



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. Come to meetings and support your club.

No Meeting this month because of Covid-19, We will hold an online meeting using Zoom

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Ring of Smoke Report

The Ring of Smoke typically meets on the first Sunday of the Month at Shawn O'Donnell's in Everett at 2pm. Recently, attendance has been dropping, so we encourage everyone to get the word out about the Ring of Smoke so that the ROS can remain viable and vibrant for young magicians."

RING OF FIRE LIVE

Once again we will hold the Ring of Fire Meeting on Zoom. We had a great time last time and this month Keith Fields will be our guest.

Info to sign in

NW Ring of Fire Monthly Meeting LIVE

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/736296076>

Meeting ID: 736 296 076

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,736296076# US (Tacoma)

+13462487799,,736296076# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 736 296 076

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kdxekbqBLi>

Reviews BY PAYNE

It Was You

Signed Postcard to Sealed Envelope

By Bruno Coplin

Available from Murphy's Magic

<http://www.murphymagic.com>

Price \$95.00

French magician Bruno Copin offers us a card to wallet effect that not only has a properly Parisian presentation that is sure to pull upon the heartstrings of those of a more sentimental nature but also presents the performer with a logical reason to find a previously signed object in an impossible location.

The effect is straightforward. After an audience member freely selects and signs a postcard it is returned to the small box from which they were first taken. The box is put aside and then relates a tale of chance meeting, unrequited love and misplaced mail. He then reaches into his coat pocket and extracts an envelope. Inside this envelope is a second smaller sealed envelope which is cleanly showed front and back. When the magician opens this envelope, it is found to contain the previously selected and signed postcard.

There is no palming nor switches involved. The card found in the envelope is the same one the spectator signed. The methodology is clever and allows the magician a very clean way to find a signed card in a sealed envelope.

There are however some limitations to this effect that might preclude you from replacing your current card to wallet routine. It uses invisible thread to do the dirty work, so this method is better suited to a more formal close up venue as the architecture of the hookup requires the use of a table and a close up mat. A clever magician I am sure could easily modify the hookup in such a fashion that one could negate the use of the close up mat thus making it feasible to do this trick in a walk around or table hopping situation.

Prop management might also be an issue as it requires the use of a box about the size of three decks of cards. The box however could also be used to keep other small props in. This would help take some of the heat off of it as it would now have more purpose than simply a repository for a stack of postcards. The angles are good and with a little modification to the handling one could easily do this trick surrounded. Reset too is a snap as all one needs to do is reseal the envelopes and place them back in your pocket.

Though you receive everything you need to present this trick you will most likely want to replace the supplied cardboard box with something a little more substantial and elegant.

The postcards themselves are nicely produced but they are the size of bridge sized playing cards (complete with rounded corners) and thus are considerably smaller than conventional postcards. I suppose you could say you obtained them in a "little" shop while on holiday abroad to explain the odd and unfamiliar size. You are supplied with thirty-two of them and replacement packs of thirty-two are available from Murphy's Magic for twenty dollars. This gives you a net cost of sixty-three cents a performance.

The instructional DVD too is very well produced. The instructional portion is shot in a triple split screen giving the viewer a simultaneous view from the front, above and a close up of the hands. This is quite helpful as this DVD seems to have been extracted from a larger work. Mr. Copin makes references to moves and effects that are not on this DVD. You get the feeling that you've somehow missed something or have started in the middle when first viewing the explanation portion of the recording. You have to watch both the Explanation and the Preparation of the Thread portions of the DVD to finally find exactly out how the thread rig is set up. The DVD is both in French and French with an English voice over so you can see the presentation in its original form and then flip over to the dubbed side to see what the performer was actually saying.

Payne

April's Meeting Report

The April meeting was held via Zoom as "NW Ring Fire LIVE" We were joined at times 13-16 people and had discussions on magic and other things and some demonstrated magic via Zoom.

The process was set up and hosted by our VP Santiago Naranjo. Much Thanks for his hard work.

Monty had a card chosen and lost in the deck. On the back of the cards there was a drawn Stickman and the chosen card was found by the aminated stickman. He is working on the trick and how to perform using Zoom. He said he tried the trick by texting someone to text back their card check. How to do magic online and live. Other shared their trials with Zoom magic. Payne was congratulated for being on the cover of Genii magazine.

Charles Rousseau is practicing pencil reading over Zoom and gave a demo to the group. By asking Santiago to write his birthday by day, month and year and by reading the pen movements was able to determine Santiago's birthday.

Louie Fox showed us what he is working on, he placed a Jack of Clubs into a goblet and after shaking the goblet it changes into the Queen of Hearts, removes from the goblet and then change into King of Spades. Uses flap cards. He was working how the changes happen. He showed how flaps could be use for other things i.e. bill change.

Rich Waters ask if someone has a deck of cards. Performed a do as I do with another of the participants. A good example on performing virtually how to work with a participant online. Both ended up with one face down card in each deck, both had a Ace of Hearts.

Jim Lang perform Dai Vernon's Cups and Balls, from the book. He wanted to learn as a tribute to Dai Vernon.

Ralph Huntzinger told us about some magic items he was getting. Said can use Zoom for one on one practice. He is available for use for help.

Payne one trick and one show and tell, both from Blackpool. "Spear of Mystery" Use key from Hotel and vanish the "Spear of Mystery". He brought a Tarbell Orange Vase, from Tarbell Vol 8.

There was a discussion about the Blackpool convention.

JR demonstrated a bar trick with cards. Change from Kings to Aces, using a false cut. "As You Like" from Harry Lorraine books.

James Donahoe performed a version of "Dr. Daley's Last Trick". James then performed his take on "Cups and Ball

Jamie O' Hera something he is working on, performing a prediction effect and prove he did not know in advance that he did not know what was going to choose. Had a large question mark only on the card chosen. He is making new decks with changes using the principle.

Jeff's Simmons son Jackson is in JR's discover magic group. Jackson performed a trick using a Hogwarts envelope with four cards each with pictures of four foods on them. He had JR think of one of the foods and then look to see if chosen food is on any of the others and according to answers determine the food item picked.

Ralph showed a appearing cane. Jeff showed off a puzzle box. Louie showed his Shell game shells he use a 3D printer to make. The routine ended with the shell being nesting shell and ended with 9 shells. Payne showed a 3D puzzle one red arrow one yellow with the puzzle to turn arrows around which you cannot do, ambiguous arrows This was part of the discussion on magic and showing props and items

See you next Thursday May 14th at 7pm on Zoom

MANY THANKS TO SANTIAGO, FOR MAKING THIS POSSIBLE!!

Remember, to visit the club's website, <http://www.nwringoffire.com> and visit the clubs Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/pg/Northwest-Ring-of-Fire-429616737105973/posts/?ref=page_internal

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)

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)

Brian Cook's

WWW.MAGICCRAFTER.COM

**FunkyFun Magic Shop- Is Now
Twisted Monkey-Magic Shop
1101 Outlet collection Way
#1261
Auburn WA 98001
206-859-8363**

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 are a local magician in the Puget Sound area and would like to perform at the venue, please contact Jim Earnshaw at jim@earnshawmagic.com. You can reserve a spot to perform months in advance and he would be happy to hear from you.

"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!

Review by Evan Shuster

With the re-release of some of Tom Stone's earlier works (e-books) I am submitting a review that I wrote (12 years ago!!) about one of his earlier publications, Flatland Fever.

Flatland Fever

Text & Illustrations: Tom Stone

18 pages (e-book format)

Copyright 2007 (Tom Stone)

<https://wargmagic.com/shop/ebook/flatland-fever/>

Tom Stone has done it again. He has released yet another e-book filled with brilliant routines, thought provoking ideas, clever musings, and a few unfinished bits and pieces with which to challenge the reader's creative side. The fact that this, or any other work by Mr. Stone, deserves serious attention should, by now, go without saying. Those in the know are already well aware of Tom's firmly planted stature in the magic community. Those not already aware, are unfortunately lacking in the experience (or rather joy) of exploring the brilliance of his exceptionally fertile, creative mind. Flatland Fever is another solid contribution, consisting of seven items (8 if you count the multiple versions of King Castling), all cards, each of which is beautifully illustrated and thoughtfully explained.

•Max Milton's One-handed Top Change

This is a terrific utility move with a rich, if not controversial, history surrounding its origin. This one will take some chops to master and pull off casually enough to exploit to its fullest potential, but don't let that dissuade you from giving it the attention it deserves. Given the seemingly endless uses it may lend itself to, there's certain power in its mastery.

•Hip Hip Hooray

Tom explains that this is one of a great number of his attempts to create a version of Bro. John Hamman's "The Signed Card" that will play well to lay audiences. I'm not sure which I find more interesting, the actual trick or Tom's thought process throughout the explanation. Both are equally impressive. To quote, "For a teleportation effect to become really convincing, the disappearance must be stronger and cleaner than the re-appearance." Hip Hip Hooray provides a fine example to support this statement while also providing an effective Hamman solution. Additionally, the trick employs the previously taught Milton One-handed Top Change, bringing the first portion of the book together quite nicely.

•113 Grams

This next item is credited to two of Stone's friends; Tomas Blomberg and Axel Adlercreutz. This is, for all intents and purposes, an ungaffed version of Luke Dancy's "Royale with Cheese," and is a beautifully constructed, two-phase sandwich routine which is totally impromptu and terribly clever.

•The Etude

This is a nice take on the memorized deck with virtually no mem-deck knowledge necessary. That statement may sound contradictory, but a single read through of the method will disprove the contradiction. Based on an idea from Simon Aronson, with additional observations from Michael Weber, The Etude is a double revelation with plenty of muscle, and can be performed with an untouched, brand new deck fresh out of the case.

•King Castling (1 & 2)

Here Tom takes on "113 Grams" (see above...) and offers a couple of alternate methods for achieving the same effect.

Version #1 is a "quickie" version which discards the second phase in favor of a more streamlined routine. The handling is slightly more cumbersome than that of the original, but still noteworthy since it offers a new path to the same destination (which I always find interesting).

Version #2 is, for me, the stronger of the two offerings and perhaps even better than the original. It

recaptures the impact of the initial two-phase routine and introduces the idea of incorporating other sandwich effects into it. Given such expansive possibilities it opens the sandwich routine up to the same potential for multi-phase development as is currently enjoyed by the best of the ambitious card routines.

•The Almoner

The opening statement in this trick's description declares it to be the weakest piece in the book. Personally, I find it every bit as strong as the best material. This is a three-card revelation with a kicker "I didn't see that one coming" ending. As usual, it employs a good amount of audience participation and more than a touch of humor. I just wish I understood the relevance of the trick's name, given the meaning of the word. 😊

•Homer's Case

Originally intended as a means to delay the vanish in the Rub-a-dub vanish, this is a very clever, easily constructed, utility gimmick which offers a wide variety of uses.

•Thoughts and Stuff

The book closes with an ode to Eric Mead's "The Incredible Mystery of the 10th Card," from Paul Harris's 'Art of Astonishment, volume 2.' Tom proceeds to explain an idea for an updated, more richly choreographed climax to the trick which, in its simplicity, strengthens the entire routine.

In 18 short pages we are given a feast of creative gems. This is a work that has more to offer than many other books with ten times the number of pages and is comprised of material that is as rich and inventive as any of Tom's previous offerings. Peppared in between several of the effects are snippets of Tom's thoughts, musings, and unfinished tidbits, each of which encourage (practically challenge) the reader to open his/her mind and fill in the blanks. Tom Stone is an abundantly prolific creator who deserves an audience as wide as his repertoire is vast. Each time I come to the end of another one of his books, I find myself already looking forward to the next.

Evan Shuster