

The Northwest Ring of Fire

April 2011

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Secretary's Message

Greetings from your secretary, Craig Colombel. I have run behind on the newsletters but am back on target with this one. If you know of any magic events or performances or are performing yourself let me know and I will place it into the newsletter. If you want to see your name in print write up something with a magic theme, send it to me and I will place it in the newsletter.

President's Message

A message from your President Master Payne

It's May. Though it's hard to tell from the crappy weather. May showers bring June flowers? We'll see.

So a couple of things. Roger Needham has announced his stepping down from the office of treasurer that he has held for longer than most of us can remember. I'd like to thank him for all the years of dedicated service he's given to our club and applaud him for keeping us in the black for all that time. Good Job Roger.

This of course means that we are in need of someone to fill this office. I've a couple people in mind. But if you are interested in this position please let me know. As undoubtedly the people I'm thinking of will most likely say no. I also will be stepping down as President this year as well. So that position is open. Again, if you would like to occupy this extremely prestigious office with all its perks and honors now is the time to step forward.

Other news, Rich Waters is leaving us. He's decided to move East to be with his family. He's been an integral part of our club during his time here in the Pacific Northwest and he will be missed.

This of course means that we will need to find another Rapping Balloon Twisting Family entertainer to maintain the balance of our club, and possibly the universe. I too will be taking applications to fill this upcoming vacancy as well. Looking forward to seeing everyone tomorrow. Remember it's at the other fire station.

See you all on Thursday.

April 2011 Meeting:

Business portion: The Tri-City Magic Convention which will be our "Day of Magic" is planned for the 3rd weekend of October. The club will need volunteer help from all of our members to make this a success. Rodger Needham our Treasure will be retiring from the position at the end of this year. We are looking for someone to be the new Treasure. Not to replace him as no one can replace the great work Rodger did for the club. Rodger's work as a Treasure will be missed.

Magic portion: Payne gave a brief history of playing cards from the book Game of Tarot

JR performed a card trick. Had the spectator choose a card face up, then replace in the deck and turn face down. Chose three cards with the wording "This", "That" and "It". The cards with "this" and "that" were the wrong cards, the card with "It" on it was the correct card and the card with "IT" was place face down on the table. On repeat the cards had "something" the next "nothing" and was blank on the front. The third had the writing "Nice try Not IT check IT out". On picking up the "IT" card from the table the front had change to the second choice.

Danny Dragon showed us his shirt from Hawaii. Told story about friend who was inventor but was never famous. His invention was to make things flat for better storage. Danny pulls out a wallet and removes some cards with different items printed on each card, with some very bad puns. He removed one card with a picture of a flash drive on it and heated it with a lighter. With heating two flash drives fell of the card and the card was blank. He then proceeded with color changing flash drives and then made one long.

Lance asks everyone if they ever wanted a superpower. He said he wanted to be able to get small to find things. He took a deck of cards and had Dan pick a card and not look at the card or not show it to anyone. Dan then put the card in his shirt pocket. The deck was put back into the case. Lance then got small and determines the card in Dan's pocket.

Mark Paulson told a story about going to an art dealer where got a set of cards with famous paintings on them. He showed us the paintings, turns the cards face down and mixed the cards. A spectator picks one card. Mark then open a box and removed a dolly. The face of the card was shown and it was a painting by Salvador Dalí. Get it dolly – Dali?

Rich had a ribbon and 3 Chinese coins. The ribbon was a purse for the coins. He treaded the coins on the ribbon. He then removed the coins from the ribbon without unthreading them. The first coin melted through the ribbon. He had a spectator hold the other two coins and when he pulled the ribbon the second coin came off. The last coins vanished then reappeared in the spectator's hand.

Reviews: Payne demonstrated some items he had for review. The first was Grandfather's Legacy. Payne showed a picture of grandfather holding a poker hand. Had a spectator pick one of the poker hand cards from a deck with a different color back. Payne turned the picture over and the picture showed the hand from the back and the card chosen had a different color back.

The second item, there were three window envelopes and three coin envelopes and three paper clips. Payne borrowed an item from a spectator's wallet and placed it into a coin envelope. He then place then coin envelope into the window envelope so the coin envelope could be seen. He put the paper clip on the envelope and gave the envelope back to the spectator to hold. Payne then took his driver's license and did the same with a second set of envelopes. When the spectator open the envelopes he found his item and Payne's driver's license had change places.

Magic Reviews

Payne has graciously donated some reviews of magic, he did for MUM Magazine. I will print one per newsletter issue.

The Amazing Mystical Vanishing Bandana

(Standard Version)

The Ol' Banana Bandana Trick

\$34.95

Magic Enhancer

<http://www.magicenhancer.com/>

Reviewed by Payne

First off be aware that Magic Enhancer has two versions of this trick on the market -- a Standard and a Deluxe. This review is of the standard version.

For your \$34.95 you receive an audio CD containing two tracks. One narrated by a male voice, the other by a female. Each track, apart from the gender of the orator, is identical. The CD is professionally produced with a music intro and musical snippets to punctuate certain portions of the routine. In their ads the folks at Magic Enhancer claim to have redone the routine and "redone it right" by adding some "amazing new additions" to the routine. But apart from the "surprise kicker ending" I found the routine to be pretty standard confining itself to all the usual requisite jokes and bits of business normally associated with this routine. But then this is the standard routine. Perhaps the Deluxe Version contains those "amazing new additions"

You will also receive a "newly designed" Devils-Hank. The only "newly designed" feature I could find in the hank they sent me was a secret pocket half the size of normal. The opening is a scant four and a half inches wide making it more difficult than it should be to get the mooshed up banana into it. The Deluxe version of this trick is supposed to come with a Devils-Hank that has a removable inner lining that allows for easier maintenance and less need for cleaning the hank between shows. It is my theory that this removable pocket is four and a half inches wide so they have made all of their hanks the same size to accommodate this pocket whether you've ordered the standard version or not. The tiny pocket also keeps the banana from appearing to come to rest at the bottom of the folded hank like it should if it was actually placed inside it. It also unnecessarily accentuates the bulge when the hank is shown empty. A standard size pocket in the hank would have prevented both of these conditions.

If one is going to be featuring this effect in their program one would be better off having a seamstress sew you up a proper Devils-Hank with a pocket made of Rip-Stop or some other banana repellent fabric. Or better yet you could stitch it up yourself as a sewing project of this caliber isn't all that difficult to do and the newly acquired skill of being able to sew simple projects will come in quite handy in the future.

But continuing on with the review -- You also are given a Yellow Bandana for the "surprise kicker ending".

According to their webpage the Deluxe Version provides you with a Detailed Manuscript, an Extended Version (I assume of the audio), that aforesaid mentioned Removable Pocket, Bonus Audio Tracks, Bonus Routine and additional Tips & Handling.

I'd probably recommend spending the additional thirty-five bucks for the Deluxe Version as the standard version hasn't got all that much to recommend it apart from the nicely produced, but rather standard version of the Banana\Bandana trick.

In fact, if you are seriously considering putting this routine into your program. After having the proper Devils-Hank constructed you could spend a few extra bucks and get an audio editing program for your PC. That way you could make a CD that reflected your personal performing style and would be precisely tailored to you. That way you'd have a unique version of this now classic comedy effect that no else in your market, or better yet, the world, would be doing.

Extras

No extras this month. I am looking for articles for the newsletter. Send me what you are doing in magic, what your opinions in magic are or anything else about magic.

If you would like to see your name in print, write something and send it to me and I will print it.

This is your newsletter and if I get stuff to print I can get it out earlier.

Send to: Accolombel@zipcon.com

Thanks Craig.