



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. The club needs your input come to the meetings and help determine the direction of the club.

This month we have articles from Ralph Huntzinger, Phil Reda, Jeff Dial, and Evan Reynolds. Send something and see your name in print.

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Ring of Smoke Report

On September 3, the Ring of Smoke met at Shawn O'Donnell's hosted by Bruce and JR. Bruce brought a box of great magic to give away to the young magi. Bruce also discussed creating a sharing library between the youth for magic tricks, books and DVDs. Many new young magicians who went to magic camp with Bruce this summer participated and had great fun. Theo told everyone about the great time that he had at the joint IBM/SAM convention and did a cool blindfold trick. Ben has been working on mentalism and demonstrated an ESP effect. The kids had a fantastic time and can't wait for the next meeting!

Ben and Marty

The Ring of Smoke meets the first Sunday of the Month at Shawn O'Donnell's in Everett.



August Meeting Report

August meeting theme was **Books or Containers & Stuff**

The August meeting was held at **Zero & Somebuddy's Adventure Children's Theatre**. A great venue to have our meeting at and thanks to "Zero and Somebuddy" for hosting us. It was fun.

Ralph Huntzinger lead off the evening by showing the members some of his change bags. Evan Shuster performed Rhine's Revenge, matching wits (and ESP symbols) with Sara. Next was Charlie Rousseau who brought in his autograph Eugene Burger book. He also had a box that was a copy of the box that Eugene used for his close-up props. It looks like two books stacked on top of each other with drawers built into them to hold the props. He had another smaller box that looked like a book. Inside one of his book boxes, he had a collection of old keys used to force a number for a book test. He then performed the book test using 3 antique horror/mystery books. Charlie talked about how he made the keys and boxes looked old. (part included burying the items and having animals pee on them). Charlie had another book/box that was smaller and held a die for use in another book test. His boxes that look like books was his tribute to Eugene Burger. Ralph Huntzinger then shared some books that he recommends that people should read to improve their understanding, and performance of magic.

Brian Melicher performed an egg bag routine using a "Scotsman Bag". He had a Spanish egg and showed us his kids routine.

Craig Colombel had a large black silk ribbon inside a bag and said that the ribbon had change color but did not show the ribbon, then said the ribbon changed back and showed the black ribbon. The routine ended with the ribbon becoming rainbow colors.

Ralph Huntzinger then showed the club his collection of Drumhead Tubes.

Arron Wheeler brought out a paperclip with a folded card inside the clip. Arron had a volunteer pick a card and signed it. The card was returned to the deck and lost. He picked up the paperclip, with the folded card clipped to it, removed the card from the clip and it was the chosen signed card. Arron then took out an all one-color Rubric cube and a die box and performed a very entertaining die box routine.

Sarah Seigneuret performed a kid's routine using a pop-off-ends wand to produce a rabbit out of a hat. The rabbit produced was a stuff rabbit. Sarah then put some silks into another box that look like a circus wagon and produce a live rabbit.

Sarah showed the club a box of magic tricks and props she bought off Craig's List. She asked the members to help her determine what they were, how to use them and value/condition. There were different types of boxes, a mutilated parasol, die box, etc. She consensus was she got more than her money's worth.

We will return in August to our usual place.

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Club Calendar

NWRF – 2017 Meeting Themes

January – Magician’s Choice – Bring your favorite magic to perform.

February – Discs or Improbable

March – Spheres or Description Based

April – Thin & Flat or Impossible

May – Fabric or Story Based

June – Outdoors or Something from Nothing

July – Filling the View or Rare

August – Books or Containers & Stuff

September – Prep for All Hallows’ Eve or Tests

October – Prep for Holidays or Short Betweeners

November – Food or Betting

December – Messages & Giving or Garden Paths

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)

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

South Seattle Magic and Novelty

9460 Rainier Ave S
Seattle, WA 98118
206-321-1291

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>

October 9, 2017

Mark Paulson

Raymond

Jim Earnshaw

Master Payne

"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!

Thoughts by Ralph

Again, Ralph Huntzinger is sharing his blog thoughts with us. As before I am only giving you the highlights of the post. If you wish to read the whole post go to: <http://magickhappens.com/wp/blocking-and-movement-tools-and-approaches-needed-to-fully-learn-understand-rehearse-and-perform-a-long-stage-magic-show/> and read the whole post.

Blocking and Movement tools and approaches needed to fully learn, understand, rehearse, and perform a long stage magic show

I'm only doing one "troupe weekend" this year instead of the 8 – 12 in a "regular 6-month season" so Greenwood combines both 1) prepare everything for the season and 2) tailor the show for specific performers, effects, and conditions. All the Spring activities related to getting everything out of storage, finding, repairing, refurbishing, and ready to go plus new show development gets condensed into a concentrated few weeks — the tweaking and rehearsal also gets crammed into that period.

That brings up the topic of "Blocking and Movement tools and approaches needed to fully learn, understand, rehearse, and perform a long stage magic show" ...

I have running list and related notes in my hands when I start thinking of Blocking.

- Storyboard style approach on cards so can move things around — more than 40 cards at present.
- Quick and crude sketches and drawings.
- Drawings are what the audiences sees — their point of view.
- Drawing focus on what you want the audience to remember.
- Focus on where everyone and everything is — and moves to/from.
- Attention management aspects highlighted — may include "click-pauses" involved in details of effects.
- Process highlights and reveals necessary movement — clutter removal.
- Might involve off stage preparations and actions — costume changes, prop and effect movements, health & safety aspects.
- Built from running lists — effect sequences with timings.
- Highlights what each visible person and prop/furniture does to reinforce attention management — performers new to magic performance need to learn this.
- Reveals justifications (why do this).
- Helps develop transitions between "acts or grouped effects".
- Some cards get subdivided from general division to component parts. Example: "Cameos" to 1) opening, 2) cutting Love, 3) Knotty Problem, 4) Block and Rope, 5) Lord Carver.
- Need both general overview blocking summary and detailed actions within effects. Theatrical terms and thinking essential — "acts", "scenes", "action", "dialog", "movement", "stage direction".
- Cue to cue segmenting may be needed if important actions or no outside movement or distraction happen based on cues — not usual "cue to cue run through" used for technical coordination of stage crews.

.... Greenwood show has 22 effects from simple (electric deck moves) to involved (produce 300 feet of silk from empty basket) which can be thought of as 5 theatrical acts (pre-show, intro, cameos, big effect, climax & encore). Functionally there are 8 logical subdivisions or parts instead of 5 acts (set-up, formal start, flowers & cameos, trunk, silks, bottles, closing, strike). These are all different overviews of the same 50-minute show. In order to coordinate actions and movements at least 42 blocking cards are separated out to point out important and necessary movements — if finer detail is necessary for understanding and explaining coordinated attention management and "memory image creation" ** there might be more cards — this breakdown is not finely detailed like actual scripts and working of effects but does highlight coordinated aspects...

For more go to : <http://magickhappens.com/wp/blocking-and-movement-tools-and-approaches-needed-to-fully-learn-understand-rehearse-and-perform-a-long-stage-magic-show/>

Notes to Self
By Phil Reda
UDEMY - Funny Word

It has been awhile since I have written an article. Like everyone this summer has flown by. For the last two years I have been doing Some voice acting with "Camano Island Radio Theater " group. We perform old radio scripts from the early days of radio. Each year we are doing more and more live performance to sold out crowds. As an opener, I get a chance to perform some mentalism to warmup the audience. So, what does this have anything to do with "Udemy" and what the heck is a "Udemy" anyway's?

"Udemy" is an online business that provides home study course's on almost any topic. They have a nice selection of acting and storytelling courses that would be of benefit to any magician or mentalist. The trick to this website is to sign up for their emails. Every so often they have a sale - all courses \$10. All courses once purchased are yours for unlimited use. They offer a 30-day money back trial on all their courses. I had to return one and they refunded the same day. I have been very impressed with the courses I have purchased. They have helped me in my voice acting and character development. Here is the link:

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

Until next time

The Complete Works of ... By Jeff Dial

The Collected Works of William Shakespeare. Harry Potter: The Complete 8 Film Collection. The Complete Far Side. What these titles have in common is that they bring everything by that author or subject into one place. And if it is self-respecting at all it will be in a boxed set as well.

In magic, we have many examples as well, The Complete Works of Alex Elmsley, The Stewart James books, Paul Harris' The Art of Astonishment, and Todd Karr's works on Al Baker, Roy Benson, etc.

I'd like to mention another set of complete magic works I have found useful and that may be of interest as well. I am speaking of complete copies of magazines and periodicals. With the digitizing of so much of magic literature it has become much easier to access this material.

What is there to be gained by reading all that old stuff? For starters, there are vast amounts of magic effects to be found there. Michael Close has said that 99% of magic is not on video, but in printed material. Second, you can read magic history as it is happening. Effects that are standard in many magician's repertoires first appeared in magazines (e.g. Anniversary Waltz – Linking Ring, September 1990 p. 94). Reports of magic happenings in the world shed light on how shows were received at the time. Check out reviews of Henning, Copperfield and Blaine when they first appeared nationally. It is also enlightening to see early mentions of later to be famous magicians (Junior Magician David [Copperfield] Kotkin Linking Ring April 1972 p. 131). Not to be missed are the great editorial feuds that raged in those pages. Some of those editors were less than subdued in their brutal "honesty" when discussing other magicians. (Annemann vs Hull cf The Jinx; Kaufmann cf. The Complete Almanac, and while not a periodical The Jarrett Book where Jarrett refers to other magicians' work as "an abortion of an illusion".)

Where does one find access to this material? Many can be found in bound volumes. Among my collection I have bound volumes of The Jinx, The Phoenix, The New Jinx, The Complete Almanac, Swami/Mantra, and Talisman. There are many more collections in print. Some quite reasonable for the amount of material included. They can also be found in digital format for purchase. Library.com is a good source for older magazines in a digital format. https://www.lybrary.com/magic-magazines-comics-c-21_36.html

Finally, many of these complete collections can be found online. The complete collection of Genii is available to all Genii subscribers. <http://geniimagazine.com/> Ask Alexander is the portal for access for all kinds of material, depending on your access level. <https://askalexander.org/> It also allows access to all IBM members all of the Linking Ring issues.

If you haven't logged on to Ask Alexander to check out the Linking Ring, do so and give it a try. Start by searching for your name to see if you show up in any of the Ring Reports or other possible mentions. See if you can find mentions and methods of tricks you do or like. Look for reviews of tricks or books you have or are considering. Browse the issue of your birth month and year to see what was happening back then. Search for the name of your favorite creator to see what they published. Check out to whatever else Ask Alexander gives you access.

Happy hunting.

Producing a Show and a request

By
Evan Reynolds

I am working on a new grant request for the Variety Show and thought I'd make this column about THAT, since folks have been asking! **And if you want to volunteer to help - I need volunteers!** It should be fun, it's an enjoyable show with fantastic people in it, and I'd love to have **magicians helping set up as well as just performing for everyone as they stroll in.** So, if that sounds interesting I'd LOVE to hear from you at evan@evan.org !

My day job went into overdrive so I have been slow on a lot of it, but the next deadline is Sept 25 - so I'll try to make that but if not will go for the next one. I am looking forward to getting this done but have made the decision not to overly stress about it - I don't want to miss the Sept 25 deadline, but there's one a few months afterwards if I do!

There's a lot to getting a show like this set up though - and not all of it is the obvious. Especially when going through a grant process, the amount of work is surprising. There is the obvious, such as finding a venue, but then there's nailing down insurance, fiscal sponsors, a LLC, a marketing plan ... it gets big!

Insurance was an interesting one. One company didn't even know how to insure a show like this so they didn't - which surprised me as they were the insurance company for the Moisture Festival. But another one was curious so I did my usual - I took a bunch of posters and went to visit them. I learned early on, if you want anything to appear professional. If you show up saying you have never done this before but you're pretty sure it'll all be fine ... that raises red flags for everyone. If you show up saying you've done this successfully for years - then they are a LOT more comfortable. So, I made sure I brought plenty of posters, postcards, everything I could think of to show him we were an established show with a successful history. And that worked - they are interested in insuring us and a quote is on the way.

One interesting thing is insuring aerial acts. I have been curious to make one show an aerial show, but that kicks the insurance cost up. I figured if it kicked it up a bit, it would be worth it - but it kicks the cost up significantly. So, I'm getting a quote with and without one show having aerial acts - I'm quite curious to see just how much difference it makes!

When you get a grant, you need a fiscal sponsor. You must file paperwork for everything you spend, and they reimburse it. I also have to file paperwork for every act I want to pay, and then get the checks in advance so that I can give them directly to the artists. The right fiscal sponsor can make your life a lot easier! And they also have a 501 (c) 3 tax exempt status, which then acts as an umbrella so that everyone using that fiscal sponsor gets the same status, which is FAR easier than trying to get that status on your own. I am talking to a few - Shunpike is a big one, but they do not really seem to be set up for grants. They have only a few times a year you can apply for them to be your fiscal sponsor, then you don't know for a while if they'll agree to it, it was just an odd setup. I've been talking to the Seattle Parks Foundation, and hopefully that will work out better.

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And ... marketing! That's the hardest. We had a free show, that was getting acts from Cirque du Soleil and other places - and it was sometimes STILL hard to give away tickets! We'd usually sell out but it was always harder than expected. We think part of that was that we were monthly, that people took it casually. If they missed a show, they'd just make the next one. So, we are thinking this year of being every other month and only doing six shows. That lets us make them bigger, and hopefully help attendance. But even so we are going to a larger theater so how do we market that better? I've been talking to a few people that specialize in marketing shows, I figure this time maybe it'll be worth asking for help!

And the other big plan - I am going to form a LLC this time. It seems worthwhile just as an extra protection in case something horrible happens. Hopefully nothing will - but it's just always better safe than sorry.

And all of this is coming from matching fund. If I apply, I have to match every dollar from the grant with volunteer labor. So, if you want to help an event like this happen and feel like volunteering - I would REALLY appreciate it! Everything is pretty easy, you'd get to see a great show, and I would LOVE to see magicians performing close-up for everyone before the show - so let me know if you're interested!

Evan Reynolds



Just another reminder folks, if you haven't registered for 3 of Clubs yet, get registering! We have Suzanne The Magician, Matt Marcy, Ben Robinson, Paul Romhany and Kent Wong as our special guests to perform, lecture and just have some fun with y'all but we need YOU (yes, YOU) to make it complete. \$125 to register and \$99/night at the Comfort Inn (no special code required, just let them know you're coming for the convention). All details can be found at <http://3ofclubsconvention.com>! Be there or be a dodecahedron!

Registration is now open for 2017!
October 27-29



Since time immemorial (for some Junior Members anyways...) the West Coast magic community has forged strong relations through our passion for excellence within the discipline of magic performance. Through a strong network of magic clubs and enthusiasts, we have gained an international reputation as one of the most welcoming and fun magic communities in the world! You should all be as proud of this fact as we are.

Though its name has evolved from its earlier "Weekend of Magic" Days, this rotating convention is hosted every year by:

The Vancouver Magic Circle (Ring #92),

The Victoria Magic Circle (Ring 183)

& the Northwest Ring of Fire (Ring #339)

showcasing both [local talent](#) and [stars of magic](#) from abroad!