

# Mordecai's Journal



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March 2016



**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)

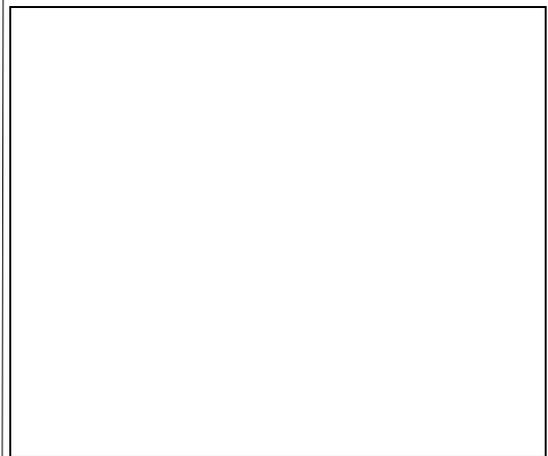
## March Meeting: Things Around The House

Take an ordinary object and turn it into a miracle. Theme captain **Soll Levine** wants to see what effects you can do with just normal, household stuff. **Warning:** a deck of cards is **not** a household object! Grab what's on the coffee table and bring it to the club on **March 14**. Meeting starts at **7:00 PM**. Join the officers for dinner at 6PM.

## Minutes of February Meeting

There wasn't one! We got snowed out and canceled the meeting.

## When Last We Met



A white cat, playing with a Ping-Pong ball, in last month's snowstorm.



And you thought *you* had it bad!

## The Legacy Of Assembly Twenty-One

### From The President's Hat

Happy March, if it would just stay warm.

NEMCON  
Daylight Saving Time  
The Ides of March  
Danny Orleans Lecture  
St. Patrick's Day  
(BTW: What do the Irish call their out door furniture?)  
Purim  
Easter

And on the 18th, the 70th anniversary of my birth. What do I want for this anniversary from you? More participation from our members. Is this a lot to ask for? (Yes, for some of you.) Everyone please share more at our meetings. Submit stuff for our newsletter. Come on make an old man happy!

I hope you enjoyed the video that Angelo produced. For the few that showed up for our not-February-meeting we got to see the whole video of the evening show. It was definitely a trip in the "Wayback" machine. Looking forward to seeing part two on line.  
Thanks Angelo!

It is not to late to register for the OMI. April 14-17! Attend this great convention!

If I do not see you at NEMCON, then see you at our meeting!

Magically yours,  
Dan

Submitted by our dean, Bob Killian

It's hard to believe that 5 members of SAM 21 have made it to the top of the heap—National President of the S.A.M! One of those Most Illustrious members was also the long-time editor of M-U-M, another was the long-time Chaplain of the Society, a third is the only person in the last 87 years to serve two terms as president, a fourth was a world famous magic manufacturer, and the fifth served simultaneously as president of our National Organization and the American Academy of Psychiatrists! 21 also hosted two national conventions, has been home base for two national secretaries and a member who has distinguished himself as a promoter of the life member effort to build our endowment fund.

Not bad for one little Assembly! Here's a thumbnail recollection of the five distinguished members, all of whom I was privileged to know:

Bill Greenough (1953-55) — Dr. James Johnson (1965-66) — Vynn Boyar (1967-68) — Jim Zachary (1980-81) — Fr. Cyprian Murray (1989-90)

Bill Greenough was a thoroughly professional amateur who graced many stages with his fez (tassel on top, when pulled retracted his two Chinese sticks) egg bag and snake basket. A successful businessman, Bill also was an accomplished ragtime pianist. His combo entertained at the 1979 SAM convention in Hartford, one of three PNP's to do so. A successful businessman, with a printing business, he was one of only two prexys to serve more than one year since the reign of Harry Houdini. (Howard Thurston was the other.)

Jim Johnson was the Chief of Psychiatry at Hartford Hospital and an avid close up performer. Expansion of silver and coins through the table were featured by him, evidence of his lessons from Dai Vernon and Tony Slydini. Parkville Novelty was in its heyday during Jim's tenure. He stopped in every Saturday after his hospital rounds. Along with Dom Grippo, Fiori Sylvester (and in its later years, yours truly) Dr. Johnson was a founder/funder of the New England Magicians' Conventions held here at the Hotel Bond. It morphed into the Magiwhirls, a two day event that from the 1960's to the early 1970's. The Hartford and Springfield Assemblies were close in those days. Jim would transport young guys like me and Gary Dziafko to Springfield and would often drive us home from the Friendly Order of Eagles and Lithuanian Clubs where we met in the sixties.

Vynn Boyar was another accomplished amateur who edited M-U-M and was honored with the Presidency after a long tenure doing so! Vynn was a popular performer in New York

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## Shameless Plug Department

Upcoming public shows by our members

### David Garrity

at Comedy Magic Monthly  
BAR • 234 Crown Street • New Haven CT  
Tuesday, March 22 at 8PM  
www.barnightclub.com

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

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City where he was very active in the Magician’s Guild which only admitted professionals—or very advanced amateurs—and flourished in the post WW II era until the late fifties. He co-chaired with Bill Greenough the 1957 Hartford Convention

Jim Zachary—the Wizard of Plexiglas and extraordinary Dice Stacker—was well known for his manufacture of pocket tricks to custom illusions made in Plexiglas. His Hot Rods are prized by collectors and his beautiful Plexiglas magic wands grace many a magic den. He wrote books on dice stacking and was a member of London’s Magic Circle with Gold Star. He was PNP #2 to lecture at the 1979 Convention. He also chaired the dealer’s room and was instrumental in bringing over a large number of Magic Circle Stars who graced our 1979 effort. His wife Joyce and he were host and hostess of the all night hospitality suite at Tannen’s Fabled Jubilees. Joyce also served the SAM as its National Secretary. They live in Florida.

Finally, the Rev. Cyprian Murray, OFM Cap—or Father Cyp to magicians everywhere. A Catholic priest of the Franciscan order, Fr. Cyp officially wore the brown habit, rope belt and sandals of his order’s founder, St. Francis. He came to serve a parish in Middletown and immediately became one of our star catches. Cyp published countless books and manuscripts,

mostly on cards, a subject which earned him worldwide acclaim. He lectured around the globe and at the 1979 convention. He also became a friend and mentor of many of our area’s magicians. He married some; buried others and counseled many. He died last year leaving thousands of friends, countless good memories and hundreds of terrific card effects!

Compeers, be proud of our legacy in the history of magic. And remember, with the efforts of current members Marlene Clark and Dan Sclare who are serving the National, we’re still in the loop!

## Theme Captains for 2016

	<b>Captain</b>	<b>Theme</b>	
Mar.	Soll Levine	Things Around The House	Effects with everyday household objects (but not a deck of cards)
Apr.	Roger Cisowski	Read All About It	Perform a trick that was published in the M.U.M. or Linking Ring
May		Lecture by Barry Mitchell	

Compiled by compeer Rick St. Pierre

Complete description of the Captaincies are in the July 2015 newsletter. This schedule is not carved in stone; if you want to run a theme for any month, contact Rick, or secretary Dana Ring.

## CCMA Officers

### President

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### Vice-President

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### Secretary

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### Treasurer

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