



Words from the Secretary

Craig Colombel accolombel@zipcon.com

The newsletter needs you. I need articles and news events written by you. You do not have to be a member of the club to send articles to be published. 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. It is time for new officers for the upcoming year. **It is time to pay your dues. Dues helps the club bring lectures to the area.**

We are now meeting at the Kenmore Library at 6531 NE 181st Street Kenmore WA 98028

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Ring of Smoke Report

The February Ring of Smoke meeting at Shawn O'Donnell's was a well-attended event hosted by JR. Theo, Justin, Luka and others jammed in cards and coins. The focus was what to work on Simon Aronson poker deals and different variations. Each of the kids had an opportunity to workshop and perform and develop great presentation methods.

In March, rather than having a specific meeting, JR generously hosted all Ring of Smoke members who decided to attend the Michael Ammar lecture at Shawn O'Donnell's on March 3. Michael demonstrated many great tricks and discussed many concepts of magic which were very helpful for the youth. Many of the kids were particularly interested in his torn and restored card routine, silk through solid objects as well as his cups and balls routine. All in all, the youth had an outstanding time and learned a great deal.

Ben and Marty



We had fun on Saturday! Michael Ammar was in town to give us a few pointers!

February's Meeting Report

February's meeting theme was "Culture" – Perform or discuss something by a creator from another part of the world.

Ralph Huntzinger had a round brass container that held silver dollars. As you may guess it was a Okito box that Eisenhower Silver Dollars could fit into. Ralph had to search to find such a box.

Dave Callahan is reading the book "The Magicians" and shared info on print newspapers that will print announcements of meetings for groups for free. Something to investigate.

There was report on the dinner that was put on by the Emerald City Wizards that other club members were invited to. Lance Campbell suggested having a yearly dinner with the other magic clubs in the area, combining it with a show. The show would be ½ club members and ½ hired magician/s.

We will be working with other magic clubs on putting on the "3 of Clubs". Evan Shuster showed a short movie centered on the magic of Japan. The magic consists of different Japanese magicians performing tricks from different Japanese books on magic.

Lance Campbell performed a mentalism effect using markers blank cards and a digital voice recorder. He handed out the markers and had people write down their cell phone numbers on the cards. He had a volunteer collect the cards and shuffle them. The volunteer then picked one cards and Lance determine who's card it was and dial the number to prove he had the right one. Lance then played the DVR and the recording on it described the person chosen including the clothes he was wearing.

Evan Shuster showed us an Instagram photo book. A print book of pictures printed from his Instagram account. Evan had a volunteer cut a small packet from a deck of cards and count the number of cards in the packet and look at the last card. (25 cards and the last was the five of diamonds. Evan then open the photo book to the 25th page and the picture on the page was the five of diamonds. This was an effect he learned from a magic book from Japan.

Craig Colombel had two clip boards with paper. One he gave to a volunteer and instructed the person to write the name of an animal without showing anyone. Craig then drew a picture of an animal on his clipboard. When the papers on both clipboards where shown the name and the picture matched. Craig then asked for help on the presentation of the effect.

Jim Rodgers had a packet of nine cards all diamonds. He then handed out 3 cards to 3 people. They mixed the cards and then placed the cards into 3 envelopes. The envelopes where mixed up and then returned to the volunteers without them knowing if they received their own cards back. Each open the envelope and pulled out a card. The value was read and use to make a 3-digit number, this was repeated, and the numbers added together. This value matched the value of a prediction. He then asked the group to workshop the effect.

After the meeting some of us went to a pizza shop for refreshments and more talk about magic.

Come to a meeting a talk, see magic and show off your magic.

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

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President's Message -Evan Shuster

March 2018

As we welcome the month of March, we also welcome the kick-off of the 2018 season of The Can-Am Conjuring Lecture Series. To say that booking this tour each year gets more stressful than the last is an understatement.

More and more magicians are becoming road-weary, and not as enthusiastic about taking on a full-blown lecture tour. In the past I would have lecturers reaching out to me a year in advance to get on a waiting list for a spot on an upcoming season. Sadly, as attendance has declined, the clamor for a spot on the tour has equally diminished.

More and more people seem to think that online lectures and jam sessions represent live magic. Penguin even advertises their lectures by telling you to "support live magic" (hey... that's MY line). Maybe that qualifies as live magic to them, but not to me.

Maybe it's my age talking; I grew up with not one but TWO (!!) brick and mortar shops in my hometown. At one time there was actually a third, as well, and Hank Lee (remember him?) was about an hour or so away. These were shops where we literally spent entire days hanging out and sessioning with other local magicians. I had the great fortune of working behind the counter at one of the shops when I was a teenager. I had access to every new trick and book on the market, and I absolutely loved it. I loved it because I was demonstrating magic, live, to real people, every day.

As I mentioned in last month's message, Seattle has no shortage of REAL live magic, whether it be theater shows, local conventions, our own lecture series, monthly meetings of multiple local magic clubs, etc. The trick to keeping up the momentum is participation. Yours, mine, everyone's.

As most of you know, Eric Jones, the kick-off lecturer this season, backed out with just ten days' notice, leaving me ready to pull what's left of my hair out. I started this message by mentioning the stress associated with the booking process... well, this certainly didn't help.

Michael Ammar came to the rescue. Without hesitation he committed to the full tour, made all travel arrangements, and arrived on time (actually, early), with a twinkle in his eye. He didn't bring much merchandise to sell, which is really how these guys make money from the tour. When I asked him about that he told me he thought most folks here already had most of his stuff. He didn't agree to do the tour to sell merch, he did it because he wanted to fill the open space created by Jones. He knows how important it is to keep live magic live, and so he selflessly put his family and his business on hold, hopped on a plane with a small bag and a briefcase and came to save the day (which he did).

So... every lecture you attend, and every magic meeting you show up for, every theater event that you purchase a ticket to, and every item you purchase from a brick and mortar magic shop represents your participation in the live magic community.

I want to thank you for your support, your membership, and above all your continued involvement with, and passion for live magic.

Best regards,

Evan

<http://nwingoffire.com/>

Haec aut bene aut male cedent
"This may, or may not work."

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

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>

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

That's Impossible Presents a Night of Magic, Mystery, and Comedy, with your host: Tim Flynn Magic.

2nd Saturday of Every Month. Hosted at Delancey's on 3rd in Renton. Doors open at 7:45, Stage Show begins at 9pm. Food & Drinks are available. Table-side magic before the show from real magicians!

(Some of) The Best Things in Life are (Virtually) Free

– Part 3

By Evan Shuster

This month I bring you six new websites to explore.

1. The People's Library

Eight centuries of open access books about magic. Currently provides links to 2653 documents, in six languages, to read and/or download.

<http://www.marianotomatis.it/biblioteca/index.php?lang=EN>

2. The Magic Word Podcast

Magician Scott Wells' podcast episodes feature his conversations with a who's who (and who's soon-to-be who) of magic. His archive currently boasts 410 episodes, and is available via web, and multiple other platforms, including iTunes, Stitcher and Feedpress.

<https://www.themagicwordpodcast.com/>

3. Vanish Magazine

It all started with the April/May 2012 premier issue, and now 6 years and 44 issues later, Paul Romhany's online Vanish Magazine is one of the most widely read magic magazines in the world, and... it's FREE (yup... free). Recent contributors include Paul Romhany, Jim Sisti, Diamond Jim Tyler, Doug Bennet, Nick Lewin, Raj Madhock, and our own Louie Foxx. Issues remain free and downloadable for a month or so after their release, and after that they become available for purchase, so best to stay on the mailing list so you are notified of each new issue upon release.

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

4. The Cups and Balls Museum

This is a site that is maintained by Bill Palmer (you may know him for his translations of Borodin's works, *Sheherazade*, and *Final Curtain*). The self-stated purpose of the online museum, which Palmer curates, is...

- 1) To collect as many examples as possible of the cups and balls.
- 2) To preserve these examples so that magicians of the future will be able to examine and study them.
- 3) To study and preserve the history of the cups and balls, not only in examples of the cups and balls, themselves, but also, the literature of the routines they are and were used for.
- 4) To help magicians select suitable sets of cups and balls for their own use.
- 5) To help manufacturers design cups and balls sets for use by magicians.
- 6) To help magicians learn to perform the cups and balls.

Simply put, if you are looking to explore the history of the cups & balls you will be amazed at what you will find here. Requires that you request a password, but this is just to keep spammers and bots away.

<http://www.cupsandballsmuseum.org/>

5. TV Magic Times

Pretty much is what it says it is... an up to date listing (roughly two weeks at a time) of magic, and magic-related themes on TV. Okay... so it's Monday, March 5th, and you're sitting in front of the television with a remote in one hand and a blank stare at the 700 channel listings. Not willing to admit defeat, you check the TV Magic Times listings and see that Orson Wells is on an episode of I Love Lucy tonight. But wait... you can also catch the latest episode of The Carbonaro Effect, the choice is up to you, but ultimately, problem solved!

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

6. Wild About Harry

Everything Houdini. Seriously!

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

Hi everyone! Many thanks to those of you who were able to make it out to the Michael Ammar lecture on Saturday. I appreciate your support!

I thought I would pass on the names referenced during the lecture. Possibly a few good leads for some of you on the path to discovery.

NAMES:

- Charlie Miller
- Glenn Falkenstein
- Dick Barry
- John Ramsay
- Johnny Brown

TRICKS & PRINCIPLES:

- J. C.'s Super Closer
 - o from The Commercial Magic of J. C. Wagner (Maxwell, pg. 23)
 - o also taught on Michael Ammar's Easy To Master Card Miracles – Vol. 4
- Gene Finnell's Free Cut Principle
 - o From the booklet of the same name (pg. 1)
 - o taught in The Commercial Magic of J. C. Wagner (Maxwell, pg. 25)
 - o multiple other sources: <http://archive.denisbehr.de/list/category/890>

I was interested in finding out more about Johnny Brown and discovered that there are two books of his material, authored by Father Bandy:

- Isn't That Good? - The Magic of Johnny Brown (by Father Bandy)
- Go Ahead, I'll Wait! - More Magic of Johnny Brown (by Father Bandy)

Both are from the 70's and difficult, but not impossible, to find (they were self-published). I was able to find the pair from an online seller.

Anyway... thanks again!

Evan

<http://nwingoffire.com/>



