



## Words from the Secretary

**Craig Colombel**

*Secretary 2012 – [accolombel@zipcon.com](mailto:accolombel@zipcon.com)*

Greetings from your secretary, Craig Colombel. This month we have two guest writers for the newsletter. 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

**Jeff Dial**

*President 2012*

Greeting Ring of Fire

Autumn seems to be upon us and we prepare to fatten up for the winter months ahead. The theme this month is John Ramsay Night – (Tricks with food, groceries, and all things supermarket). Looking forward to seeing what we come up with. Remember there will be a prize poster for one of our performers. (Thanks Charlie). See you there and don't forget to eat your vegetables.

Coming later this month is the Soma Lecture on this Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, and the club picnic on Saturday the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The meeting this month should be filled with surprises (which is code for I'm still putting the finishing touches on what we are doing).

Jeff Dial

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## August 2012 MEETING

August meeting theme was “Fred Sanford night“ where everyone was to bring the items from their junk drawers and perform them.

This was the Thursday after PCAM so everyone was sort of magic out, but we did have something from some brave souls.

The night started out with a report on PCAM from Brian Cook (who was in charge of putting it on).

Those members who did not go missed out on a great convention. Big congratulations to Brian.

WELL DONE!!!

Jeff Dial then hosted a “teach a trick”. He taught 2 rope tricks and taught the hunter’s knot. He brought extra rope so everyone could follow along. He also gave out handouts for people to take home. There was also a discussion on marked card methods.

Charlie Rousseau performed with three poker chips with different values on them. One was picked, the two not picked had nothing on the back, the one picked had the words “I knew IT” on the back.

Payne had a spectator write and number between 5-20 on a card then placed the card face down on a paper plate then he placed another paper plate on top of it. He then showed a bag with a baby rattle and squeaky ball inside. He demo that the rattle rattled and the ball squeaked. He then removed the sounds and then switch the sounds. He then demo Dean Dill’s bead trick and showed that the number of beads match the number on the card written down at the beginning.

Remember come to the meetings and see and learn magic. Also enjoy great company and do a trick. The meetings are a great place to practice that new routine. Here you can goof and learn. The Club’s unofficial motto is: “This may or may not work”

We also have a great library that everyone should take advantage of.

After the performances the meeting was adjourned and those that wanted to went to Maddox’s for refreshments.

If anyone wants to add to the meeting notes send to me and I will add in the next newsletter.

My email is at the bottom of the newsletter and in the secretary’s message box.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2012

September – John Ramsey Night – Tricks with food, groceries, and all things supermarket. Workshop TBD.

October – Theodore Annemann Night – Mentalism and things bizarre. Workshop TBD

November – “Some Assembly Required” – Show and Tell tricks you needed to put together, find parts for, or build. Or just an unusual prop you’d like to show off.

December – “I’ve Never Really Done this Kind of Thing Before.” – You’ve had all year to get ready, now do something you’ve wanted to do, but never have.

**Make sure to check the website for upcoming events and lectures.**

<http://www.nwringoffire.com/index.html>

**Once again Payne has been willing to share his reviews he writes for MUM. Thank you Payne for your generosity**

**Extreme Brain Damage**

Stick 4 umbrellas through your head

Andrew Mayne

DVD 20 mins

<http://www.andrewmayne.com/shop/>

Price \$20.00

Reviewed by Payne

Here is yet another trick off of Andrew Mayne's "Shock FX" that has been minorly altered and re-released as a single trick DVD. The only difference between the two is that the original uses a cardboard box and this version a paper grocery bag. Otherwise the methodology is exactly the same. The effect is basic and straight forward. A bag is placed over your head and four umbrellas are pushed through it supposedly puncturing your head. They then are withdrawn and the bag removed and your head revealed to be no worse for the wear.

The blurb on the back of the DVD proclaims it as "A shocking one-man illusion that can be performed on stage and on the street. Build it in 20 minutes for under \$20".

All of this is true, sort of. Yes, you can build it for under \$20. The only out of pocket expense I incurred was six dollars for 4 cheap umbrellas from a dollar store, well dollar and a half store. The rest of the materials I had on hand as it was just some tape, cardboard and a grocery sack. It took a little longer than 20 minutes to build mine. But then I added some modifications that were not on the DVD. It can be done by one person but I'm not so liberal with the usage of the word illusion. I generally reserve that word for effects that are perplexing and actually fool people. You can perform this both on stage and on the street. But the big question is, would you want to? The angles on this are atrocious. For best results the audience is required to be dead on in front of you. It would also be beneficial if they all were one eyed as well as a severe lack of depth perception only improves the look of this feat. Thus this trick is best place to perform this trick is far upstage or in an alcove or hallway. Anyplace where the audience cannot get a good view of the sides of the bag. Thus I cannot see anyway you could perform this on the street. Unless of course you were working in an alley or an alcove. I however would strongly advise one not to include this in their street act as while you are performing this trick your vision is completely obstructed. You after all have a bag on your head. This raises all sorts of issues in this unpredictable environment from breaking your connection with your audience to having your tip stolen by hooligans who take advantage of your momentary blindness.

However I don't want to leave you with the impression that this is a bad trick or completely unusable. As much as I thought this wouldn't work at all. On the two occasions I've presented this, once in front of a lay audience and once at my local magic club, it received a good response. But then I really dressed the effect up and used it as part of a much longer presentation. Out of the box, where you just ram four umbrellas through your head and attempt to make it look like a real piece of mystery, I fear your success rate will be very, very small. However with the proper amount of window dressing it becomes a fun, tongue in cheek interlude. Buyer be aware

Payne

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**MAGICAL HAPPENINGS**

That's Impossible

"That's Impossible" for September will be Wednesday night at Egan's Ballard Jam House and will feature Jeff Dial and Michael Budd.

October will feature Philemon Vanderbeck and Master Payne, (Should be October 24th)

Doors open at 6pm for dinner and walk around magic, and the stand-up show begins at 7pm

Egan;s seats only 46 so reservations are highly recommended.

Tim Flynn is looking for performers, If interested contact Tim at 206-290-7767 or on Facebook at [notification+khiuhkim@facebookmail.com](mailto:notification+khiuhkim@facebookmail.com)

Magic Mondays at Third Place Books in Ravenna.

Remember if you want flight time at the longest running magic show in the PNW contact Fredrick at [fredrick@blarg.net](mailto:fredrick@blarg.net)

Soma Lecture

2:00pm. September 15, 2012

Shawn O'Donnell's Restaurant

122 128th St. SE, Everett, WA.

This month, joining the list of contributors to this newsletter with his writing is Evan Shuster, the club's lecture coordinator. He is presenting a review of a magic DVD. Thanks Evan

### **Inspiration Vol. 2 by Bebel and Jean-Pierre Vallarino**

French card legends Bebel and J. P. Vallarino are the subjects of a new DVD set produced by Artec Productions, titled "Inspiration." Originally released in France as a single volume DVD, this 3 volume set of discs has been remastered to include the original French language version as well as an English dubbed version.

The viewer is greeted with an opening menu that allows you to select the language of your choice. The music on this menu is deafening compared with the actual speaking soundtrack on the DVD. Not a big deal, but you may want to keep this in mind when you start the disc. The English dubbing on this set is one of the best I have ever experienced. The translations are excellent and conversational, unlike some other dubbings I have heard where the translations seem forced and the conversations struggle to keep up with the pace of the video. Obvious care was put into this project, and even the actors who provide the dubbed dialogue stay in character and make it a comfortable experience for the viewer. My only complaint here is that I would have enjoyed subtitles over the French track so that I could also listen to Bebel and Vallarino in their native language. Nonetheless, the expert dubbing allows you to keep your eyes on the performances, making it easy to follow along.

What you get on volume two, much like on volume one, is about an hour spent as a "fly on the wall," looking in on a card session between the two masters. This is a true session where Bebel will open up with a version of a trick that he is working on, and then Vallarino will offer a variation on the theme, followed by another variation by Bebel, and so on. Their conversation offers critical discussion of the themes they explore, and performance psychology. They are also respectfully critical of each other as they discuss why one method may be better than another. This continues for the entire length of the DVD, which I found fascinating. Performance segments are then followed by clear and detailed explanations. Variations are offered and discussed throughout. There is obvious reverence for Marlo, Hamman, Jennings and fellow French magician Pierre Barclay, as they are referenced numerous times throughout the DVD. Quite a bit of the material on volume 2 is directly credited to, or a variation of Marlo. Vallarino even jokes about this, as it is clear that Marlo has had a great influence on Bebel's work.

Broken up into four chapters, volume two covers:

1. Mexican 3 Card Monte
2. Card Controls (some brilliant card switches and color changes here!)
3. The Bluff Pass
4. Ace Leader Routines

The DVD moves along at a comfortable speed, however the abrupt end to the last chapter, where it simply cuts off and returns to the high volume music on the main menu was startling. A better final edit would have helped here.

Bebel and Vallarino have good chemistry, and are clearly comfortable sitting across from one another. The material selection on these DVDs is terrific. I enjoyed this volume every bit as much as I did volume 1, and I am greatly looking forward to volume 3.

Available directly from Artec Productions:

<http://www.artecproductions.com/inspiration-vol-two-by-bebel-and-jean-pierre-vallarino.html>

**Highly recommended** (reservations noted above, related to minor production issues).

Once again, Phil Reda kindly shared with us his thoughts on magic.

Thank Phil.

### Evolution of the Junk Drawer

By  
Phil Reda

I could not make the meeting in August due to work schedule but the topic "Fred Sanford Night" - tricks from the junk drawer got me thinking. I reflected back on the beginning of my "Junk Drawer" - or should I say "Junk Boxes".

It started one Saturday morning in the mid 60's when I was in second or third grade growing up in Detroit. It was a time when the milk was delivered to your door step and our vendor was a company called "Twin Pines". Every Saturday morning I would tune into the Twin Pines cartoon show and the host was Milky the Magic Clown (Karrell Fox). Well this morning Milky did a trick that fried my young mind – he rolled up a newspaper and poured in a bottle of milk and when he opened the paper it had vanished – Wow! I thought that was so cool and got up and went to the refrigerator armed with the morning paper. Unfortunately we did not have any milk but that bottle of orange juice should work. Well I am sure you know where this is heading – I proceeded to vanished the orange juice all over the floor. Huh! There must be a secret to this – I must find out.

Several months later in the back of a comic book I saw an ad for the "Top Hat Magic Company" and for only 10 cents they would send me a catalog of miracles. I still remember spending hours poring over that catalog – wanting one of everything.

But one item stuck out- "Candy Factory"(U.F Grant). The ad showed this guy in a tuxedo and in one hand he had a glass of sugar and the other this amazing metal tube with Chinese writing. The tube was placed over the glass of sugar a few magic words and when the tube was lifted – a glass full of candy! And all this for only \$3.50. Wow – with this device I was sure to be the big guy on campus at William Grace Elementary I saved every penny of my allowance – 25 cents a week – to purchase this miracle.

I still remember the excitement when it finally arrived. That card board box with the red and white Top Hat Magic Company label. I rushed into my bedroom closed the doors. Carefully opening the box-and un-wrapping the newspaper that surrounded the apparatus – my hands were shaking. There it was this bright yellow tube with black Chinese letters.

I lifted the tube to get a glimpse inside and – what is this plastic thing with sugar glued to it – there must be some mistake. I opened the instruction sheet and – what I had to supply my own candy! I was crushed. Into the drawer it went never to see the light of day again. I wish I still had that little tube – if only as a reminder – for the next time I heard the sirens song of the latest and greatest trick for sale.

That was the beginning of my Junk drawer. I am sure you have your own story and would love to hear it.

## Magic Shops in the Area

Below is a list of the Magic shops in the Area

None have paid for this listing and if anybody knows of others let me know and I will list them.

Seattle's Market Magic Shop

Pikes Place Market

1501 Pike Place #427

Seattle, WA 98101

[www.marketmagicshop.com](http://www.marketmagicshop.com)

(A store that many know about. In existence for 30 years)

Terjung's Studio of Gifts

4547 Calif. Ave SW

Seattle, WA 98116

(This is a gift store with a counter in the back were they sell magic)

Lakewood Costumes

5932 Lake Grove ST SW

Lakewood, WA 98499

<http://www.clownshop.com>

(Mainly Costumes and Clown items, they have a counter where they sell magic)

Dave's Killer Magic Shop

910 NE Minnehaha St. Ste 1

Vancouver, WA 98665

1-888-360-6244

## CLUB PICNIC

The Club Picnic will be held on September 22 from 10am to 6:30pm. It will be held at the Thornton A. Sullivan Park in Everett at the "Beach Shelter". Members and family are invited. More information will be given at the next Club meeting.

Directions to the park below.

Directions to Thornton A. Sullivan Park  
11405 W. Silver Lake Road  
Everett, WA 98208

One person in your car:

Take exit 186 – 128<sup>th</sup> St SW off of I-5 (O'Donnell's exit)

Head East on 128<sup>th</sup> St SW

128<sup>th</sup> becomes 132<sup>nd</sup>

Turn left at 19<sup>th</sup> Ave SE (after Fred Meyer)

Turn left at 121<sup>st</sup> St SE

121<sup>st</sup> becomes Silver Lake Road

Follow Silver Lake Road around the lake

Park in the gravel parking lot for Thornton A. Sullivan Park

More than one person in your car? Use the Commuter Exit off of I-5:

Just North of Exit 186, take the left lane exit to South Everett Park and Ride.

Go up the ramp to the city street level

Turn left on 112<sup>th</sup> St SE

Immediately turn right on Silver Lake Road

Follow the road around the corner and park in the gravel parking lot for Thornton A. Sullivan Park