

# Mordecai's Journal



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January 2021



**CCMA Officers**  
**President:** Brad Beady  
**Vice President:** Roger Cisowski  
**Secretary:** Dana Ring  
**Treasurer:** Soll Levine



**SAM 21 Officers**  
**President:** Brad Beady  
**Vice President:** (currently open)  
**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

Rockledge Grille

289 South Main Street  
West Hartford.

(I-84 exit 41)

## January Meeting: Special Guest

For the start of the new year, will have a special guest, **Bob Greenough**, son of former **MI Bill Greenough**. Please be sure to join us on **January 11th** at 7PM.

## Minutes of November Meeting

9 November 2020 7:00PM 10 members attending, virtually  
No new business this month

After last month's splendid lecture by **Chris Hannibal**, we decided to let our members teach something to us all.

**Dan Sclare** started with a clever transportation trick. Dan shuffled a deck of cards until **Marlene Clark** picked a point to stop. The stopped-at card was the four of spades. Dan boxed the deck and picked up a rubber band. With a magical flourish and a toss toward the card box, the rubber band disappeared. Dan took out the cards and fanned them to show the rubber band had appeared and was around one card—the chosen four of spades! Marlene, using a theme of "partners and couples," then showed a trick that she got from a book by **Bruce Elliott**. A pair of dice were rolled and their sum determined one half of a partnership from a card of various names. An array of twelve numbered cards was displayed and another dice roll picked one of those cards. That card did have the other half of the partnership--in this case, "Batman" and "Robin."

(Continued on page 2)

## Zoom Meeting Details

Topic: CCMA January (Virtual) Meeting  
With Special Guest Bob Greenough  
Time: Jan 11, 2021 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83566149349?pwd=Z2M3aEEwdEV4bCsvgVVd3M1V0bDZPZz09>

Meeting ID: 835 6614 9349  
Passcode: ccma  
One tap mobile  
+16465588656,,83566149349#,,,,\*757017# US (New York)  
+13017158592,,83566149349#,,,,\*757017# US (Washington D.C)

Dial by your location  
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)  
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)  
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)  
+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)  
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)  
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

## From The President's (Self-isolated) Change Bag

Happy New Year's everyone!

I hope you all had a good and safe holiday. I know many of us have been separated from friends and family due to the current situation, so it will be nice to see everybody our next meeting. Speaking of which, we will have a new guest, Bob Greenough, son of Bill Greenough who was National President from 1953-1955 (you can see when he was elected in the [July 1953 issue of M.U.M.](#)). For new members to the club, like myself, I enjoy hearing storied about the history of club so I'm looking forward to Bob's visit.

I wanted to share another article by one of my favorite current magic writers, Andy Jerxman from the Jerx. [This article](#) is the last post of the fifth season which touches on how to adapt your New Year resolutions into New Year schemes. I have adopted this idea and have constructed a mini-scheme for the first month of the year: to create a Harry Potter-esque jewelry holder for my girlfriend. I'll be going on material hunts, testing my arts and craft skills and hopefully have something presentable by the end of the month. We'll see how it goes. Lucky for me, she also doesn't read these articles.

Also, I'd like to include a recommendations part of my articles with either effects I am exploring, videos I enjoy, or anything magic related. Since the article is called the Change Bag, I'll call this one the Secret Compartment. Feel free to contribute an article, thoughts, questions, drawings, comics of your own too!

– Brad

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## Minutes of November Meeting, continued

**Soll Levine** took a piece of rope and tied a "square knot"—the rope forming an actual square, which he then pulled off the rope and displayed at his fingertips.

**Eric Wolfe** showed a premonition of the initial of a thought-of person using picture cards and a gaffed envelope.

**Brad Beady** did an elaborate routine to identify a chosen card using blindfolds, a stack, and a couple of other techniques.

**Bob Hale** gave his philosophy of a good "pass." Among other points made, he said practicing the "ten-count" is a good foundation.

## When Last We Met



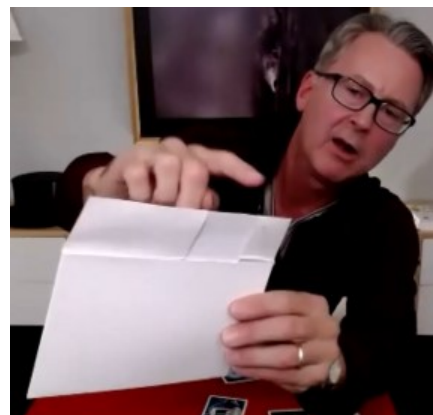
**Soll Levine** ties a square knot...



... and removes it!



**Eric Wolfe** scores an "A" ...



... for his sneaky gaffed envelope.

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## *The Secret Compartment*

by Brad Beady

I know not everyone is on social media like Instagram, Facebook or Reddit, but the fact is that anything new and exciting that you see on any virtual platform will usually start on one of these platforms. I look to these sites more for original content (or OC as the kids say) which includes magic creators and performers experimenting and presenting new ideas.

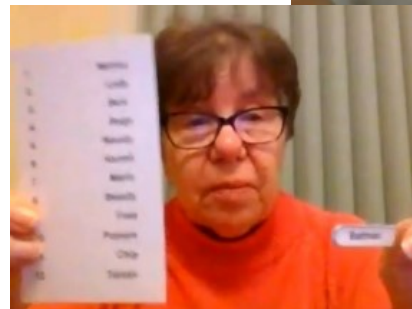
And so, I've created this article series called the *Secret Compartment*, which is a play on my other, more business and club housekeeping article, *The Change Bag*. (This concludes all change bag themed articles.) In these blurbs, I'll share the videos, blogs, and virtual performances that I watch and either like, dislike or want to discuss.

Some things I have been checking out lately:

- [Jeki Yoo](#): Some of the videos and ideas that this guy comes up with are crazy. He has really taken the idea of using a see-through surface to new heights. Here's [one](#) of many. It almost cancels out what he is doing when in reality he is still doing the exact same techniques, just with modification. I really enjoy his "reveal" videos like [this one](#) which show really extreme methodology which I think we as modern magicians should explore.
- [Blake Vogt](#): Vogt is one of magic's current prominent creators, so I was excited to see nearly daily posts from him on his Instagram. It reminds me of when Calen Morelli (another prolific creator) did a 365-day challenge of trying to make something new every day. Now, I don't like some of his creations so far, namely [this mask one](#), but some others I really enjoy. Most recently, [this Oreo idea](#) I think I can see as a great impromptu licked and restored filling. And [this change](#) looks really great too.

## More Pictures From Last Month

Dan Sclare's rubber-band-wrapped chosen card:



Marlene Clarke's gaffs: part one: the paper-clip...



... and part two: the taped dice.

## CCMA Officers

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