

Wandogram



"Harris A. Solomon Ring" IBM #74 Syracuse N.Y.

January
2012

THE LINKING RING

EXCLUSIVELY FOR MEMBERS OF

THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS

Volume 40, No. 5

July 1960



Harris A. Solomon
International President



**A monthly newsletter of the
Harris A. Solomon Ring #74
International Brotherhood of Magicians
(*the Salt City Magic Club*)**

President	John Wolfson
Vice President	Glenn Brooks
Treasurer	Bruce Purdy
Secretary	Adam Reynolds
Sgt. at arms	Jeff D'Ambrosio

**IBM Ring #74 meets at 7:30pm
the Third Thursday of every month** (*Except July & August*)
Meeting location currently in flux check www.saltcitymagic.com

Please submit material for publication in the Wandogram to:

wandogram@cnymagic.com

or by Snail Mail:

Bruce Purdy

P.O.Box 213

Cayuga NY 13034-0213

Questions? Call (315) 253-8799

Submission deadline: 1st Thursday of the month

www.saltcitymagic.com

MAGIC WORDS

From President John Wolfson

Happy New Year!

With the new year upon us, it is a wonderful opportunity to reflect, assess, and set goals. We have had a remarkable 2011! Our meetings have been well-attended and fun, our lectures and events have been fulfilling, and our growth as a group never ceases to impress me. 2012 offers even more. From our upcoming

banquet, to Magic Fest making its return, to the shows and lectures to which this ring will play host, I am excited for the coming year! As we move forward, we'll be starting plans for Magic Fest, and looking for opportunities for the group. To quote Einstein: "Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow." May your new year be magic-filled!

Publisher's Podium

Bruce Purdy

First of all, I'm sorry that I was unable to produce a Wandogram in December. My laptop went to meet it's maker (Steve Jobs.) Not only did I loose the software I use to publish it, but also the address list. I couldn't even send out an e-mail since I didn't have my address book - or even e-mail access. Ah, computers - they make life so much better - until they don't! I've cobbled together a temporary solution, so here's this month's offering. Happy new year!

This month, I'm featuring an article (and cover) about our Ring's namesake, Harris Solomon. This is a re-print from the Linking Ring issue of July 1960. I hope you enjoy learning a bit about the man our Ring is named after. His views are worth reading. I hope to have more of Harris' writings in future editions.

(Reprinted from the Linking Ring, July 1960)

Harris A. Solomon International President The international Brotherhood of Magicians By Alberto Ricardo Pfleug

HARRIS A. SOLOMON was elected International President of The International Brotherhood of Magicians at the 32nd annual business meeting in Hotel Statler Hilton, Boston, Massachusetts, July 8, 1960. June 1958 Linking Ring contains data about him.

Here is additional information. He was born in Syracuse, N. Y. April 9, 1905. Degrees include B.S. in Business; LL.B. (Practicing Lawyer) and M.S. (Education). He also is Guidance Counselor in the Syracuse Public School System. His wife Estelle; and daughter, Carol, (freshman at Syracuse University) are devoted magic enthusiasts.

He has written for most of the magic magazines, originated several tricks and presentations — awarded certificates, medals and trophies.

Harris lectured on magic at clubs, conclaves and conventions stressing psychology and dramatic presentation.

For the past few years his articles in The Linking Ring have been devoted almost en-

tirely to the proposition that if magic is to be magic, it must be magic; that for too many years the magician has featured tricks rather than the tricks featuring the magician.

It has been Solomon's contention that the manufacture of trick apparatus, specially prepared cards, gimmicks and artifices has reached a high level of perfection, while the greater art of dramatic presentation has fallen to a comparatively low level.

If we accept his restatement of advice from the past masters of our art, then a magician must be first and last an actor. And acting must be learned, and it cannot be learned from nimble-fingered teachers, but only from dramatic coaches with a working knowledge of magic. And strangely enough there are only a few men to supply this need. With this in mind and as a first step towards a new era in magic, Solomon conceived the Symposium on Magic at Syracuse University Labor Day weekend, September 1 to 4,

1960. Here, a group of 25 or 30 magicians will approach the performance of magic. Individual and group instruction will be given in magic dramatics. A new technique must be developed to enable the magician to best present himself, his tricks and his art in an entertaining manner.

Harris says. "The rear view of a magician is not particularly attractive, yet to witness the average magic act, this idea seems to be prevalent." "The performer turns his back to the audience; he paws at the apparatus on his table like a woman looking for a small lipstick in a large pocketbook. He picks up articles, fumbling and in an awkward manner as if he is handling them for the first time. His funny (?) remarks and jokes are pulled in by the scruff of their necks! The humor is neither light nor spontaneous and is presented hopefully and feebly."

Solomon once said and perhaps he meant it, " If we could burn all the tricks in the world and start over, maybe we would do better magic."

At the Symposium on Magic Education, the participants will bring their pet tricks.

They will learn from the instructors and from each other. The cumulative experience of those attending will be pooled so all may profit.

Solomon says, "There are no bad tricks, only bad magicians. We do not know what makes a good trick good. — or an outstanding trick a miracle.

One of the great weaknesses in magic is the lack of understanding in climax and anti-climax. Once the individual acquires a feel for drama, his magic must improve. When the magician sees each trick as a dramatic entity, he moves from a nothing to fair to good to outstanding to great in direct relationship to his knowledge, his talents and his ability."

Solomon's contribution to magic has been to make magicians think. "And if magicians will put as much thought into tricks as they put money, magic should have a bright future,"



Announcing our Holiday/Installation Banquet!

Sunday, January 22nd at 6pm. Located at 689 North Clinton Street Syracuse, NY. We will be giving door prizes and we will be holding a raffle (prizes to be announced.)

Dinner will include

SPAGHETTI WITH MEATBALLS

INCREDIBLE 15-LAYER LASAGNE

FOUR-CHEESE MANICOTTI

FETTUCCINI ALFREDO

GRILLED CHICKEN CAESAR SALAD

Dinner will be followed by the installation banquet and a full evening show.

Tickets are \$20 pre-order or \$25 at the door.

To pre-order your tickets, please send your check payable to "IBM Ring 74" to: John Wolfson 7777 W Dead Creek Rd. Baldwinsville, NY 13027.

From the Mailbag

Dear Friends of Magic,

Please mark your calendars and spread the word: The Hall of Fame of Famous Unknown Magicians and Clowns will host their 24th annual convention **SATURDAY JUNE 2ND**, this time from conveniently located **MANCHESTER, NH**.

As many of you know, this gathering is dedicated to the thousands of talented performers who keep the **MAGIC** alive in their communities, although they may never host a network TV special.

This convention is also known for its unsurpassed atmosphere of comraderie and sharing. It is the convention where **YOU** are the **STAR!**

So please save the date and stay tuned for details,

Happy New Year!

Wes Booth
207-416-2249

Alan Drew III
207-664-8077

Next meeting:

Thursday, 17th November, 2011
7:30 pm

Denny's Restaurant
103 Elwood Davis Road
(By the corner of 7th North St. & Buckley Road)

Save the Date!

Thu. 19th January Regular meeting

Sun. 22nd January **Holiday/Installation Banquet**

Thu. 16th February Regular meeting

Thu. 15th March Regular meeting

Thu. 19th April Regular meeting

Sun. 29th April MAWNY

Harris Solomon Ring
IBM Ring #74
P.O. Box 213
Cayuga NY 13034 - 0213

www.saltcitymagic.com