



## Words from the Secretary

**Craig Colombel**

January 2014 – [accolombel@zipcon.com](mailto:accolombel@zipcon.com)

Greetings from your secretary, Craig Colombel and Happy New Year. 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).

## President's Message

**Jim Rodgers -President 2014**

Remember to pay your dues for 2014.

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### The Northwest Ring of Fire End of Year/Holiday Party

It will be on January 26 at Shawn O'Donnell's Restaurant in Everett, Wa. The doors will open at 5pm and dinner at 6pm. The Address for Shawn O'Donnell's is

[122 - 128th ST SE, Everett, WA 98208](https://www.google.com/maps/place/122+128th+St+SE,+Everett,+WA+98208).

You need to have paid your dues for the year 2014 to attend.

See the information elsewhere in this newsletter.

## December 2013 MEETING

### **December's theme was – Why don't you just Read the Directions? Effects requiring the spectator(s) to follow your directions.**

Jeff Dial brought a deck of cards to use as a lie detector. He had the volunteer pick a card and then Jeff attempted to find the card by asking questions and using the deck. Jeff told the volunteer that he could either lie or tell the truth. He first asked if the card was red or black. Then he dealt down the number of cards that spelled the word red or black, depending on the answer. He then asked the suit and if it was court or spot card. The card from the last letter was put to the side still face down. He then asked what the name of the card that was picked. When Jeff was informed of the card's identity, he brought out the magician's insurance policy and showed that the picture on the back of the policy matched the card picked. For a final kicker the face down card was the card chosen. This was a trick that he got from Mike Close Workers 5. Jeff then did a teach-in to the club on how to do the trick.

Mark Paulson, then brought out a work in progress. He had a bag with five items and said he would try to influence four people on what items they would pick. There were 5 paper balls in the bag, each a different color. Mark had each person pick one ball and kept it covered so no one could see which ball the volunteer picked. They sat down in a row and after picking the balls were given the chance to change seats. The last item in the bag was a fifth paper ball that when unfolded had written on it, "The person in chair number one would pick the red ball" and it was correct.

Danny Dragon had a small pack of cards that were all Ace of spades. He said it was his favorite card and that these were the cards. He told us that he use these four cards to practice his moves and practice his misdirection. The cards then spent time changing whether they were face up or face down and finally the backs of all four cards changed color, then the cards all change to a royal flush. Jim Rogers also brought out a trick that was a work in progress and he wanted to have help and critique of the trick. He had three volunteers come up to the stage. Inside a coin purse there were three coins, all quarters, but each had a different date on them. One was in 1971 coin, another was a 1972 coin and the last was a 1973 coin. He had the volunteers determine among themselves, without him knowing, who was going to tell the truth and which two were going to lie. He then had each of them pick one coin out of the pouch and then he tried to determine who was a truth teller and who the liars were. After performing the trick he talked about the problems with the trick and ask for help and for critique on the presentation.

Mark Paulson showed us another trick. He had an envelope with three cards with pictures of animals on them. He had the volunteer pick one of the cards. Then he had the volunteer read the back of the card. Written on the back of the card was "an Aquarius always picks the cougar". The volunteer had picked the card with the picture of the cougar on it, and he was an Aquarius.

Tom Payne showed us something that he learned from Jeff McBride. It was a different way of bending the deck and asked if anyone could help was to finessing of the bending.

The night ended with a short clip of Mike Caveny video.

REMEMBER, TO VISIT THE CLUB'S WEBSITE,  
[HTTP://WWW.NWRINGOFFIRE.COM/INDEX.HTML](http://www.nwringoffire.com/index.html)

And also visit the clubs Facebook page.  
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Northwest-Ring-of-Fire/429616737105973>

**Reports from the “Ring of Smoke” the youth group associated with our club. Everyone should make a try to attend one of their meetings. A great group of young magicians.**

The Ring of Smoke meeting on January 5 was very well attended with many of the usual members as well as several newer guests. Bruce discussed Mystic Pasta and the format for the event as well as preparation necessary to make it a great event, and Zinger provided insight about performance preparation as well. Elliott practiced his ring routine and also gave the younger members some tips on how to master the rings. Leo also demonstrated some excellent card magic and assisted the younger kids in working on their card trick. As usual, most of the time was spent with the kids jamming and enjoy demonstrating and watching new tricks.

Ben and Marty

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### 2014 NWRF Meeting Themes

January 9 – Classics of Magic – Bring in your version of a Magical Classic!

February 13 – Sweetheart Magic – Tricks that always go well –or- the Magic that you just love to perform!

March 13 – Show me the Money! Magic with coins, bills, credit cards, checkbooks, etc.

April 10 – Unfinished Magic – bring in effects you haven’t finished yet, or that aren’t turning out like you want, and let’s workshop them! Maybe breathe new life into them!

May 8 – Magical Bookworm Night – Share one of your favorite magic books with the club. Bonus points awarded if you perform an effect from it!

June 12 – Not playing with a full deck – Tricks with a partial deck or just a few cards.

**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)

**DON’T FORGET TO PAY YOUR DUES FOR THE YEAR 2014. \$25 PER YEAR OR \$35 FOR A FAMILY MEMBERSHIP. BEING A DUE PAYING MEMBER GETS YOU DISCOUNTS TO THE LECTURES. ALSO IF YOUR DUES ARE PAID YOU CAN COME TO THE HOLIDAY PARTY. Either come the meeting and pay or pay by Mail**

**Make check to NWRF (Northwest Ring of Fire) and send to:**

**Brian Melicher  
15329 31st Ave W  
Lynnwood, WA 98087-2413**

## Notes To Self

By Phil Reda

### 2014 - Have You Made Your Magical Resolutions?

It's that time of year where we get to start with a blank sheet of paper and list out goals for the new year. I usually try and set some magic goals for myself along with the usual - I need to lose weight, get in better shape and so forth - the magical goals are usually more fun and easier to attain.

This year my goals are:

1. Try not to buy any more stuff - I have enough to work on for years to come.
2. Work through Corinda's 13 Step's to Mentalism - both the book and DVD series. My plan is to read the lesson then watch the DVD lesson. Work through the book then rank the chapters to spend more time in.
3. I have been stuck half way through of "Showmanship for Magicians". Not because it is boring but it is so dense with information I have to re-read it several times. I will finish it this year.
4. Perfect my center tear. I have been trying several methods and my favorite is the Dr. Bill center tear. I also like Richard Osterland's center tear but Dr Bill's wins out for ease and deceptiveness. The manuscript is available through Penguin - it is expensive but the information and lessons it contains - I feel - are worth it. There is an essay on the psychology as well as when to peek the information. Most instructions tend to gloss over this important topic. Both of the mentioned center tears are action tears. You read the contents while tearing up the paper. No need to steal the center.
5. Try to develop 6 solid mental routines - completely scripted.

That's my list.

Speaking of Richard Osterland - he just finished his second Penguin Live Lecture - "Pocket Mentalism". This was another outstanding lecture. This lecture has set a record - length is over 5 hours. Mr Osterland presents some great material but the real value is his tips on presentation and psychology in the performing of mentalism.

I wish you and yours a happy and healthy New Year.

Until next month.

Phil

**Reviews by Payne****The Magic in Books**

Leo Behnke

\$29.95

H&amp;R Books

<http://www.magicbookshop.com>

Hardbound 6 ¼" X 9 ¼" 120 pages

Reviewed by Payne:

From the title one might assume that Leo Behnke's *Magic in Books* is a treatise on creating and performing a reading themed magic show to perform at libraries and schools. It is not. What *Magic in Books* is in fact is a biography of a most eclectic individual told through the medium of books -- which is to say the writing, collecting and conservation of them. It is safe to say that Leo Behnke is a bibliophile of the first order. It is also safe to say that many of you reading this review are saying to yourselves right now, Leo who? Though not as famous as the likes of a David Copperfield or a Mark Wilson nor is he as widely known to many in the world of magic as say the names Merv Taylor or Alan Wakeling. However Leo Behnke worked with all the aforesaid mention magicians as well as many, many more.

Some of you are already familiar with the name Leo Behnke as he has written over thirty books and manuscripts on the performance of magic, most notably the twenty pamphlets that comprise the *Magic City Library of Magic* and *Impromptu Magic from the Magic Castle*. Readers of the recent Steve Martin biography *Born Standing Up* will too have run across his name as Mr. Behnke, being the manager of Disneyland's Merlin's Magic Shop where Steve Martin worked as a young man, appears in that memoir. Mr. Martin also penned the foreword to *Magic in Books*.

Those who have somehow avoided not having a Leo Behnke manuscript in their magic library nor had a chance to read Steve Martin's biography may still have crossed his path somewhere along the way. I for one was surprised to discover that not only had he created the FAKO deck and book set designed to be used with the Magic Castle Playing Cards that I have in my playing card collection. But he also created one of my favorite magic sets of all time *100 of the Greatest Magic Tricks from the Last 50 Years*.

Most of us would be quite satisfied with being the author of many magic books, creator of innovative magic sets and playing cards, operator of one of the most visited of magic shops in the world and mentor to one of the greatest comics of all time. But this is only the tip of the iceberg in Mr. Behnke's diverse magic career. As mentioned before books played an important role in his life. Not only did he help to establish and refine the operation of the Magic Castle Library he also curated the Mulholland Library and the David Copperfield Collection. He's written books and articles on the conservation of magic books and playing cards, casino game management and magic in the old west. When not involved in literary pursuits he designed magic sets, worked on the *Magic Land of Alakazam*, ran his own magic production company and worked in the playing card industry.

His book is a veritable smorgasbord of eclectic information, wonderful stories and fabulous anecdotes of the various greats and near greats he has met in his seventy plus years in magic.

It is a fun read and is now one of my favorite magic biographies. Highly recommended.

### 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 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

910 NE Minnehaha St. Ste 1  
Vancouver, WA 98665  
1-888-360-6244

Brian Cook's

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

Seattle Juggling and Magic Shop located at 9460 Rainier Ave South, Seattle, WA 98118 206-859-8363, with a Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/SeattleMagicShop> and on the web at <http://SeattleJuggling.com>

### 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 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:mark2061@yahoo.com)). It is a wonderful chance to perform for an appreciative audience. It's been standing room only all year.

**The January 13 Magic Monday will feature Mark Paulson, Hugh Castell, Louie Foxx, and Master Payne.**

If you wish to perform contact Mark at:

[mark2061@yahoo.com](mailto:mark2061@yahoo.com) or on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/thirdplacebooksmagicmonday?fref=ts>

The Family Entertainers Workshop is returning to the Seattle area April 25-27<sup>th</sup>. For more information go to the website at [www.FamilyEntertainersWorkshop.com](http://www.FamilyEntertainersWorkshop.com)

More info to come.

Diamond Jim Tyler has offered to donate some material from his upcoming book Bamboozlers Three. For the next couple of months I will print them here. More information on the book can be found at [www.diamond-jim.com/originals](http://www.diamond-jim.com/originals) Bamboozlers- The Book of Bankable Bar Betchas, Brain Bogglers, Belly Busters & Bewitchery: Volume Three by Diamond Jim Tyler is due out June of 2013.

Expect the same classy style pocket-sized book. It contains 75 effects with over 100 illustrations and is bound in green faux leather, with silver gilt edges, silver foiled stamping and has a ribbon marker. The foreword of the book is by Mac King. The book will be sold exclusively at [www.diamond-jim.com/originals](http://www.diamond-jim.com/originals) for \$19.95.

## NEWSPAPER NUMBERS

**TRICK:** The magician asks someone to choose any section from a random newspaper (i.e. Editorials, Front Page Section, International News, Sports, Entertainment, Classified Ads, etc.). He then asks them to remove any four page spread and to add up the four page numbers. The magician then divines the number they are thinking of.

**SECRET:** This is a great routine that can be done impromptu. The only thing you need is access to a newspaper that has the traditional four page layout. After the spectator chooses a section take hold of it and explain what you would like them to do next. Your instructions will be to remove any page from that section and add up the four page numbers. Pantomime this action to be clear. The numbers to add up are the inside page numbers and the two found on the back of that same sheet.

As soon as you have the section in your hands it is easy to divine what their number will add up to be. Simply add the numbers on the front and back of the first page. For example, the front page number might be page one while the back page number is page forty. Adding those two numbers together gives you forty-one. Now multiply that number by two and you'll have your final result which is eighty-two. Think about it. If the front and back pages are 40 and 1 which totals 41 added together, then on the backside of those pages will be the numbers 2 and 39 which is 41 again. Forty-one multiplied by two is eighty-two. Every four-page spread in that section will add up to be eighty-two.

It only takes a quick moment to glance at the back page numbers and do the math. This could also be done with a book. The problem with a bound book is that one cannot easily remove a four page spread. However, if you were to remove the staples from a saddle-stitched book, you could perform the same miraculous effect. *Once upon a time a good friend of mine gave me a beautiful antique dictionary. The binding came undone over time and several pages fell out and were lost. Incidentally, I couldn't find the words to thank him.*

