



Words from the Secretary

Craig Colombel

Secretary 2012 – accolombel@zipcon.com

Greetings from your secretary, Craig Colombel. This month we have another guest writer 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.

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President's Message

Jeff Dial

President 2012

Greeting Ring of Fire,

I just finished up attending an international magic convention and will be headed to another this weekend. The former was the online conference from Portugal, EMC and the latter will be the PCAM just down the street.

Don't forget that this month's theme is Fred Sanford night. Bring your junk magic trick you bought and perform it for the club. Yours truly will be teaching a trick/routine. It just might involve performing with junk you have laying around.

Eric Mead was one of the speakers at the EMC where he did a talk on advice for beginners. His ideas are applicable for both veterans and newcomers alike. Below are the main points:

- 1) Study and Learn the Classics of Magic – Study every version and the differences between them.
- 2) Read. And Read Everything – There are huge amounts of information only found in the literature. It forces you to use your imagination and bring your personality to the magic.
- 3) String Tricks Together – Think in terms of a show, not individual tricks. This could just be three tricks in 10 minutes.
- 4) Be Original – Find the unique thing about yourself. Both Mac King and Payne perform many standard tricks, but both are unique.
- 5) Failure is Your Friend – Mistakes are how we learn.
- 6) Do Magic – Find ways to perform a lot for audiences. (Charity shows, retirement homes, city events)

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July 2012 MEETING

July's meeting theme was Déjà vu night where everyone was to perform a variation of the same trick. The trick for the night was "Cups and Balls". Also this night was a combine night with the youth club "Ring of Smoke"

Jeff Simmons started the night with a "cups and balls" routine that used coffee cups and napkins. It was a routine he could perform impromptu.

Mark Paulson performed a one cup and a stuffed mouse that kept moving from his pocket back into the cup, with a finally of multiple mice in the cup.

Jeff Dial used one cup and told the story of Snow White. At first a yellow poison pill kept appearing in the cup and later it changes to an apple.

Payne using pirates skulls and 3 coins to a variation of rub and dub-dub, ending with a final load of large skulls and gold coins.

Phil Reda had a person write down their name on a sheet of paper. Had it crumpled into a ball and two other blank papers crumpled up into balls.

Then each placed under 3 cups. The cups were mixed up by the spectator and Phil found the cups with the paper with the name by just holding his hand over them and feeling the energy of the name.

Fred Turner talk about mysteries, then brought out a prediction envelope in which the prediction match the cards chosen.

Jim Eamshaw showed the club a very well done short coin trick with the multiple vanish and production of coins.

Two of our visitors performed.

Cameron who is 8 years old performed a very well done sponge ball routine.

Savannah who is 6 years old performed a card trick.

Well done by two young magi.

Payne gave a short history lesson on the Cups and Balls. Then demonstrated an effect he got at the IBM convention. A variation of the spike in the bag.

Teach a trick

Phil Reda showed a routine using an invisible deck. After showing how he did the trick, using the deck and a deck switch, he gave some history of the invisible deck. He informed us that there are at least two different types of invisible decks; the Ultra Mental deck (face down in face up deck) and the Brainwave deck (face up in a face down deck).

He shared with us an article by Dai Vernon from The Jinx magazine about the decks. He also discussed how to use the deck more efficiently and how to make your own deck. Phil then donated a book on the invisible deck to the club library. Those of you who weren't there missed an excellent teach in.

Thanks a lot Phil.

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.

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- 7) Have a Life Outside of Your Art – Do lots of things.

Looking ahead, September's theme is "John Ramsay Night" (Tricks with food, groceries, and all things supermarket).

Have a magical August,
Jeff Dial

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2012

August – "Fred Sanford Night" – Bring your worst magic purchase and perform it. Workshop TBD.

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

A Knight's Tour With Free Choice of Start and End

E-Book by Chris Wasshuber

Available from Lybrary.com

<http://www.lybrary.com/knights-tour-with-free-choice-start-p-5886.html>

Price \$25.00

A Knight's Tour is an ancient mathematical problem in which a chessman knight is moved, according to the rules of chess, around an empty chess board so that it lands on each of the sixty-four squares only once. For centuries it has been a popular conundrum among mathematicians and chess addicts alike and has, in recent times, appeared sporadically as a mental feat in the acts of magicians and mind readers.

There are two types of tours. Open and closed. A closed tour is one in which the knight's final resting place is in a position where it could capture its starting square. An open tour is one where this is not the case. Mr. Wasshuber has developed a method which allows the performer not only to present both types of tours but also to successfully create one in which the spectator has freely chosen both the starting and ending squares, as long as they are of opposing colors -- ending on the same color square as one starts is as mathematically impossible as trisecting an angle or rounding a square.

It is a slim E-Book comprising just 17 pages but it is clearly and concisely written with all the necessary diagrams one would need to learn this version of a knight's tour. There are no presentation ideas nor tips put forth in the manuscript leaving it entirely to the reader to develop for themselves an act where a knight is moved about a chessboard in an entertaining and engaging way.

Be warned, this is not a magic trick. It's not even a trick. It's a true and unadulterated feat. Mr. Wasshuber has developed a matrix that allows the performer to work out in their head a unique Knight's Tour where the spectator chooses the start and stopping square. Thus this is not something you can pick up on Friday afternoon with the expectation that you can put it in your show on Saturday night. Unless of course the Saturday night you are thinking of is several months from now.

For most of us mere mortals this display of mental agility is going to require a huge amount of memorization and practice. One needs to be able to visualize and hold in their mind the image of a quartered and seemingly random numbered chessboard as well as the path that the knight needs to make on it this time around. No mean feat as it is journey is different every time you do it. So if you suffer from numerophobia or your little grey cells aren't as nimble as they used to be you may find all this to be a daunting, if not completely insurmountable task. However if you're the kind of person who can work out the permutations of a memorized deck after it's been faro shuffled eight times this manuscript might be just be right up your alley.

Payne

MAGICAL HAPPENINGS

On August 7th at 6:30PM the Magic & Comedy of Bruce Meyers will be setting up and performing from the Mystic Tent in Clark Park in Everett. It is the City of Everett's observance of the National Night Out Against Crime. The event will also be featuring the K-9 Corp of Everett Police, face painters, musicians, free give-aways, food and other fun stuff. Attached is a photo of the Mystic Tent in action. (See Below)

That's Impossible

August will open with Maritess Zurbano and close with Just Sage.

That's Impossible is held once a month at Egan's Ballard Jam House,
1707 Northwest Market Street
Seattle, WA 98107
(206) 789-1621

Doors open at 6pm. The show begins at 7pm and goes to about 8:30.

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

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

Jeff Dial and Ralph Huntzinger will be performing at the Washington Midsummer Renaissance Faire. This will be during the first three weekends in August. It will be held at The Kelley Farm in Bonney Lake, WA. The web site is <http://www.washingtonfaire.com/>

See pictures next page

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 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)

Information on the "Ring of Smoke"

Due to PCAM the meeting time for the NW Ring of Smoke will move from the 1st Sunday of August to the 19th. As always we'll be meeting at O'Donnell's 2:00PM. This is one meeting the young magicians won't want to miss! You could think of it as Christmas in August :)

Big congratulations to Ring of Smoke magician Leo Kanzelberger who won 2nd Place in the IBM Convention's Junior Stage Competition !

For those who don't know the Ring of Smoke is the affiliated Youth Group for the Ring of Fire.



Bruce Meyers



Jeff Dial



Ralph Huntzinger

This month we have a guest writer for the newsletter. Phil Reda was at the July meeting and gave a workshop on the Brainwave deck and demonstration of a deck switch. Below are his thoughts on the deck switch. Thank Phil.

In Search for the Perfect Deck Switch By Phil Reda

After the Brain Wave Deck teach-in I was asked by several club members about the deck switch I used and deck switches in general. I thought it might be helpful to put some thoughts on paper and possibly open a discussion on the topic.

Card magic was my main focus for years and now, after taking a hiatus from magic for several years my new found passion is mentalism. Over the years I have played around with different types of deck switches – from simply putting the deck in my pocket and pulling out another deck to elaborate deck shells or body loads. Is there a Holy Grail of deck switches? The answer is yes! But it probably is not the answer you want to hear. The perfect deck switch is the one that is right for your performance piece. The key is to look at the routine that you are going to perform and analyze what actions are occurring before and after the point where the switch will occur. Look for some sort of motivation and that is where the method for the

switch lies. It is the actual performance that gives the cover for the switch. It is almost a Zen thing. Simple is better and go with the flow – don't try to swim against the current.

Let's look at the Brain Wave deck demo. I started with a real deck. A spectator was sitting to my right and I gave her a pad of paper to write on. I was holding the real deck in my left hand. In front of me was my trusty magic bag that I take the things I need out of (it is actually an old Doctor's bag). As I was telling her what I wanted her to do I placed my left hand with the deck into the bag to get a pen – I did not say anything about getting a pen – I just did it. My attention was on the spectator and explaining to her what I wanted her to do. As my hand entered the bag I released the deck and let it fall to the bottom (there was a folded towel on the bottom to absorb any noise). This action allows my hand to be free as I reach the Brain Wave deck and there is no hesitation – one continuous motion. Let me step back for a moment the Brain Wave deck was placed off to the side in the bottom of my bag with the pen resting on top – that way I could grab both at the same time. As my hand came out I handed the pen to the spectator.

As you can see in the above my motivation was needing a pen and again I did not mention that in my script. Personally I think it raises suspicion if you mention that you need a pen. Second I blocked my performance piece so I had my bag and spectator in the proper position. Finally and I think this is important, when I am reaching into the bag I am thinking to myself I am only going to get a pen – this is the silent scripting that is talked about in Henning Nelms seminal work and a must read – Magic and Showmanship. By running the silent script it keeps me from looking guilty – I am just going for pen – no need to call attention to it.

If you are contemplating a deck switch keep it simple and analyze your routine. It could be as simple as putting the deck in your pocket doing something else and pulling out your new deck for your next miracle. As a final note there was an article published in Genii by Roberto Giobbi on constructing a deck switch – it might be worth looking up.

Those of you who were at the meeting I hope you enjoyed the presentation and thank you for your hospitality

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 – 128th St SW off of I-5 (O'Donnell's exit)

Head East on 128th St SW

128th becomes 132nd

Turn left at 19th Ave SE (after Fred Meyer)

Turn left at 121st St SE

121st 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 112th 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