yet leave no hole!
- Vanish a marked penny from one hand and cause it to appear under the other!
- Cause two bills to melt through each other - right under a spectator's nose!
- And much, much more! **Only \$15.00** plus shipping

Teach a Trick / A simple coin vanish

Money magic is so cool because it always appears impromptu.

Effect: Imagine that you show an envelope empty and let the audience check it out. Then you take out a half dollar and drop it into the envelope, say a magic word, then rip the envelope into pieces that are way smaller than the coin was. The coin is completely vanished with zero sleight of hand.

Secret: This one is very simple and clever. The coin you are using is a fake! The fake coin can be ripped into pieces and looks absolutely real. To make the trick coin you will need a real coin, a pair of scissors, a piece of aluminum foil, and a rubbing tool. Place the coin under the foil to transfer the image onto the foil. Rub the top & sides of the coin, then cut the left over foil off. Now you have a real fake coin.

I like to make up a bunch at a time so I am prepared to perform the trick over & over again.

Remember, the coins don't really have to be perfect. If you mess up a part of the coin you can probably hide it between your fingers during the performance part and no one will ever know.

I hope you enjoy this one. If you try it I know you will like it and you will be surprised how real the coin looks.