

Ring Report Ring #170 “The Bev and Alouise Bergeron Ring” SAM 99

December 31, 2024 | Archived Famulus



Our December meeting was our Holiday Party. We had 35 members present and guests, Stefan Oswald and Lygia Way, Bruce Young and Kent Gunn's wife, Judy. David Freeman handled all the Party duties since Jacki Manna had planned it all, but was ill and could not attend.

We had a great spread of food and drinks with potluck donated goodies, and the eating and fun began. We did the annual “choose and steal” gift exchange. You get to choose a wrapped gift and then you can either keep it or steal what someone else has. They were a lot of good materials and lots of “stealing”.

Phil Schwartz, our club historian led the annual Trivia contest with grocery gift certificates as prizes. The questions ranged from the easy to the obscure. Most of us knew the Magic Castle as “the house that Milt built” but few knew Ricky Potash's middle name was “Jay” and now you know.

Phil then had everyone draw numbers and everyone got a memento from the late Bev Bergeron's estate. He explained that when cleaning out Bev's garage, they discovered a false wall with shelves filled with small effects, papers and items collected from Bev's long history in magic. They were all treasures.

The Holiday Ring show featured David Freeman turning water onto snowballs. Ari Fleishman doing a Santa Clause “Naughty or Nice” card and cellphone effect. Bruce Young made clever use of the classic amulet frame to make one of three silver dollars appear inside. Ryan Stiner had 4 random numbers freely chosen and they matched the price value on the sale tag for the coat he was wearing. James Bailey magically showed bells and chains coming apart and going together.

Dr. Ken Schreiberman expertly performed the Al Baker cut and restored ribbon effect. Ravelli closed out the show with a grand parlor act: A flaming rope to cane, fire eating, colored Linking Ropes, Find the Lady giant card trick, Billard Balls, Torn and restored paper napkin to mouth coil and a Dove Pan Finale with a live dove!

The program concluded with a Broken Wand tribute to former member Samaroo Monsar.
Dennis Phillips, Secretary

The Ring 170-SAM 99 Holiday Party

Photos from Phil Schwartz and others...Thank you.





Meeting policy:

Face masks, if you wear one, will not be ridiculed. We are understanding that some people may be immunocompromised. We also respect your personal choices.

Stay prepared, healthy, and informed about current Public Health issues and contagious outbreaks.

Be respectful of others and if you suspect you have any contagious illness , avoid group contact.

The latest strain of the COVID virus is XEC, which is a subvariant of the Omicron strain. It differs from other strains because it's a combination of two preexisting Omicron descendants.

The XEC strain is more transmissible than many of its predecessors, but on the upside, the symptoms associated with it will likely be milder.

This from Dr. Scott Roberts, MD, is an infectious disease specialist at the Yale School of Medicine. Roberts said that he's "optimistic that we're still going to have some degree of protection from both recent infections and updated vaccines."

There was a 4 percent test positivity rate across the U.S. in the past week, down from 4.4 percent the week before, according to the CDC.



Dennis Deliberations ... Ring # 170, Assembly #99

“The Bev and Alouise Bergeron Ring”

“The purpose of theater, like magic, like religion- those three harness mates- is to inspire cleansing awe.”

David Mamet

Farewell to The Amazing Kreskin



The Amazing Kreskin, a mentalist and entertainer who captivated generations of TV audiences, has died at age 89.

Kreskin's friend and former road manager, Ryan Galway, told news outlets that Kreskin — born George Joseph Kresge Jr. — died at his home in Caldwell, N.J.

Galway said Kreskin was known for his "extraordinary mind-reading abilities and captivating performances," and his "uncanny" ability to predict complex events, including multiple Super Bowl outcomes and presidential election results.

Kreskin launched his television career in the 1960s and remained popular for decades, making regular guest appearances on talk shows hosted by everyone from Merv Griffin to Johnny Carson to Jimmy Fallon.

He referred to himself as an "entertainer" rather than implying he had talents that were unreachable for other people.

Kreskin often stressed he was not a psychic, mind reader or hypnotist, but that he used body language cues and the power of suggestion to guide people's actions.

Congratulations Mike Matson!

This year, I'm pleased to announce that I will be celebrating New Year's Eve on the seas as I'm sailing on [Holland America](#) from December 29th, 2024 - January 11th, 2025!



This is a classic.

This show is fun to watch and respect for his revival of classic magic methods but admittedly the music, dancing and presentation comes off as dated and hokey today.

I was happy to be a part of Ray Eden's day at The Grove in Orlando. He did a great Christmas themed family magic show.



Dennis