

Second Annual SYM Day of Magic in New York May 24, 2008

1. SYM members from Philadelphia, PA and Stamford, CT came to New York to join SYM#69 in force and were an integral part of the day. They got to Mt. Sinai around 10 AM, bringing cold beverages (SYM #96) and cookies and brownies (SYM #42) along with big time illusions and a lot of talent.

2. Kyle Peron, one of the adult leaders of Philadelphia's SYM #96, managed the music and sound for the entire stage presentation and it went off without a hitch. It was a contribution to the show.

3. Josh Rand, our close-up coach, managed 15 close-up performers and handled the logistics in such a way that all of our guests were kept entertained and the performers were able to keep moving without tripping over each other. Our performers were Max Donenfeld, Jen Kramer, Ariel Paulino, Spencer Peterson, Josh Rand and Dan Vitetta. The close-up work started on time at 11 AM and kept going until noon, when we broke for lunch.

4. Julian Joiris, our stage coach, was MC of our portion of the stage show, which opened the second half of the day at 1 PM, sharp, right on schedule. Our stage performers were terrific: David Boyd (doves), Reuben Moreland (linking rings), Spencer Peterson (marked quarter found inside unopened can of soda), Josh Rand (rope routine), and Dan Vitetta (selected card appears behind glass in previously blank picture frame) and Julian Joiris, always inimitable (card prediction). The stage performers from Stamford and Philadelphia were outstanding. They brought us everything from a Chair Suspension to a Sub Trunk and Doll House, plus Coin Manipulations, Rope magic, and an array of effects, demonstrating a high level of professionalism. Each SYM group did about a half-hour of work. The audience was transfixed.

5. The centerpiece of the day was a spectacular buffet lunch, organized and managed by Reuben Moreland's parents, Nan Siegmund and Rawleigh Moreland, and financed by a gift from the SAM Parent Assembly #1.. They were assisted by Jen Kramer's father, Larry Kramer; Dan Vitetta's aunt and uncle, Su and Bob Robotti (Su also managed the name tag desk); Max Donnenfeld's mother, Liz Lewis; and Stephanie Lasher. What made the lunch especially noteworthy was the variety of foods and the logistics of the presentation which enabled 75 attendees to move rapidly through the buffet tables. Three cheers for the Morelands!

6. We had a number of distinguished guests from the Magic Community. We especially welcomed Rene Clement, who continues to be a great source of support for SYM #69. For those of you who may not know it, the adult leader of Stamford's SYM #42, Bill Andrews, is a past president of the Society of American Magicians. Arlen Solomon, adult leader of Philadelphia's SYM #96 is SAM's mid-atlantic regional vice president. We were pleased that George Schindler, Dean of the SAM, was with us, along with Nina Schindler. Both Mr. and Mrs. Schindler are past presidents of the SAM's Parent Assembly. We were happy to see another Parent Assembly past president, Ted Lee. We were most appreciative that Vinnie Grosso, SAM's north atlantic regional vice president, drove down from his home in Albany to be with us. Also in the audience was Sol Stone, one of the world's (yes, the world) most accomplished and highly regarded coin magicians, and Dr. Ken Krenzel, one of the most famous creators and performers of magic and author of many books on card magic

7. Not the least of the contributions to the success of the event was the administration of Mt. Sinai Hospital, which made the facilities available to us. We are grateful for the generosity and support of this great institution.

In sum, our Day of Magic was a cooperative group effort that produced a marvelous magical event. Thanks to everybody who participated.

Albert :Lasher

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