

# Mordecai's Journal



www.ctmagic.org

March 2013



**CCMA Officers**

**President:** Dan Sclare  
**Vice President:** Angelo Chirico  
**Secretary:** Dana Ring  
**Treasurer:** Soli Levine



**SAM 21 Officers**

**President:** Dan Sclare  
**Vice President:** Angelo Chirico  
**Secretary:** Dana Ring  
**Treasurer:** Soli Levine



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**President:** Roger Cisowski  
**Vice President:** Jason Abate  
**Secretary:** Rick St. Pierre  
**Treasurer:** Soli Levine

Meetings:

Second Monday of every month except December

Angelo's on Main

289 South Main Street  
West Hartford.

(I-84 exit 41)

## March Meeting: Your Latest Miracle

**F**or March, the start of a new spring season (we hope), theme captain **Steve Wronker** asks you to demonstrate what you're currently working on. A completed new piece, a work in progress, something that strikes your fancy—bring it to us on **March 11**. Meeting starts at **7:30 PM**; join the officers for dinner at 6 PM.

## Minutes of February Meeting

11 February 2013 7:34 PM

21 members attending  
12 guests

MI **Dan Sclare** presiding.  
Sec'y's Rpt. Accepted as published.  
Treasurer's Rpt: submitted.

Old Bus.: The **David Oliver Fund** has raised \$15,000 so far. The Benefit Show last month raised over \$31,000, including the proceeds from the program book. CCMA had a full-page ad in that book and several members chipped in to reimburse the club.

Cmte. Rpts.: **Pat Guida** reported that we will book **Dan Garrett** for a lecture at our May meeting. To do that will move the meeting date up a week, to the 6th.

G&W: Steve Wronker has his first trick being released this Friday [2/8] at the Capital Convention in DC. It's a kids' trick called "Substitute Rabbit." It's handled by Wonder Imagery.

Adjourned 7:42 PM

The meeting was followed by a terrific lecture by **Duane Laflin**. Plenty of useful magic and helpful tips. Everything from how to "pop" a silk fountain to the importance of production values. Duane even donated his lecture fee to the DO Fund.

## When Last We Met



**Duane Laflin** shows us an example of an opening trick.

## Angelo's To Host Benefit For David Oliver

**C**ompeers:  
As you are all aware by now, David Oliver is in a battle for his life. Some years back, we had a friend by the name of Mel Bigley in a similar situation. I donated my restaurant, we got together and raised enough money for Mel to seek additional cancer treatment. I will be doing the same for our friend David. On **Saturday, April 20th** I plan to have a comedy and magic show at my restaurant. As it stands now, I have a commitment from 2 great magicians: comedian **Steve Kradolfer** and another by the name of **Joel Acevedo**, both regulars at the Mystery Lounge in Cambridge.  
I could your help in several ways. If you would like to be considered to perform in this show, do some walk around, help with set up and sound or can assist is selling tickets for the night, please email me. The format is simple: a 2 hour show preceded by a 1 hour Hors D'oeuvre reception. Ticket price is \$25 per person. I hope to get most of the food and labor donated with the rest of the proceeds  
**continued on pg. 2**

## From The President's Hat

Dan Sclare's column

Are we all looking forward to spring? Patty and I spent three hours clearing snow from our roof. I wish I could have used magic to make it all vanish.

I will be attending NEMCON to sell wristbands. Online sales have dropped off to zero. The last donation was on Feb. 6th but it was for a whopping \$1000! We have raised over \$16,000 for David! I hope to visit David before our meeting. He wants to attend NEMCON.

A few reminders:

I really would like a bio for each of our members for our historical records.

Please submit stuff for our newsletter.

Please consider becoming a Life Member to the S.A.M. and/or I.B.M.

Compeer Ken Maynard from Assembly 16 has started a new and improved Upcoming Magic Events newsletter. Send him an email if you want to get on his list. [See below]

See you at the meeting.

Magically yours,  
Dan Sclare  
CCMA President/Historian

Dear Compeers,

[Below] is the new and improved Upcoming Magic Events newsletter. If you are a member of any magic organization (the S.A.M. or I.B.M. or other ) you may post your magic event here. I simply request you limit it to New England events, otherwise I may be overwhelmed!

I have made it colorful and, hopefully, easy to read. You can print it out to take with you too. These will be published twice per month on the 1st and 15th. Please try to submit your event one week in advance to meet the next date of publication.

I hope you enjoy reading my newsletter. My goal is to keep all magic activities organized in ONE document for many of us live hectic lives.

I welcome suggestions, and if I have made any errors, please contact me ASAP, so that I may post a correction.

Sincerely yours,

Ken Maynard



Assembly No. 16  
Central Massachusetts  
774-318-0078 cell  
e-mail: Maddjic195@msn.com

[Link](#) — (you'll have to log onto Gmail)

### continued from pg. 1

going to David. I'm looking to put 100 guests in the dining room. Of course, we would gladly accept any donations, wrist band sales etc., in addition to ticket sales revenue.

As I mentioned earlier, I could use your help...David needs our help. Next week I'll begin to advertise this on my website. Thanks and I hope to see you all there.

Sincerely,  
Angelo.

## Blast From The Past: M-U-M April 1941

### Northern Conn. Assembly No. 21

HARTFORD, CONN. — Our latest meeting was at the home of M. Ill. Mordecai with Compeers Peterson, Boyar, Wodzynski (2 of them), and Cosgrove also present. The first matter of business was the Al Baker testimonial dinner, and the date was tentatively set for May 2nd, 1941. Those present voted not to vote on the M.U.M. affair. A vote was passed to pay the 1941-42 dues to Compeer Kenneth Harris, now serving in the U. S. Army at Camp Edwards, Falmouth, Mass. M.Ill. Mordecai made a statement to the effect that he did not wish his own re-election at our Annual Meeting in April. After the business meeting, and a nice lunch, Compeer W. Wodzynski told us of his new combination moving picture and magic show. He described in glowing terms his new movie sound equipment—sounds grand. He did a cute color-changing spot on a wooden block. Compeer Capet did a card trick, and last but not least, Compeer Boyar mobilized those elusive aces a-la Dai Vernon. Darn clever, that V.P.—Warren O. Cosgrove.



President Dan Sclare found this crossword puzzle in an October 1978 issue of M-U-M.

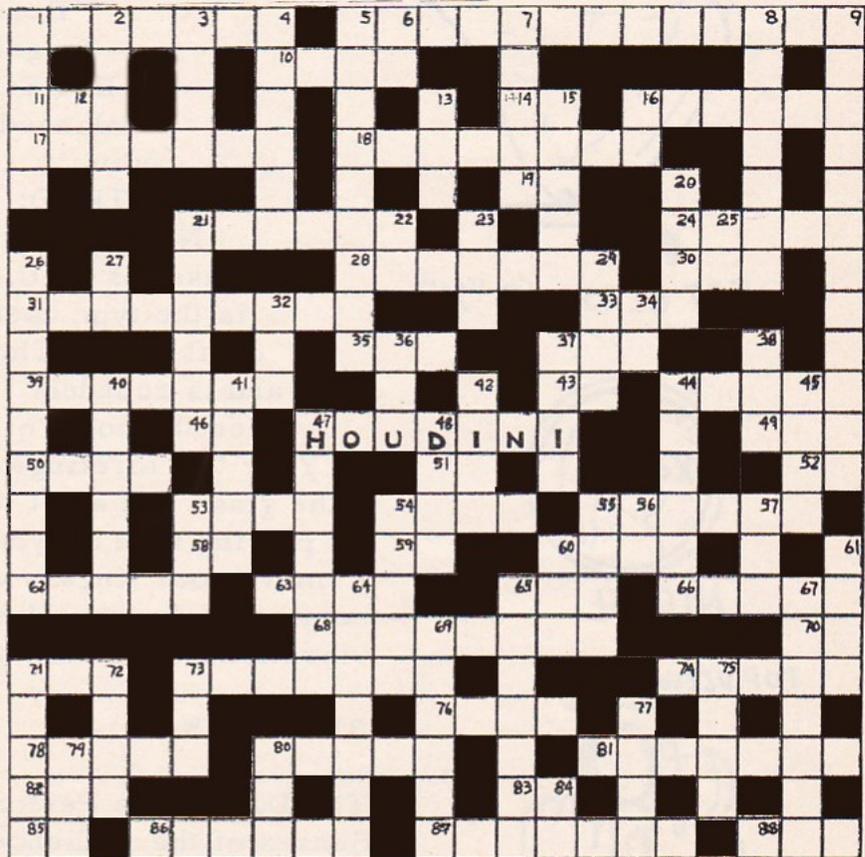
## HOUDINI MEMORIAL CROSSWORD PUZZLE

prepared by David Gibson

It has been said that Houdini's accomplishments and tricks read like a copy of Ripley's BELIEVE IT OR NOT. This man called Houdini carved out a mold and set a standard for every magician after him. In the crossword puzzle HOUDINI is surrounded, as he was in his life, by many of the people, places, and things that helped to build the Houdini legend.

### ACROSS

1. Houdini's speciality
5. sub trunk
10. Harry's mental code for the number 1
11. short sleep
14. monogram of the man who doubled for H.H. in the movie "The Grim Game"
16. newspaper with famous handcuff challenge
17. Cecilla \_\_\_\_\_ Weiss
18. H.H. The \_\_\_\_\_ King
19. Keller's monogram
21. Rabbi Weiss
24. plug \_\_\_\_\_ cuffs
28. This U.S. president was a frequent medium's guest
30. compass direction
31. H.H. was 1st to fly a plane on this continent
33. initials of Houdini's literary friend who believed in spiritualists
35. abbrv hypnotise
37. prefix that can precede adventure, understand, and direction
39. H.H. assistant — James \_\_\_\_\_
43. man's name
44. Walking Thru a \_\_\_\_\_ Wall
46. abbrv Rhode Island
47. HOUDINI
49. H.H.'s prize possession, a desk once owned by \_\_\_\_\_
50. way to learn about Houdini
51. abbrv Registered Nurse
52. pronoun, an abstract thing
53. first four letters of the 13th president of the S.A.M.
54. to be carried in a vehicle
55. The \_\_\_\_\_ Sisters
58. abbrv overtime
59. abbrv opposite
60. short for person between 12 and 20
62. pen name — Herr \_\_\_\_\_
63. H.H.'s wife
65. card back design
66. #55 was a "song and \_\_\_\_\_" team
68. Houdini's disappearing \_\_\_\_\_
70. \_\_\_\_\_ and off
71. \_\_\_\_\_ blanket escape
73. \_\_\_\_\_ Water Torture
74. Niagara \_\_\_\_\_
76. small fight
78. to be taught
80. stiff
81. city of H.H.'s last performance
82. flows in a tree
83. \_\_\_\_\_-side down
85. initials of magi that took over Keller's show
86. \_\_\_\_\_ Houdin
87. Lawsuit in Cologne, \_\_\_\_\_
88. H.H.'s name for water torture test



### DOWN

1. succeeded H.H. as pres. of S.A.M.
2. worn by magicians like Mandrake
3. feeling of hurt or suffering
4. \_\_\_\_\_ slates
5. H.H.'s cemetery
6. east yard abbrv
7. month H.H. was born
8. "A \_\_\_\_\_ Friendship"
9. slipped out of many times
12. prep used to indicate time or space
13. small insect
15. H.H.'s assistant — Franz \_\_\_\_\_
16. monogram of Fox sister, Margaret
20. require
21. opposite of latter
22. Robert Ingersoll's initials
23. four \_\_\_\_\_ trick
25. \_\_\_\_\_-jog
26. once known as "The Man Who Fooled Houdini" because of his great sleight-of-hand and close up magic (first and last name)
27. country H.H. claimed as homeland
29. used to fasten packing case
32. recline
34. case abbrv
36. \_\_\_\_\_ Do As I Do
37. \_\_\_\_\_ Bag Escape
38. to tear
40. metal binds
41. "The \_\_\_\_\_ Way To Do Wrong"
42. H.H.'s library included letters written by Jenny \_\_\_\_\_
44. "The Man From \_\_\_\_\_"
45. do this to rope
47. Dash

Solution published

next month

48. water did this after Water Torture Test
53. child's plaything
54. flowers
55. H.H. often hung by these for escapes
56. French for the
57. girl's name
60. number of times H.H. was elected as MI of the S.A.M.
61. used to write
64. \_\_\_\_\_-of-hand
65. the Earl of \_\_\_\_\_ (spiritist leader of H.H.'s time)
67. Jim \_\_\_\_\_ H.H.'s assistant
68. Little Charlie H.H.'s favorite (2 words)

71. circus H.H. first worked "\_\_\_\_\_ Brothers"
  72. \_\_\_\_\_ door
  73. milk \_\_\_\_\_
  75. Thurston's Levi
  77. Giant \_\_\_\_\_ Cuffs
  79. to take in as food
  80. type of bread
  84. post meridiem
- Some of the information appearing in the puzzle was obtained from "Houdini — His Life and Art" by Randi and Sugar, "Houdini, The Untold Story" by Christopher, and past issues of Genii and M-U-M.