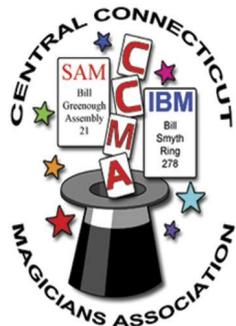


Mordecai's Journal



www.ctmagic.org

April 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



IBM Ring 278 Officers

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)

April Meeting: Money Magic

On April 15, the IRS says Taxes are Due. So **Angelo Chirico** says do money magic! Make it appear... or disappear like the government does, or just bring a wallet! Bring your best money effect on **April 8**, while you still have money. Meeting starts at **7:30 PM**; join the officers for dinner at 6 PM.

Minutes of March Meeting

11 March 2013 7:32 PM

18 members attending

MI **Dan Sclare** presiding.
Sec'y's Rpt. Accepted as published.
Treasurer's Rpt: submitted.
G&W: We had an additional \$154 in donations to the DO fund from NEMCON. The total so far is \$16652!
Dan Garrett is confirmed to lecture at our May meeting. It will be on our normal meeting date, the 13th.
VP **Angelo Chirico** reported that plans are proceeding well for the **David Oliver** Benefit Dinner and Show on April 20. We are hoping for attendance of about 100 seats. There will be a 6:30 reception followed by an 8:00 show. Bob McLaughlin will add some prizes and other surprises.
Steve Wronker took some photos of NEMCON—see his website.
The Waterbury assembly will have an auction on March 25th.
There will be a Tri-Club Magic Auction in Portsmouth, NH, on April 7.
Dan made his monthly plea for bios for the CCMA clubbook.
Adjourned 7:47PM

When Last We Met



Tom Piekos shows a coin to **Jon Cap**.

For tonight's meeting, theme captain **Steve Wronker** asked us to bring in "our latest miracles," and show what we've been working on. Steve started us off by performing his just-released "Substitute Rabbit" effect which is now available from Wonder Imagery. **Peter Lennis** did a good find-a-card. **Jason Abate** displayed the new "Vortex." **Jon Cap** did a quick billet-reading. **Dan Sclare** brought **Tom Piekos** to do a "blind" trick. He dealt out a deck to determine a chosen card, but all the cards were discovered to be blank. Later, he donned a red jacket and made a yellow hank repeatedly vanish and reappear. He explained that the trick is called "Invisible Hand," and showed the workings of the jacket. **Rick St. Pierre** wove a strange story dealing with "The Fourth Nail of Christ." **Pat Guida** had two of us shuffle a packet of cards, then found them through his senses of sight, touch, and sound. Tom had Jon "sign" a coin, which penetrated a closed ketchup bottle. Peter returned to finish the night with a variation of Color-Vision, a water-bottle penetration, and a find-a-card.

From The President's Hat

Dan Sclare's column

will return next month
stay tuned

3rd Annual Greater New England Magic Contest

From Henry Holava

The contest will take place Saturday June 8, 2013 at the 25th Annual Hall of Fame of Famous Unknown Magicians and Clowns Gathering at the convention hotel—The Comfort Inn, 298 Queen City Ave., downtown Manchester, NH. Contest is open to all ages in Children's, Stage & Parlor, Close-up, Comedy, Mentalism & Mystery Performing, Youth Performer and clown magicians.

Contest Judges are **Tom Craven**, **Hugh Turley** & **Henry Holava**. For further information and contest registration go to <http://holavamagic.com/clowns/>

Movie Review: *The Incredible Burt Wonderstone*

Last week I went to see the latest Carell/Carrey production. Despite the poor reception the critics have given it, it's not bad, people. Granted, it won't win any Oscars, but it was a good, funny movie. Perhaps the critics didn't "get" it because they're not magicians.

There are scenes in the movie that will resonate with most of us, like the one with the rival mage horning in on another's gig. Stuff like that. Oh, a warning: an early scene does tip the secret of a "lefty," but I'm sure no layperson is going to remember it after the movie.

At its heart, this is a Journey of (re-)Discovery film. Burt Wonderstone (Steve Carell) and his childhood brother-in-art Anton Marvelton (Steve Buscemi) have been friends for years and have had a multi-million dollar act in Vegas for a decade. However, by now they've become jaded. They do the same exact act as when they started, treat their staff shabbily, and they can't stand each other. (See? They've lost the *wonder* of magic. But that's not discovered until much later.) Burt even goes through his nightly seduction of the female-volunteer-of-the-night perfunctorily, leaving her with an autographed picture the next morning after he's already gone.

Burt's world is shaken by the arrival of shock-magician Steve Gray (Jim Carrey, essentially playing Criss Blaine). His popularity is noticed by the owner of Burt's hotel (James Gandolfini), and that owner wants Burt and Anton to do something new. When their attempt at a stunt goes wrong, B & A blame each other and quit their partnership.

Burt then tries to continue the act without Anton, but, again, he does the same old act, just without Anton. The "Hangman" illusion is of course a disaster when there's nobody to hang and we can *see Burt scurrying across the stage to sneak into the noose!* (Team Copperfield designed this "illusion" for the film and it doesn't really tip anything because there's no way the trick can really work on stage. By the way, watch for a quick scene with our King. The scene is small, but he comes off great in it.)

Burt is fired, forced to leave the hotel, and has to find a new venue. Sample line: "Can I speak to Mr. Luxor, please? He what?"

The film has some great moments. The scenes of the two of them doing their years-old act is pure unadulterated cheese. The Steve Gray fire-walking scene is a scream. Truly. And the ending is nothing short of hysterical.

My LSW¹ and I laughed a lot at this movie. See it before it disappears.

¹ Most magicians have a "BGA," Beautiful Girl Assistant. I've coined this new term for Long-Suffering Wife.

Here's the solution to last month's crossword puzzle. How well did you do?

