



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

[Click here](#) for more info

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Ring of Smoke Report

No meetings currently.

RING OF FIRE LIVE
October 8th 7pm

Once again, we will hold the Ring of Fire Meeting on Zoom on November 12th (this Thursday) 7pm. We had a great time last time

Info to sign in

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/736296076?pwd=Sm4ybzA4SENCZnNZMk9odVN0QnF5Zz09>

Meeting ID: 736 296 076

Passcode: ringoffire

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,736296076#,,,,,0#,,8042240358# US (Tacoma)

+13462487799,,736296076#,,,,,0#,,8042240358# 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

Passcode: 8042240358

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

Magic Review BY PAYNE

Up the Ante

by Martyn Smith

Card Trick

Pamphlet 12 pages 8.25 X 5.75 Stapled

Available from the Merchant of Magic

<http://www.magicshop.co.uk>

Price £9.99

So, here's the effect. A spectator is invited to freely cut and shuffle a deck of cards. The magician, who never touches the deck throughout the entire routine, instructs the audience member to deal two cards face down on the table. He then asks them what the odds would be for this pair of cards to contain one red and one black card and whether they would be willing to make a small wager upon the matter.

A wager is agreed upon but to sweeten the deal the magician has the spectator deal two more pairs of cards face down upon the table.

The ante now is upped (hence the name of this effect) when the magician wagers that these two new pairs also contain one red and one black card.

Throwing caution to the wind the magician now has the spectator deal three more pairs of cards face down upon the table and proceeds to stun everyone with the declaration that these three pair too consist of one red and one black card and ups the ante once again.

Throwing caution (once again?) to the wind, and to mix things up a bit the magician now tells the spectator to deal out three sets of cards each containing four cards each. To everyone's disbelief the magician then proclaims that these three packets will not only contain two red/black pairs but these pairs will be made up of one of each suit – One Club, one Heart, one Spade and one Diamond. The ante of course is raised to meet this new improbable claim.

As a quick "side bet" two more cards are dealt out which, the magician assures us, will also be a red-black pair.

Even though the pot now is of a most prodigious size the magician needlessly tempts the fates and has the spectator deal thirteen cards face down on the table.

A thousand pounds (this is an English publication after all) is now bet that this pile of thirteen cards will contain, not in any particular order, one card of each value Ace through King.

But wait, there's more. The magician also bets an additional thousand pounds that the thirteen cards remaining in the spectators hands will also contains a random run of A, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, J, Q, K.

Impossible you say? Well let's find out. The seven two card piles are at long last turned over to reveal that yes; they are indeed comprised of red and black pairs. Next those three piles of four you'd nearly forgotten about are flipped over and just as predicted, they contain not only two pairs of red and black cards but are also comprised of one card from each suit.

Now the first pile of thirteen cards is delved into and, to everyone's amazement, it contains one card of each value. But surely the magician's luck can't hold. Those last thirteen cards can't possibly contain a perfect yet random run of thirteen cards. But indeed, it does. It has all come out precisely as the magician had said it would.

Amazing but true, and, as the instructions proclaim, "If you did not possess a reputation as a card-sharp before this routine, you certainly will at the end."

However, the author fails to tell you exactly how you will gain this reputation as a card-shard since at no time during this effect do you ever handle the deck of cards. Thus, since you've not given your audience an opportunity to postulate that you were somehow able to deal the cards out in the proscribed manner through a series of clever yet invisible manipulations, they are left with little alternative but to ascribe the tedious series of events they were just forced to sit through as a mathematical card trick.

Which indeed it is and as is the case of many mathematical card effects it suffers from an inordinate amount of counting and needless pile making. It also requires a stacked deck and a fair amount of real estate as you have eleven or twelve piles of cards laid out on the table at the conclusion of the trick making this a completely impractical effect for the walk around or restaurant worker.

While it is self-working and there are no angles to worry about the reset requires the entire deck to be manually restacked. It can be done with your typical CHaSeD stack so it can be done as a finale piece to a number of stacked deck routines.

The pamphlet contains the one routine, an explanation of how and why it works and a couple of different stacks you can use. This makes it a pricey routine for the fifteen or twenty dollars it's going to cost you at your average magic shop here in the States. After reading the routine and trying it out for some magic and non-magic friends (my magic club gave it a 2) I was left with the impression that this was more suited for release in the trick section of a magic magazine than it was as a dealers item.

As a reviewer I really do not like to label magic tricks as good or bad. I understand that what one might think to be lame and unworkable effect another might see pure performance gold. I unfortunately see no gold here. It's the type of trick you might perform a couple of times for your friends and then chuck it in the bottom of your magic drawer. There to languish forgotten until it ends up on your table at the next magic swap meet.

For me it fails as a gambling demonstration. As I already pointed out since you don't handle the cards, you're not displaying any type of card dealing dexterity. The cards end up in red and black pairs. I know of no gambling game where this would be an advantage. One would think a true gambling routine would be composed of dealing out series of cards that would be of use in a game of chance. This routine simply doesn't work for me, or anyone I've shown it to so far.

But as I said before, what one might find lame, another finds gold. After showing this routine to a magic friend he pointed me to an older version of the trick with a better presentation performed by Lennart Green called The Dragon's Pearl (available on his Green Light DVD).

Mr. Smith mentions on several online forums that he was unaware of Mr. Green's earlier version and stopped production and release of his product until he obtained permission from him to proceed. Curiously however there is no thanks' or attribution to Mr. Green anywhere in this thin pamphlet.

So, if you want to perform "The Dragon's Pearl" for half the price of what it would cost you on Lennart Green's DVD then go ahead and purchase "Up the Ante". However, if you want a great self-working mathematical card trick with a gambling theme there are probably much better ones out there.

September's Meeting Report

Once again, we had our meeting via Zoom, "Ring of Fire LIVE"

Jim Earnshaw informed us that he saw Lucy Darling's online show. He said it was very good and worth the money. He said that things during the show changed when one was not looking which gave an extra to the show.

Jim then, showed the club a coin matrix.

Louie Fox told us about a friend who was having Tiki Bar show where everyone dressed up for the show. There was a discussion on having people dress up for your online show to get everyone into a mind set for watching the show.

Payne showed off his work from the 3D printer he bought. He had made dye tubes, giant thimbles, a card splitter, some Harry Potter props and some giant paper clips. He told us some of the trials in his journey to learn the 3D printer.

Santiago is working on a séance show and was sharing with the club parts of it and asking for suggestions. Santiago asked for help with One of his questions was about "Ashes on the Arm", it was suggested that he use Chapstick for the writing. He showed us a smoke cube, a palm able item that produces smoke among other items he had for his show as a Skeptical Medium". Louie Fox talked about using Memory Metal Forks. Santiago had some ideas using a Frixion pen in the performance. Santiago brought up his ideas for a live performance, small number of audience 12 or less, masks and contactless tickets. To get people to wear masks there was a suggestion to have masks made up with the logo of the show on them and give them to the audience. Maybe making the masks part of the experience.

Payne talk about using wind up music boxes removing the keys and using the mechanism to wind thread that would be attached to an item. There was some discussion about the venue with Santiago's ideas and alternates. Santiago would like to use a suite at one of the historic hotels in Seattle.

It was a fun time discussing Santiago's ideas for his séance show.

Everyone had a good time.

Hope to see you soon.

See you next Thursday November 12^h at 7pm on Zoom See [page 2](#) for info

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

Magical happenings

Because of the restrictions for Covid-19 the below are both closed temporarily

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!

Something to think about from Jeff Dial

In the January 1980 issue of the Linking Ring the attached advertisement for the effect “Is This Psychokinesis?” The price \$50, \$155 in 2020 dollars. While the description seems impossible, it was very performable. Read the description of the effect, the performance conditions [yes, it sounds like some coin in bottle advertisements we have seen], and the conditions for purchase. If you are not already aware of the secret you are free to guess at the method. Email Jeff Dial at jeffpdial@msn.com with your guess. There will be a prize to be redeemed at some future gathering. We can discuss this miracle and possible methods at our next Zoom meeting. See you next meeting. Jeff

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Copy of the ad below and attached to email this came in

Paul Mc Williams Says:

If I had invented and developed this effect years ago, I would not have sold it at any price. But now that I am seventy-five years old, and retired - where am I going with it? Nowhere! Therefore, I have decided to be a realist, and share this with my fellow magicians. I want to keep this exclusive and the fewer I sell, the happier I will be.

Here is the effect:

Performer reaches in pocket and brings out cigar contained in a metal or plastic tube (popular among smokers and sold in all cigar stores). Spectator takes it in his own hands, and he is told to remove stopper (or screw cap) and place on table, then to remove cigar and place on table, then to hand tube back to performer. Performer places tube (or container) lengthwise on his outstretched left hand, which may be held as close as one foot from spectator's eyes. Passes are made with right hand above tube. Tube slowly and gracefully rises, until it is standing on one end, in an almost vertical position (see illustration). At this point a small hoop may be grasped in the right hand and passed in any and all directions over tube and hand and arm (no restrictions as to angle or direction of hoop). Right hand now moves underneath left hand and makes mysterious passes, whereupon tube slowly and beautifully sinks to its original position on hand. It is immediately handed out for examination.

This effect can also be done with a soda straw. You may find this version even more beautiful and baffling than the cigar tube. It can also be done with cigars, pencils - even with a breadstick!

There are no threads, strings, wires, magnets, pins, needles - none of the usual magician's helpers. It is based on a principle never before used in this type of effect -and the potential for other tricks is limitless.

No sleight of hand, no long practice, no sleeve or body work (can be done in bathing trunks). Angle-proof on all sides, even above and below. Can be done in the brightest of lights (sunlight, too!)

They will love it, in agent's offices, newspaper offices, cafes and bars. Ideal for television, using a zoom-in lens. Table-workers - this is for you. Hypnotists can use it

also.

In an effort to keep this exclusive - certain parts of the manuscript are written in simple code.

Can you buy it? Yes, but there are conditions. Purchaser agrees to the following: Send money order or certified check for \$50.00 made out to Paul McWilliams. We immediately send you a key to the simple code, which you are to memorize. Then you sign a short pledge of secrecy and return key and signed pledge. By return mail we send you a twenty-page copyright manuscript with thirteen illustrations. You have bought it. There are no refunds. Sent first class, postpaid to all fifty states and Canada. Other overseas, and all foreign, add \$3.00. If you wish it insured, add \$1.00. New Jersey residents add 5% sales tax. Please print name and address legibly. Please send your certified check or money order to:

PAUL McWILLIAMS

18 * 40th Street

Irvington, N.J. 07111

The Linking Ring

WHAT OTHERS SAY ABOUT

"IS THIS PSYCHOKINESIS?"

Magic always needs something new. Whether it is a new effect, a new twist on an old effect, or an entirely new way of doing an effect, such as the old floating ball — a ONE man controlled ball, and no threads. Paul McWilliams' effect is in one of those categories. I like it very much.

- *Joe Karson*

It is beautiful. It is new and original, and it will fool everyone.

- *Al DeLage*

It's a brand new principle. It fooled me completely and it will fool you, and you, and you.

- *Larry Shean*

For close-up, this beats all. You should be congratulated.

Georgia Kondos

I saw it. I don't believe it! It has to be real magic.

- *Fred 'Marco' Foshey*

A terrific effect. A close-up miracle.

- *Ken Alan*

I saw it five times, and didn't catch it - and you won't either. It is completely unique.

John Bundy

The concept is diabolically clever. The effect is as weird as if it came from outer space. The method is unsolveable, but your instructions, the most detailed I have ever seen, makes everything quite clear. It is hoped that those who get the effect will make it as exclusive as it deserves to be.

David Price

January, 1980