

NEWSLETTER OF THE CENTRAL CONNECTICUT MAGICIANS ASSOCIATION

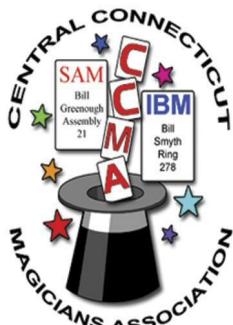
Mordecai's

Journal



www.ctmagic.org

July 2015



CCMA Officers
President: Dan Sclare
Vice President: Roger Cisowski
Secretary: Dana Ring
Treasurer: Soll Levine



SAM 21 Officers
President: Dan Sclare
Vice President: Angelo Chirico
Secretary: Dana Ring
Treasurer: Soll Levine



IBM Ring 278 Officers
President: Roger Cisowski
Vice President: Jason Abate
Secretary: Rick St. Pierre
Treasurer: Soll Levine

Meetings:

Second Monday of
every month except
December

Angelo's on Main

289 South Main Street
West Hartford.

(I-84 exit 41)

July Meeting: Summer At Last

The warm weather is finally with us and we're all feeling more relaxed. "The Rules" are relaxed this month as well, and this month's theme is "anything you want." There are no restrictions when we next meet, on **July 13**. Meeting starts at **7:00 PM**. Join the officers for dinner at 6PM.

Minutes of June Meeting

8 June 2015 7:25 PM

11 members
attending

Pres. **Dan Sclare** presiding

Secretary's minutes accepted as published.
Treasurer's report submitted.

Old Business: Dan showed us the ad that is going into the Convention Book next month.

Greg Wilson will lecture for us in October. We have the only Connecticut venue, but it will be on **Tuesday, October 13**. We'll be asking \$20 from non-CCMA members.

New Business: "The Illusionists" will be at the Bushnell this September. Dan talked **Jeff Hobson** into lecturing for us on **September 21**. We'll share our "gate" with him. All members voted for this except our Treasurer.

Dan bought some bumper stickers for the club, to be given to dues-paying members in September. The club voted to reimburse Dan.

Good and Welfare: **Kevin Aust** is getting married and there will be a fund-raiser for the couple.

RVP **Tom Gentile** presented Dan with a Presidential Citation.

Sufficient funds have been raised to award **David Oliver** a Life Membership. *[Shh! Don't tell him! It's a surprise!]*

Adjourned 8:01 PM

Tonight's theme was "Days of Yore," featuring tricks you haven't done in aeons, or a trick you

When Last We Met



RVP **Tom Gentile** gives a Presidential Citation to **Dan Sclare**.

have been doing since the dawn of time. Tom showed us a beautiful cocktail shaker that poured many different drinks, yet contained a flag.

Rodney Beaulieu did a prediction with one of Angelo's patrons. The patron named a card and Rodney counted the cards in his deck: 51. The named card was the missing one.

Bob Hale had three of us choose a card, then sign, return, and shuffle. Bob found each card in an amusing manner.

Dan did a dual version of Professor's Nightmare, making his set of ropes change places with **Marlene Clark**'s.

Jon Cap did a teleportation illusion with Aces and Jokers.

Norm St. Laurent did an Ambitious Card routine including a special "hip" move that impressed everyone present.

Our captive patron was treated to several move tricks by our magi, even after the formal meeting was over.

From The President's Hat

The Illusionists are coming in September! I will be looking into their group sale prices.

As I write this today group sales started, 6/22. Individual sales start 7/17. I hope other cast members will show up at our Sept. meeting with Jeff Hobson.

I'm off to the S.A.M. convention on June 30th. Looking forward to all the magic and friends. As I have stated before if you have not attended a large convention you should add it to your bucket list.

Once again I'm asking for members to submit articles to our newsletter. Step up and do more than just attend meetings. I'm sure you have stuff you can share, a favorite trick, a favorite website or some magic article.

Thanks to all helped out at the Children's Hospital Cycle For Life. We all had a great time doing magic for the families and volunteers. Thanks Steve for all the great photos.

See you at the meeting!

Magically yours,

Dan Sclare
CCMA President/Historian

Photos From The Cycle Of Life Event, June 5, 2015



Tom Gentile made tissue roses for all the ladies that came to the booth. Meanwhile, Dana Ring is in the middle of a sponge ball routine.



Rick Mayers always had an enthusiastic crowd at his table.



Ed Kazar entertains some beauty pageant winners.

Shameless Plug Department

Upcoming public shows by our members

David Garrity
at Comedy Magic Monthly
BAR • 234 Crown Street • New Haven CT
Tuesday, July 28 at 8PM
www.barnightclub.com

Do you have an upcoming public show? Send the details to mordecai@ctmagic.org and it will appear here.

More Photos From The Cycle Of Life Event, June 5, 2015

Left to right: Dan Sclare, Steve Wronker, Rich Dooley, Dana Ring, Ed Kazar, Peter Lennis, Leonard Nadeau, Tom Gentile, Rick Mayers.



Peter Lennis does a trick for a family.



PNP Rich Dooley performs a quick card effect.



Dan Sclare performs Miser's Dream. Or else he's soliciting a donation, I'm not sure.



Steve pulls off the best trick—getting a picture with Supergirl!

A Message From Rick St. Pierre

CCMA Members:

The May 11 CCMA meeting produced an informative and productive discussion with several issues to be considered. Only 10 members attended but several issues were discussed. It was the consensus that these issues need to be considered. The issues discussed, were membership recruiting, membership incentives, membership participation, meeting formats.

Membership Recruiting

A suggestion was made to place an ad in the program for the upcoming performance of *The Illusionists* to appear at the Bushnell in September. Dan had looked into this and the price of \$300 was discussed. Some thought it would be a worthwhile investment to attract some new members, others did not. I was one not in favor of such an expenditure. My comment was that in today's social media environment it should be easy for anyone interested in magic to locate us. Before I wrote this I did a search to verify my opinion. What I found was disappointing. Five hits came up for CCMA, but four of them had a "?" warning from my Norton anti-virus software. So even though CCMA might get adequate listings, we may be losing interested prospective members who will not venture further in a questionable website. I do not know if other anti-virus software gives similar warnings, but this may be our starting point—make our web search safe so people can succeed in finding us. I am in no way computer literate and do not know how to remedy this search problem.

Membership Incentives

There was a short discussion on the pros and cons of creating a 'ladder' type of member rating, or recognizing members as 'some category' of the year. It seemed to be a topic to be considered at a later date.

Membership Participation

There was a discussion of the varying degrees of member participation in the meetings. One issue was the lack of members assigned to be a meeting captain attending that particular meeting or making arrangements for a substitute. As you will see when next year's schedule is posted, only the officers are listed. Any other member is welcome to volunteer to host a meeting, but you will not be assigned at random. If you want to sit like a bump on a log, so be it. Not everyone can attend every meeting, and no one is expected to perform at every meeting. But there is more to being a club member than just sitting and watching. Most of the members perform at several meetings. Many get involved with conversations before and after the meeting program. This discussion was a perfect segue into the next topic.

Meeting Formats

There were several suggestions on revising our meeting format, both the business meeting and the program section. Most of the suggestions were acknowledged to be taken into

consideration and implemented on a trial basis.

Some of the suggestions were:

- Dedicate some of the meeting time to a teaching session where anyone can ask for information or help on a particular sleight, routine, etc.
- The above led to the idea of having the business meeting during dinner. Members do not have to order a meal to attend the business meeting. You can attend without eating.
- An alternative to the above is to let the officers take care of business. There can be a quick 5-10 minute recap of what has been decided. Not every issue needs to be debated. The officers you have, have been elected to take care of the club's business. If you disagree with the way they are running CCMA, run for an office and become part of the solution.
- Have two or three workshop programs dedicated to open discussion on what members want to learn. Similar to the first issue, but the entire evening dedicated to answering questions
- Encourage questions. There are many 'old timers' in the club that would be glad to answer another member's question about an effect they are trying to learn.

If you have any opinions on any of the above issues, attend the meetings and join in on the discussions. These views are a summary of what 10 members discussed, we have 30+ members, ATTEND—PARTICIPATE—Make the CCMA a club you WANT to belong to.



Theme Captains 2015-2016

Captain	Theme
2015	
Sept.	Rick St. Pierre Still Going Strong
Oct.	Lecture Greg Wilson
Nov.	Dan Sclare Hank Prank -or- Auction/Tag Sale
2016	
Jan.	Dana Ring Holiday Magic
Feb.	Open Panel I've Been Wondering
Mar.	Soll Levine Things Around The House
Apr.	Roger Cisowski Read All About It
May	TBD The theme that was bumped for the auction/tag sale...

theme you would like to have scheduled, let Dana or Rick know and it will be added to the list or scheduled for a month of your choice. None of the listed themes are cast in stone and can be changed on any month. I will repeat what I have said many times, it is your club—PARTICIPATE



(bonus points if you know who the last guy is.)

CCMA Officers

President

Dan Sclare danslare@gmail.com

Vice-President

Roger Cisowski mrcmagic@hotmail.com

Secretary

Dana Ring dana@danaring.com

Treasurer

Soll Levine soll.levine@sbcglobal.net

Compiled by compeer Rick St. Pierre

You will notice there are only a few captains listed. At the May meeting there was a discussion of the lack of participation for meeting captains. We agreed to list the officers of CCMA, Ring 278 and Assembly 21. If any member wants to act as a meeting captain, it will be greatly appreciated. Just let Dana or Rick know if you have a particular month you would prefer, or if you are willing to be randomly assigned as a meeting captain. Also if you have a