



Words from the Secretary

Craig Colombel

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The newsletter needs you. I need articles and news events written by you. Send me emails(accolombel@zipcon.com) on what you would like to see in the newsletter and what you like or don't about the newsletter. Visit our Facebook page and post. Come to the meetings and lectures. The club needs your input come to the meetings and help determine the direction of the club.

DUES ARE DUE FOR 2017. PAYING YOUR DUES KEEPS THE CLUB ABLE TO BRING IN LECTURES.

1. [Table of Contents](#)
1. **Words from the Secretary**
2. [Presidents Message](#)
3. [Janurary Meeting Notes/ Ring of Smoke](#)
4. [Thoughts by Evan Reynolds](#)
5. [2017 Ring of Fire Meeting Themes](#)
6. [Club Calendar](#)
7. [Ring of Fire Club Social](#)
8. [Magic Happenings and Magic shops](#)
9. [Notes by Evan Shuster](#)
10. [Ice McDonald Lecture](#)

President's Message
Ralph Huntzinger

Time for Dues for 2017. Dues are \$25 or \$35 for a family membership.

Pay at the meeting

Or

Pay at a lecture

Or

You can pay the dues by sending your check to

Craig Colombel
509 So 165th St
Burien, Wa 98148

January 2017 MEETING

During the business part of the meeting the date of the Club social was finalized. It will be on February 18th after the Ice McDonald Lecture. Information will be sent out by email and in the club's newsletter. There was continuing discussion on the plans for our hosting the 3 of Clubs in 2018.

Ralph Huntzinger was the first performer. He told us how he loves performance magic and how it forces one to think differently about what your magic. He took out a red ball and placed it on his closed fist and pushed it down into his fist and then the ball vanished and appeared in his pocket. There followed a routine of the ball appearing and vanishing, then continuing with two red balls. It ends with one ball becoming a square and then the square and ball becoming one large ball. The inspiration and moves came from Max Howard's "Magic by Gosh" variations of. Payne related a story, that after his performance at Magic Monday a child came up to show him a trick. It was one of those similar to the 21-card trick. That led to a discussion about such tricks and where they fit into the magic world.

Jeff Dial demonstrated an optical illusion. He had two cards with lines drawn on them. One card had a straight line going from top to bottom lengthwise. The other card had a line that was straight until the middle of the card then made a sharp turn and continued to the bottom. The cards were folded lengthwise in half and when you look at the card with the straight line one way it was straight, turn the card and it was bent. The card with the bent line observed one way was bent but when turned was straight. This was called "The Angle of the Hypotenuse."

He then passed around a coloring book about a stereotypical bad magician. Written by Mickey O'Malley and Frank Garcia called "My Magic Coloring Book"

Evan Shuster held a 2-question trivia quiz and gave away two magic books to those who knew the answers. He then demonstrated some card moves. 1. A different type of false shuffle 2. Illusion of making the cards get smaller 3. A different card force "Milking the Force"

Payne then showed the club an item he received for reviewing. "Pizza paddle"

There was a discussion about what everyone got for Christmas that was magical.

Remember it is time for Dues. Support your club.

Ring of Fire meets the second Tuesday of the month at the Richmond Beach Library.

Remember, to visit the club's website, <http://www.nwringoffire.com> and also visit the club's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Northwest-Ring-of-Fire/4296167377105973>

Ring of Smoke Report

Mystic Pasta Review

The annual Ring of Smoke Mystic Pasta event was a sold-out affair at Shawn O'Donnell's. Bruce and Jennifer returned from Hawaii to help out along with JR, Ralph and Mark to make it an outstanding evening of performances. Most of the youth really enjoy performing close up magic, so the format focused on 10 minute close up sets by each performer at each table, including Ben, Otto, Theo and some newer members to the Ring of Smoke who did an awesome job. Following the great food and close up magic, there were several stage performances which included Kai and culminated with a terrific return performance by Elliott, who performed some newer pieces. All in all, it was a spectacular evening of entertainment. You can also find updates and information about the NW Ring of Smoke magic club on Facebook.

Ben and Marty

The Ring of Smoke meets the first Sunday of the Month at Shawn O'Donnell's in Everett.

Another great contribution from Evan Reynolds. Thanks Evan!

There is something I've always done that I have come to realize isn't what most people do. And it's something that I do professionally in my day job as well as in magic - and it all comes down to listening to people.

When I have an idea and I want to pitch it, or if I'm talking to a potential sponsor for my show or trying to get a grant I always start with a clear idea of what I want to pitch. It has to be clear or I can't effectively pitch it, I can make things up as I go but it's never as good a sell (think shows. You can make an act up as you go, but it'll always be better with a script, right?) But there's far more to it than that. Once I start talking, I start studying the body language of the person I'm pitching. They leaned in and got interested during this part? I'm emphasizing that. They tuned out in that part? I'm either not communicating effectively, or else I missed the mark. So, as I watch them, I constantly adjust the pitch - sometimes when I've pitched five or six times in a row by the sixth time my pitch is emphasizing completely different things, but it's always stronger.

The key is being aware that you go in with your best guess about what's important - but then you have to be open to finding out you were wrong!

I have been thinking about this lately because I'm talking to a potential sponsor. Maybe it'll happen and maybe it won't but that's never stopped me from trying before. I talked to them and they are quite open to it, and asked me to write something up. So I did, and I put some time into thinking about what to pitch to them.

But then there's a problem - I have one shot, and it's via email. I can't watch their body language, I can't alter the pitch - so what do I do? How do I really give this my best shot? I have several ideas - which ones will matter to them? And which ones are irrelevant to them?

I've found the answer to that to be fairly simple. On the other end isn't a faceless machine - it's a person. So I called them up and asked. It turns out that if I need to know what matters and what to emphasize - they are always happy to tell me! I just ask nicely and I make sure it's a pleasant conversation, and they tell me everything I need to know to deliver a strong pitch. It's not secret things you are trying to wiggle out of people - what's important to your company? What goals do you have in sponsorships? And then later I can adjust my pitch to match - and occasionally have adjusted the show format to match as well. If doing this thing will get me that grant? And doing that thing matches my own values so it's not a conflict? Absolutely.

There's a bit more. Everyone is digital, everyone wants to email things in. I want to drive to their office, drop it off, say hello and chat. Ideally, I want to take them out to lunch to talk about it. That human interaction is huge - and it makes the pitch FAR more powerful than email alone. I can't always do that, sometimes they just don't want it - but you'd be shocked at how many doors I've opened by just showing up and being friendly.

And if you do that and pull it off - don't walk away and drop the contact because you've got what you wanted or not. If you do get what you want - make sure they feel appreciated. It doesn't take much, just a few thank you notes. If you don't get what you want, stay friendly and that door may not be open - but it might give you dividends later that you never expected.

All of this is basically a long way of saying that human contact and paying attention to the person you're talking to is huge - and it helps.

Evan Reynolds

2017 Ring of Fire Themes

By
Ralph Huntzinger

Many members find it helpful to have themes on which to focus their thoughts toward what to share at our monthly meetings. The best focus is what you are working on at the moment or occasionally something which catches your interest while sorting through your “magic treasure drawer” (mine is a room, a storage space, and several bookcases) — sharing what interests you is always an unspoken theme. However, a list of focus areas was requested so I came up with two lists, deliberately vague.

I find some familiar terms restricting thought to the familiar examples of those terms. “Coins”, “balls”, “silks”, and “cards” have been expanded so techniques/devices applied to these specific props can be expanded to generic props. Coins are props — so are jumbo coins, CDs, records, some watches, checkers, bottle caps, gaming chips, etc. — coin techniques can be adapted to varying “discs” and perhaps inspire a “new routine”.

Other themes are an attempt to remove the “boxed walls” and suggest, “What could I do under these conditions?” All Hallow’s Eve has moved to more than a “scary occasion” — trick, treat, costume, and/or unusual all have moved this occasion to one off getting together and expressing imagination. School Halloween parties usually focus on “safe, sane, fun, and controlled” while also expanding the limits of everyday imaginations. The same with the modern Winter Holiday season’s requirements of message, giving, reflections, and community. Anything beyond “common sense” and/or repeatable occurrences (science) falls into the realm open to magical performances. A good way to look at what we perform is: “impossible, improbable, rare, betting, and tests.” And our presentations usually fit between story, descriptive, and leading down the garden path.

If you need focus to help you prepare to share your experience, expertise, opinion, interest, “stuff”, or questions hopefully the themes provide a departure point.

There are two sets of themes for 2017; two choices for each month. Each set has some sort of logic which probably does not combine together. Of course, every month is also a time to work on “what I’ve been working or thinking upon”.

FEB	Discs OR Improbable
MAR	Spheres OR Description Based
APR	Thin & Flat OR Impossible
MAY	Fabric OR Story Based
JUNE	Outdoors OR Something from Nothing
JULY	Filling the View OR Rare
AUG	Books OR Containers & Stuff
SEPT	prep for All Hallows’ Eve OR Tests
OCT	prep for Holidays OR Short Betweeners
NOV	Food OR Betting
DEC	Messages & Giving OR Garden Paths

Club Calendar

NWRF – 2017 Meeting Themes

January – Magician's Choice – Bring your favorite magic to perform.

February – Discs or Improbable

March – Spheres or Description Based

April – Thin & Flat or Impossible

May – Fabric or Story Based

June – Outdoors or Something from Nothing

July – Filling the View or Rare

August – Books or Containers & Stuff

September – Prep for All Hallows' Eve or Tests

October – Prep for Holidays or Short Betweeners

November – Food or Betting

December – Messages & Giving or Garden Paths

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

[HTTP://WWW.NWRINGOFFIRE.COM/INDEX.HTML](http://www.nwringoffire.com/index.html)

FACEBOOK : [HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PAGES/NORTHWEST-RING-OF-FIRE/429616737105973](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Northwest-Ring-of-Fire/429616737105973)

Ring of Fire Social

After a short hiatus the use to be annual Ring of Fire Club Social will be held this month on February 18th. Below is the email that was sent out about the Social. If you did not get it info on how to attend will follow.

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Hello everyone!

On behalf of the club officers of The NW Ring of Fire, IBM ring #339, I would like to invite you to join us on Saturday, February 18th, for our annual club reception and dinner. We will, again, be at Shawn O'Donnell's, and the party will commence following the Ice McDonald Lecture.

The lecture begins at 2:00pm, and the reception will begin around 5:00 – 5:30pm.

This year we would like to open attendance up to everyone.

- “Regular” club members (dues current for 2017) attend the reception for free.
- “Family” club members (dues current for 2017) may bring one guest.
- Ring of Smoke members and their drivers may attend for \$16 per person.
- Additional guests of members are welcome to join us at a cost of \$16 per person.
- Non-members who attend the lecture and would like to stay for the dinner reception following the lecture are welcome to join us at a cost of \$20 per person.

The reception includes a pasta dinner, with salad and dessert. There will also be a “no host” bar available.

We do ask that all attendees plan to “sing for your supper,” meaning that we ask each magician to come prepared to perform a little something for us, however big or small.

In order for us to appropriately plan for the evening **please RSVP by replying to evanjunko@comcast.net**. Let me know if you plan on attending, and also if you plan on bringing any guests.

We hope that you will join us for an enjoyable evening among family and fellow magic enthusiasts, and help us pay tribute to our dear friend Dick Ptacek.

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

(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 where 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

1707 Main Street
Vancouver, WA 98665
360-448-9022

Brian Cook's

WWW.MAGICCRAFTER.COM

South Seattle Magic and Novelty

9460 Rainier Ave S
Seattle, WA 98118
206-321-1291

FunkyFun Magic Shop

Capital Mall
625 Black Lake Blvd
Olympia, WA, 98502
<http://Funkyfunmagic.com>
Funkyfunmagic@gmail.com

Magical happenings

Magic Monday! Magic Monday is an hour of magic, conjuring, & prestidigitation which stars magicians from the Northwest region on the second Monday of each month. Location: Ravenna Third Place Books in the Ravenna neighborhood of Seattle. 6504 20th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA. Time: 7-8pm Magic Monday is not only a great place to see local magicians doing what they do best; it is also a great place for YOU to perform. It happens the second Monday of each month. If you want to hone your magic skills, get in touch with Mark Paulson, the producer of this venue (mark2061@yahoo.com). It is a wonderful chance to perform for an appreciative audience. It's been standing room only all year.

If you wish to perform contact Mark at:

mark2061@yahoo.com or on Facebook at

<http://www.facebook.com/thirdplacebooksmagicmonday?fref=ts>

February 13, 2017

Mark Paulson

Brian Melicher

Ruben Barron

Master Payne

March 13, 2017

Mark Paulson

Louie Foxx

Craig Friedman

Master Payne

"That's Impossible Presents" (Seattle's Best Magicians)

Delancey's on 3rd 810 S 3rd St Renton, WA

1st Saturdays of the month. Doors open at 7:45pm

Food, Drinks Close-up Magic 8-9 pm, Emcee Tim Flynn

Stage Show 9pm. \$10/\$15 Hosted by Tim Flynn.

Featuring Steve Dobson, and Zinger the Magick

Doors open at 7:45.

Table magic from 8pm to 9pm.

Stand up show begins at 9pm and closes at 10:30pm.

Evan Reynolds Family Variety Show

The next Family Variety Show is scheduled for Sunday, Feb 26th and will be FREE again! It's also going to be at the Queen Anne library - it's a smaller venue, but as I can get it for free that makes it perfect!

Don't Discount Dover

By Evan Shuster

Yes... I do have a copy of Greater Magic (the Kaufman edition), and Card Craft, and The Encyclopedia of Sponge Ball Magic, (and Cards as Weapons, and all of the Derren Brown books, and the largest collection of Karl Fulves material of anyone that any of you would even hope to know) in my personal library.

I also have more DVDs than the time it would take to watch them all.

You could say that I am a compulsive collector, hoarding some of the best magic literature in my library, despite the fact that I have already read all of those Todd Karr and Mike Caveny books taking up space in my ever more crowded house. But, hey... I also have a relatively large collection of material (physical and digital) that has aged to the point of becoming public domain, meaning that you, too, can acquire them with relative ease.

What's the point of my topic?

Ahhh, yes... Don't Discount Dover.

As magicians we should be grateful to Dover Publications. Where else can you get relatively inexpensive collections of Fulves, Jordan, Stanyon, Maskelyne, Annemann, Gardner, Bobo, Scarne, and Hugard (among others)?

Interesting...

Good wine tends to mature and increase in value with age. The printed word in magic literature tends to be overlooked, forgotten in time, and deemed less worthy as it gives way to the "one hit wonders" of the present day (most of which is based on, if not directly stolen from, material in the books of the past).

Now is probably a good time to tell you that I have recently taken on the club's library. It is an eclectic collection of printed materials and video performances, some explained, and some only performed for your entertainment pleasure (or displeasure, in some cases). Nonetheless, as magic clubs go, I can assure you that we truly do possess "something for everyone." Cards, coins, close-up, platform, stage, history; you name it... we probably have something to suit your interests. Yes, we have a full set of Tarbell, and we even have a copy of The Encyclopedia of Egg Magic (highly underrated).

Are you an active club member? If so, have you joined the library? If not, why not?

Okay... maybe you're like me, and you already have a personal library in excess of anything you might benefit from by subscribing to a magic club library. I get that. Good for you!

For the rest of you, here's an opportunity to sample the "OOM" prior to buying the Milk Pitcher.

If you like the material you borrow you can, in most cases, purchase a copy for your personal collection, and continue to learn from it.

If you don't like it, simply bring it back and pick something else.

Look... I'm not selling anything here. The club has nothing to gain by maintaining / curating our library, other than to offer a benefit to our active members. The sad part of the story is that the library is sitting in boxes, waiting for you to take advantage of it.

Yes... reading requires attentive and cognitive skills. Yes!!... simply "watching" a video isn't enough (you still need to administer some work). Nonetheless, what the heck else do you have on your "to do" list that keeps you from devoting a simple 10 – 15 minutes-a-day to the one thing that you are truly passionate about?

So, go ahead... pull a book off the shelf and bring it back to life. Pop a DVD (or VHS) into your home theater, and learn from one of the greats of the past (or possibly a legend in the making). Learn a trick, or hone a technique, and then perform it at our next meeting to blow us all away.

February 18th, 2017 at 2:00 PM

Ice McDonald Lecture

Shawn O'Donnell's (Lower Level)
122 128th St. SE,
Everett, WA 98208

NW Ring of Fire Members: \$25
General Admission: \$30

