



## Words from the Secretary

**Craig Colombel** [accolombel@zipcon.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](#) to go to more info***

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### Ring of Smoke Report

No meetings currently.

**RING OF FIRE LIVE**  
**September 10<sup>th</sup> 7pm**

Once again, we will hold the Ring of Fire Meeting on Zoom on September 10<sup>th</sup> (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/j/736296076?pwd=Sm4ybzA4SENCZnNZMk9odVN0QnF5Zz09>

## Magic Article BY PAYNE

Paynefully Obvious. By Payne

Will the Internet Really Make Magic Disappear?

I must admit that Mark Twain's famous quote "The reports of my death are greatly exaggerated" was the first thing that popped into my head when I heard about an article with the rather histrionic title of "The Internet Makes Magic Disappear". It was posted on a popular internet news site and sported an equally sensationalized byline which proclaimed that "YouTube has killed the magician's art and threatens the stores where tricks have been passed down for generations". How could one not bring oneself to read a story making such hyperbolic prognostications? So I adjusted my monitor, sat back in my chair and began to scroll my way through the article.

I was somewhat surprised. I was expecting yet another hyperbolic rant on how magic was being brought to its proverbial knees by the multitude of exposure videos that were so easily accessed on YouTube. Instead, the author of the piece put forth the notion that the forthcoming Gotterdammerung of magic was to be instigated by the demise that bastion of magic, the brick and mortar shop. We were assured that this immanent and unavoidable event was being brought about by the unprecedented rise of the Internet magic shop. The death knell however wasn't being sounded because magicians, for some inexplicable reason, would soon find their ability to buy new magic tricks and props suddenly terminated by this technological shift in shopping. No, the author contended that magic would inevitably expire because, without an actual physical location for magicians to loiter and not buy things in, the age-old tradition of mentoring would come to an end. Thus, magic as we know it would cease to exist because the up and coming conjurers would no longer be instructed by the old guard in the proper way to do it.

Perhaps those reading this who have fond memories of whiling away endless afternoons in a brick and mortar magic shop might find this argument persuasive. I could see how anyone who had the benefit of getting to hob-knob with those big name pros who just happened to have dropped by the shop to show the fledgling novices the real work on the Classic Palm while simultaneously imparting them with sage words of advice only learned through years of working in the real world just might buy into this idea.

But those of us who grew up scores, if not hundreds of miles away from the nearest brick and mortar shop will find this pessimistic prediction of the potential passing of prestidigitation preposterous. And it's just not because we're bitter because no one ever showed us how a Classic Palm was done. No, I think it would be safe to say that the vast majority of people practicing and performing magic today had extremely limited or no access at all to these mythical mentoring programs supposedly taking place in the backrooms of magic shops. So, to think that magic as we know it is somehow going to wither up and blow away because of a radical decrease in the number of brick and mortar locations is, at least in my humble opinion, a bit farfetched. Not that we shouldn't be concerned about a possible decrease in the availability of mentoring as it is a valuable resource. Those of us who grew up without a nearby magic shop or club know this firsthand. We would have killed for the ability to have a mentor, or even just another magician in the general vicinity to talk to. Who knows? Maybe I would be able to do a Classic Palm today had I had the fortune of spending a few hours in the back room of a magic shop with a Larry Jennings or a David Roth as a kid. But fortunately, these days we can.

I find it odd that an article decrying the demise of mentoring due to a technological shift failed to see that the very same technological shift increased a thousand-fold the amount of students a mentor could now reach. One no longer needs a back room of a magic shop to seek guidance in the magical arts. All one needs is a high-speed Internet connection and the desire to learn.

Of course, there are those who will say that virtual instruction can in no way compare to an actual one on one session with a seasoned pro. Which is somewhat true as the lessons taught by mentors in magic shops and clubs are usually given away for free. The personal instruction one can receive online from a seasoned pro you generally must pay for.

So, as I see it magic is in no danger of meeting its untimely demise because of the Internet. It will certainly change but it will not die. The magic shop, the club meeting, the printed magazine, and the convention will all be affected by this new information age we find ourselves in. Magic will adapt. Just as it did a century or so ago when the magic shop, the club meeting, the printed magazine, and the convention each appeared on the scene.

## August's Meeting Report

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

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

The meeting started with a general discussion on things in the COVID world. Jim Earnshaw told the club that he participated in a online "Escape Room" He said the virtual "Escape Room" experience was good. Ralph Huntzinger showed his cans of peanuts gimmick. Payne showed his desk bell that rings itself, it was part of a canceled Halloween show in development. He was thinking of a haunted hotel with haunted keys, bells and using a Dean's Box.

Jim Lange demonstrated his online, Zoom shows camera set-up, after being inspired by Louie Foxx's demonstration in a previous meeting. Ralph Huntzinger demonstrated his setup, 2 monitors and 3 webcams.

Once we were sure everyone who would show up had shown up Payne performed the Broken Wand Ceremony for David Callahan. It was well done and a recording of the ceremony, the wand and a certificate will be given to the family. We then discussed the legacy of magic that David left the club. He gave instructions that his magic items will be donated to the club for the club to disposed as we wish. Payne, Craig Colombel and Santiago Naranjo volunteered to go and pick up the boxes of magic. We will inventory and then determine the disposition of the items.

Ralph Huntzinger showed a SAGA Universal Tarot Deck. Each card has the name of the card and clues written on the edges.

Jeff Dial had a stand he built for prediction routines, nice looking.

Payne shared two items he had for review. The first was 3D products for magic. Said if you wish to make 3D products that the Bellevue Library had a maker lab which is open to the public with a 3D printer.

The second was a card index in which each card unfolds to produce 4 different cards.

Jim Lange took 2 quarters and a playing card. He pulled out his shirt and place the coins on top. He placed the card on top of the cards and reached under his shirt and removed one of the coins through the shirt. He repeated without the card and still pulled one the coins through the shirt. It was based on "Double Deception Deluxe" by Mark Mason and Bob Swadling.

Ralph showed a bizzarro color changing sponge ball and then discussed how coins appear to the audience and how different sizes are affected.

Everyone had a good time.

Hope to see you soon.

See you next Thursday September 10<sup>th</sup> 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](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](http://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](http://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**

### **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 20<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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!