



## Words from the Secretary

**Craig Colombel**

*Secretary 2013 – [accolombel@zipcon.com](mailto:accolombel@zipcon.com)*

Greetings from your secretary, Craig Colombel. We are looking for writers for the newsletter. Anything on your thoughts on magic, any performances you are doing, or conventions you have been to. See yourself in print. Send the articles to [accolombel@zipcon.com](mailto:accolombel@zipcon.com). Reminder it is time to pay your dues.

## President's Message

**Jeff Dial**

*President 2013*

No message this month.

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## December 2012 MEETING

December's meeting theme was something you have never done before but wanted to.

Jeff Dial perform the trick with the borrowed deck of cards he talked about twins and divided up a small set of the cards into pairs and for people pick out one set each and looked at them and place them back in position they were then laid out face down in the square and Jeff found each of the pairs this was based on Jim Steinmeyer effect that was in Genii magazine and in Jim Steinmeyer new lecture notes.

Evan Shuster gave us a brief discussion of some magical history he talked about Lewis Lam who was a magician in the mid-1930s and was arrested by the Gestapo in Germany. The trick he demonstrated was based on a stacked deck principal developed by Lam which was based on the Si Stebbins principal but use mirrored halves to disguise the stack.

Ron took some tissue paper and said he was making Christmas decorations he held the paper in his hand and had a spectator reach into the paper and pulled out a gold foil. He had the foil stretch out throughout the room. He later told us where we could find the foil coil (D. Robins – wholesale at a \$200 minimum)

JR perform a trick we took nine cards shuffled him had a password picked between two and nine spelled the name down and drop the cards on top this several times then using his iPhone shoulder what the word was this trick is called "Toxic Principle"

JR performed a confusing die routine.

Payne brought out a lantern that he demonstrated as a lie detecting machine. He used it as part of a comedy routine he had a card selected then lost in the deck and used the lie detector machine to find the card. Payne then demonstrated a trick he bought made by Larry Haas in which a Powerball ticket turns into a \$20 bill it was based on an affect by Greg Wilson and Payne made some adjustments using different paper and some other changes to improve the trick.

Everyone was reminded that dues need to be paid and there is a Christmas party on January 25 for the club members. To attend the Christmas party your dues must be paid.

Evan also made the announcement that there was a new Facebook page for the Ring of Fire.

After meeting 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

### 2013 NWRP Meeting Themes

- January - **Who Lives in a Pineapple Under the Sea?** – Sponge ball magic and workshop. Everyone bring your super softs and we will perform and **workshop** together.
- February – **Couch Potato Night** – Bring a favorite performance video you have been impressed by and we will watch magic together.
- March - **Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?** - Magic at the dinner table or when you are out at a restaurant. **Lesson** – A thing of terrifying beauty – the Gilbreath Principle.
- April - **Backwards and Forwards** – Tricks using the Gilbreath Principle
- May – **Not Playing with a Full Deck** – packet tricks and effects that require less than a full deck of 52.
- June – **Prop-Position Me** – Show and tell night. Bring a prop with you are particularly enamored, perform or demonstrate it. **Lesson** – One ahead principle.
- July – **One is the Loneliest Number** – Tricks using one ahead Principle.
- August – **You've Got Mail** – Effects with envelopes, stamps, mail boxes, etc.
- September – **Make a Beautiful Noise** – Magic set to music.
- October – **I'm Not Dead Yet** – Themed magic around life, death, and the undead.
- November – **Why Don't You Just Read the Directions?** – Effects requiring the spectator(s) to follow your directions. **Lesson** – False calls, multiple outs, redefining what happened.
- December – **Liar, Lair, Pants on Fire** – Application of false calls, multiple outs, and redefining.

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

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

### Encyclopedia of Impromptu Card Forces

More forces than you can shake a stick at

Lewis Jones

H&R Books

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

Hardbound 9"X11" 294 pages

Price \$50.00

Reviewed by Payne

Those of you in possession of Theo Anneman's classic 101 Methods of Forcing or his later volume 202 Methods of Forcing might be wonder why we need another book on the subject. After all how many card forces does one really need to know? However the problem with Mr. Anneman's publications as Mr. Jones so aptly points out in his introduction is that many of the forces in 101\202 Methods of Forcing require special cards, decks and devices to pull off. Every force in the Encyclopedia of Impromptu Card Forces is accomplished with an unprepared deck of cards.

Mr. Lewis claims that there are 500 forces outlined in his book. Perhaps there are. I lost count. Some of them I found dated and not of much use. There are several mathematical or counting forces which I personally abhor. To me a force should be direct and unencumbered with procedure. In my eyes most forces that involve the spectator having to add up numbers then count that many cards down in the deck are suspect. As well as being tedious to watch. Fortunately Mr. Lewis has included scores of other forces that are more direct and fair looking. He has some nice subtleties for the very useful but much maligned Hindu Shuffle force. There is also good work on glide forces as well as an extensive chapter on the use of the oft over looked locater card. Unfortunately the book has a feeling of being somewhat padded. It seems to me that Mr. Lewis was more interested in quantity over quality. Many of the forces described aren't even forces in the classic sense as many combine the force and revelation into a single effect. So several of the "forces" in the book turn out to be more akin to card routines rather than a useful stand alone utility move.

All in all though a very thorough work on the impromptu card force that would only be improved with a little judicious editing of the material and the inclusion of an index.

## MAGICAL HAPPENINGS

### That's Impossible

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.

January - Mark Paulson, Manny Eckert, Master Payne, Fredrick Turner

February - Mark Paulson, JR Russell, Jim Earnshaw Master Payne, Fredrick Turner

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)

### January 16

Magic Show

Featuring Louie Foxx (Isaac Louie) and Nate Jester Egan's Ballard Jam House

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

### January 19

Magic of Bruce Meyers At Club Hollywood at 7 PM.

[Club Hollywood](#)

16716 Aurora Avenue North, Shoreline, Washington

Once again Phil Reda is sharing his thoughts with the club and this newsletter. Thank you Phil.

## Magical Resolutions for 2013

### By Phil Reda

Have you made your 2013 resolutions yet? Being a "To- Do " list type of guy New Year's Resolutions are a natural fit. As I have mentioned before I hung up my wand and set my cards aside for a couple of years as I wanted to figure out what direction I was going to take with magic. Finally I landed into mentalism with one toe into the world of Bizarre. After finding my Compass I now know the direction I must take and that is the basis of my Resolutions for 2013 - I like to think of it as the year of Character Development and Back to Basics. So what does my list look like?

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1. I purchased Osterlind's 13 Step to Metalism DVD along with the original book. I plan to spend the year going over this classic - first reading the lessons in the book then watching the correlating DVD. This is the back to basics I was mentioning.
2. Read Darwin Ortiz - Strong Magic and Henning Nelms classic Magic and Showmanship - For performance and Character development.
3. Study the art of the Magicians Choice technique- I have been collecting material and now need to do concentrated study - a foundational technique. An excellent article on the Magicians Choice can be found in the September issue of Genii.
4. Continue to study the old publications. Currently reading "Swami Mantra" This was a monthly that was produced in India in the early 70's.

Goal number 4 is my rediscovering the old and makes it new philosophy. I touched on it in my last article. Buried in the old publications is a wealth of material. "Swami Mantra" as I mentioned above is my current project. Between it's covers are gems like the improved Brain Wave deck. Imagine a Brain Wave Deck that can be shown fanned front and back before and after the revelation. There is an excellent Numerology Effect that is just begging for a good presentation. The mathematical workings are so well hidden that I smiled as I Read the description.

Those are just a few of the nuggets waiting to have the dust blown off. I am also impressed at the contributors - a who's who list from both sides of the pond - these were the movers and shakers of the magic scene in the early 70's ( Roy Walton, Dia Vernon, Al Mann , Peter Warlock - just name a few) As an added bonus in each issue there is an explanation of Indian Faker magic. Some really wild stuff that should not be tried - items like chewing and swallowing razor blades (for real) , sticking needles in your eye, Fire Eating , buried alive - If you are into geek magic then this might be for you -Interesting read though. This publication is available thru Lybrary.com as a download- highly recommended and a steal at \$19.95. I have the hard cover edition and originally paid \$45.

**How do you like that I started out with my New Year's resolution and ended with a book review. Though there are only four goals they should keep me very busy. Maybe you have some goals – now is the time to put them on paper and make them a reality!**

## 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

Brian Cook's

[WWW.MAGICCRAFTER.COM](http://WWW.MAGICCRAFTER.COM)

Ralph Huntzinger contribution this month is an article he received from a newsletter from **Duane Laflin**. He felt and I agree that it had a lot of food for thought

I was going to try to distill the great advice in the article but then contacted Duane and received permission to reprint the article. Mr. Laflin's website information (Laflinmagicstore.com) and information of the Grand Magic Magazine subscriptions is at the end of the article. Enjoy

Thanks to Ralph Huntzinger and Duane Laflin.

## Laying Bricks or Building a Cathedral?

by: **Duane Laflin**  
**November 2012**

There is an old and well known story about a man who was watching other men at work. He approached one of them and asked, "What are you doing?" The man expressed irritation and replied, "I'm laying bricks, what does it look like!" Feeling as if he had mistakenly tried to pet a porcupine, the questioner pulled back. It was clear that the worker was not happy and there would be no productive communication.

The questioner continued to observe the construction process. Later he approached another worker and posed the same question. "What are you doing?" This worker was pleased with the query and said, "I am building a cathedral." He went on to express enthusiasm about the project and positive expectations about what it would be when finished. This man clearly had appreciation for his job. He was motivated by his vision of the fulfillment of his efforts.

### I'd rather be a cathedral builder than a brick layer!

I personally have a vision about magic. I suppose it could be said that I am building my own kind of cathedral. It is not a construction of stone and mortar. It is the building of an entertainment experience wherein people can have a marvelous time. To me, this point of view is extremely important. It keeps me enthusiastic about my art and craft. It makes me a better performer. Maintaining proper perspective is crucial to connecting well with audiences.

I mention this because it appears that some, maybe many, in the world of magic are losing the vision (or have already lost it). When I started in magic, my excitement was for learning wonderful things that I could perform for others. My magician friends seemed to have the same excitement. We wanted an audience. We wanted to do shows.

Nowadays there are many magicians who seem to have little, or no interest, in performance situations. Their interest extends no farther than wanting to impress other magicians by way of demonstrating a difficult move or novel technique. Their vision is not for smiling faces and delighted audiences, it is just for the heads of peers to nod in approval. In this, they are small-minded.

### Has the vision for magic been reduced to just wanting to fool other magicians and people on the street?

This loss of vision hurts magic on many levels. When magic clubs lose the vision, they are no longer fun for their members. Meetings become contests and clashes between egos, rather than sessions of development and discovery. Magicians who really care about doing magic for the public stop coming to such meetings. They see them as a waste of time and cause for frustration. Magic clubs lose members and start to die, because they have forgotten why they began in the first place.

To a degree, the modern interest in "street magic" can reflect this same thing. Rather than having the goal of creating magical experiences for others, the goal may only be that of proving how clever one is. There needs to be a balanced point of view about this, because some street performers do good shows and work hard to entertain audiences under challenging conditions. I applaud them. The concern is about others who take their magic to the street with the belief that, if they can fool someone, they are victorious. Although they call it magic, what they are really doing is performing stunts and doing puzzling things for shock value. It is a "hit and run" approach where the experience of persons seeing the trick does not seem to be as important as the magician exulting in the thought, "They did not know how I did it!" Magic should be better than that.

## **When a magician loses the vision, he hurts himself as a performer!**

When a magician loses the vision it hurts himself as a performer. If he gets a booking, he is likely to fail to please those who have hired him and those who watch him. He will be the kind of performer who leads people to think, "We don't like magic." The truth of the matter will be that they don't like the magician, but they think it is the magic. His lack of appreciation for his own craft, and his self-centered perspective, has resulted in tricks without entertainment.

I recently learned of a magician who was putting on a decent show until he realized he was being video-taped. He stopped the show, broke character, and walked to the front of the stage. From there he berated the person with the video camera and yelled at the organizers of the event. He spoke of "how hard he had worked to develop his show and no one was going to copy it." He demonstrated no concern for the fact that the upbeat attitude of the show was gone or for the fact that most of the audience was bewildered by his outburst. He did not care that audience members were uncomfortable to be in the middle of a confrontation. The only thing that mattered to him was his self-appointed "greatness" and what he thought was the need to protect it. He had lost the vision. After the show, the client who had booked this magician was heard to say, "He will never work for us again."

That is the kind of thing that happens when magicians lose sight of what magic is about. It is supposed to be a sharing of the gift of wonder. Magic does not exist so magicians can behave as superior individuals. It exists so that a person, the magician, can provide those who come to see him, the audience, with an experience that is as pleasurable as it is amazing.

## **Magic does not exist for the sake of letting magicians behave as superior individuals. It is for the sake of providing audiences with magical experiences. It is our privilege to do this!**

It is a privilege to share magical happenings with an audience. This past weekend I was especially reminded of this matter. Mary and I performed for about one hundred children in a church in Proctorville, Ohio. We have performed in numerous larger and higher profile venues, but in none more important or worthwhile. It was a terrific situation. The kids laughed, clapped, and cheered. After almost every trick, their mouths dropped open and their eyes were wide. When the show was over, they crowded around us and acted as if they hoped we would never leave.

That is why I do what I do. It is not about knowing secrets and mastering clever techniques. Those are necessary to my work, just like putting bricks and mortar together is the task of a cathedral builder. However, my true aim is to present a performance that brings delight and wonder to others.

Not long after the show I was talking to someone who has known me, by way of shows and lectures, for about twenty years. This person said, "Duane, one of the things that amazes me is, after all these years, you still love what you do to the point that you behave like an excited little kid." It was a round about compliment, yet the remark meant so much to me. It meant I still had the vision. Magic is a wonderful thing. To allow oneself to get burnt out, or to become casual and cynical about it, is a serious failure. If something really is wonderful, we should continue to know the wonder!

This matter of vision is not just for me and my work. It is about that which I hope others are doing. My hope is there will be many who use magic to make smiles appear, burdens be forgotten, and a happy sense of the incredible come into minds. Let's stay focused on that.

If you view yourself as a magician, or at least as someone who dabbles with being a magician, I hope you have the right vision. It might be time to give yourself a "vision check." Is your approach to magic selfish, or are you really looking to share it? My belief is that a commitment to sharing magic is what keeps the vision alive. Maybe you should ask yourself, "Am I laying bricks, or building a cathedral?"

This article reflects the purpose of the publication of our new magazine *Grand Magic*. We aim to encourage magicians to get out and share magical experiences with others. Our writing will be to instruct about how to be successful in doing this.

**\*\*Note about people video-taping shows**

I understand concerns about video-taping performances and do not allow it to be done in my shows either. However, I do not believe in interrupting things and spoiling the spirit of the show because someone violates the rules. It is the responsibility of the performer to find a way to deal with the matter without robbing the audience of a wonderful entertainment experience.

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**Look and Laugh downloadable FREE!**



Grand Magic Magazine is a monthly magazine. \$30 includes a one year subscription (12 issues) in PDF format. It reflects the purpose of promoting magic as a positive and uplifting entertainment experience. As a bonus when you subscribe to *Grand Magic Magazine*, you will receive an additional 5% off all of your purchases at Laflin Magic Store for as long as your subscription is active.

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Information on the Weekend of Magic, 3 of Clubs convention.  
This will be held in Vancouver BC on November 8<sup>th</sup> – 10 th 2013

From Mike Norden IBM Ring #92 Vancouver Magic Club and Host of the Convention.

The ALUMNI price is for anyone who has attended a PAST 3 of clubs, Weekend of Magic, 3 of Clubs convention. The price is now set till September. The first 75 people who register will receive a GIFT BAG of EXCLUSVE magic stuff worth over \$75 – I am serious! We have 68 people registered already so register now!

See the NW Ring of Fire Website for the registration form or go to [www.ibmring92.com](http://www.ibmring92.com) to register. Or for more information contact Mike Norden at 604-916-9879.