

THE GIMMICK

S.A.M. Assembly #16 - Rev. Willard S. Smith

Next Meeting

Monday, June 5
6:30pm

The Magic Barn 179
Main St. Ashland, MA

Ashlandmagicbarn.com

Meeting Agenda

Business Meeting

Show-n-Tell

Special Guest Lecture

Flea Market Table

NEMCA Picnic

Sunday June 11

Rehoboth, MA

\$37.50 buys you...

Buffet food, auction,
flea market, live
show!

See flyer below!

Upcoming June Meeting

Business meeting, pizza and show-n-tell to begin our meeting. Then we welcome...



...special guest lecturer Evan Northrup to the Magic Barn. *“From reimagining traditional magic to envisioning and fashioning original pieces of impossibility.”* <http://www.evannorthrup.com>

Join us Monday night and learn from this fascinating young professional.

\$10 barn members : \$15 non-members

Only a few spots available - email rogersmagic@comcast.net ASAP!!!

New England Magic Collectors Association

NEMCA SUMMER PICNIC



Sunday June 11th ~11:00 am to 4:00 pm
Francis Farm, 27 Francis Farm Rd. Rehoboth, MA, 02769

Easy to get to. Francis Farm is located in Rehoboth, MA, about one mile from the intersection of Routes 44 and 118. You can also check them out on the web at: www.francisfarm.net

Join us in the air-conditioned indoor pavilion, with a delightful complete dinner:

Deluxe Hot and Cold Buffet

Garden Salad, Roasted Potatoes, Chicken Marsala, Italian Meatballs
Platter of American Cheese, Deli Turkey and Roast Beef
Lemonade, Coffee with Dinner

\$37.50 PER PERSON, TAX AND TIP INCLUDED



A full afternoon of fun and magic, with:

A MAGIC FLEA MARKET

Bring your magic items to sell, with a flea market starting at noon.

A MAGIC AUCTION

After the Flea Market, an Auction where your magic items will be sold auction style, with no fee charged. You set the minimum price so it will sell for what you want, the final winning bid is all yours, and you collect from the buyers.

A MAGIC SHOW

After Dinner Magic Show, with notable talent, that will amaze and amuse, with mysteries and laughter. **Featuring the magic of:** John Bach and Alan the Uncanny plus other Surprise Acts with Master of Ceremonies, Bob Olson

Call your friends and join us in Rehoboth. Don't miss the fun!

One Free Picnic to the lucky winner: All attendees will have their names put into a drawing.

If your name is drawn, your picnic cost will be refunded, so you will win one free picnic!

Please fill out the form and mail back NO LATER THAN May 15 with check payable to NEMCA, to: Steve Rogers, 86 Lafayette Park, Lynn MA 01902 (978) 482-5204

May Meeting Recap

The May meeting was a late night extravaganza. The business meeting began a little late... Why? Well it seems members prefer to mix and mingle with each other as friends tend to do... so all the greetings, catching up with card tricks and chit chat ran the start time past 7pm! We are a social club after all!

Show and tell included a diabolical prediction effect performed by Ed the Wizard. It made great use of the 'one ahead' principle. (Isn't most magic accomplished simply with the one ahead principle?) Bob Cain dove into his box of treasures and pondered over a patriotic rope effect. A short card workshop concluded the first half of the meeting as pizza arrived and attention quickly turned towards the food.



The second half of our May meeting featured a lecture by Master Craftsman Tony Karpinski. Anyone who's purchased and performed with Tony's beautiful apparatus understands the unique quality and reliability involved in his work.

Magic Barn members were treated to a personal workshop hosted by the master himself. The discussion began with a background of Tony's past, growing up in New Jersey, serving in the Air Force and how his interests in magic and woodworking began.



On display were numerous pieces of handmade wooden apparatus to be performed and discussed in depth by Tony. Our young compeer Nate the Great was invited up to assist in handing out several souvenirs for attendees to keep. Members had the choice of a mini magic wand & case, a coin vanishing stand or a dice tube. These gifts were just the tip of the iceberg as Tony's lecture proved to be filled with numerous treasures, tips and insight only one can glean from personal experience. Nate was compensated with a new Die Box for his helpful assistance.

Fascinating details were shared involving the intricacies of working with magic dealers. Tony sells his apparatus directly to retail distributors such as Murphy's Magic and previously to Hank Lee - stories of meeting product quotas, receiving payments and time spent building magic by hand kept members entranced for the full hour lecture.

Tony demonstrated such classics as The Coins of Copentro, various Die Boxes and discussed what makes for a quality wood design on a shelf or on stage while in a spot light. (There's a big difference!) We received sneak peeks of new ideas such as Needle Through Glass and learned about personal projects requested by other magicians.

In his retirement Tony Karpinski has become a very busy man... talent finds work anytime! If you couldn't make it to the May meeting you truly missed a one of a kind lecture experience! The Magic Barn Thanks Tony Karpinski for sharing his generosity, insight and creativity with us.



Inside General Grants Workshop

By Scott Martell

You may recognize Gen Grant for his superb stage work with Doves. Over the decades magicians and Dove Workers have sought out Gen's products. His one-hand dove release and pockets are still considered tops in the field. These products and many more were hand crafted in his workshop.



The *Butterfly Production* is a superb effect created and performed by Karl Germain, where a handful of silks previously produced turns into a huge silk Butterfly. (*Germain The Wizard*. Stuart&Karr. P63, 168) The mechanical gimmick went through various phases, the final being a lazy tongs. Gen shares with *The Gimmick* his fabrication of this device.

Gen began by asking Magic Barn founder George Lentros to build this lazy tongs gimmick. Although Lentros Engineering is equipped to design and build products for the US government, the wait time was too long and so Gen found it was better if he simply tried to build it himself.



In his garage workshop using a lathe and other machines Gen created a very special piece of apparatus and it worked brilliantly! Under cover of a large silk with butterfly pattern, the lazy tongs were quickly extended, expanding from a foot to over approximately six feet in length, the silk butterfly made its stunning appearance.



Several gimmicks were sold at a high price but Gen kept the very first to proudly display. Although this method differs from Karl Germain's original *Butterfly* it remains a striking and beautiful effect. No doubt Gen's ingenuity has added several improvements to existing designs.

Today, magic is too often purchased, it is a rare thing to find magic hand crafted to one's specific needs, and thus more is understood in its operation by doing so.

It was a pleasure to spend time discussing magic with a true master of the art. Thank you Gen Grant for sharing your brilliance!

www.Ashlandmagicbarn.com

