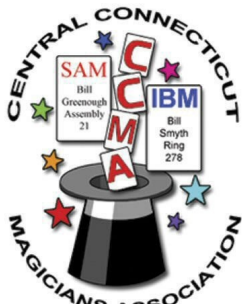


Mordecai's Journal



www.ctmagic.org

July 2022



CCMA Officers
President: Brad Beady
Vice President: Dan Sclare
Secretary: Dana Ring
Treasurer: Eric Wolfe



SAM 21 Officers
President: Brad Beady
Vice President: Dan Sclare
Secretary: Dana Ring
Treasurer: Eric Wolfe



IBM Ring 278 Officers
President: Roger Cisowski
Vice President: Jason Abate
Secretary: Rick St. Pierre
Treasurer: (currently open)

Meetings:

Second Monday of every month except December

French Social Circle

341 Kelly Road
Vernon

July Meeting: Covering Our Bets

Last month's meeting at **Bob Hale's** house went so well, we decided to do another outdoor meeting for July at **Dan Sclare's** backyard patio, 13 Farmstead Lane, Ellington, CT. There will be food but feel free to bring snacks or beverages. However, at this time Dan does not have room *inside* the house for us, so **if the forecast calls for rain** on that day, the meeting will be at **The French Social Circle** on Kelly Rd., in Vernon. Join us and bring some magic to share on **July 11**, starting at **6PM** (or 7PM in Vernon if it rains). Check website on day of for the location. By the way, **if** the meeting is at Dan's, he'll have some magic from **David Margolin's** estate, so bring money.

Report of June Meeting

13 June 2022 6 PM onward
After a pizza-and-cupcake al fresco dinner on **Bob Hale's** backyard deck, we moved downstairs to his basement which is decorated with magic paraphernalia on all sides. We moved right into magic, with one piece of business: **Dan Sclare** got approval for his quarter-page ad in this year's IBM Convention Book.
Bob showed **Marlene Clark** six tiles, which could spell out a word of importance to magicians. Marlene chose one and looked at its letter. Bob took out a slip of paper with letters paper-clipped to it that spelled out "WONDER." Marlene revealed that she had chosen the letter "N." Bob removed the letter "N" from his slip to show a red "X" in its place. Were there Xs behind the other letters? No, the other letters were actually permanently printed on the slip!
Dan performed a trick called *Bashert* which is Yiddish for "it was meant to be." He had Bob's wife **Jill** take three cards and a coin, pen, and cellphone, and place them on the table. With Dan's back turned, Jill placed the objects on the cards of her choice. Still facing away, Dan had Jill subject

When Last We Met



Bob Hale welcomes us to his magic-themed basement.

the objects to a number of swaps. At the end, Dan knew exactly where each object was. Dan learned this from **Jay Ungar**.

Tom Gentile showed **Jon Cap** three colored golf tees in a little bag. Jon picked one and Tom took a paper from out of the bag, which proclaimed the correct color.

Jon showed us two cards--one was placed on the table, the other he tore into pieces. Marlene held the pieces in her hand, but Jon put one piece--one of the pip-corners--on top of her fist. He then tore up the other card and held the pieces in his fist, except for his pip-corner. When he opened his hand, the pieces matched the corner on Marlene's fist, and the pieces in her hand matched the corner on Jon's hand. Jon says the name of this trick is "Tornado."

Dana Ring showed a trick he found on YouTube which has incredibly easy set-up and works itself. The deck (fully shuffled) is cut into halves, then a small packet is cut from one of the halves and set aside. A card is chosen from the other half, shuffled back in, then dropped onto the remainder of the first half. "To further mix the cards," the top and bottom cards are pulled off this deck and dropped on the table. This is continued until all the cards are back on the table. Finally, the cards in the set-aside

(Continued on page 2)

From The President's Change Bag

Hey everyone!

Happy July! We will be meeting at member's Dan Sclare's house this month, weather permitting. If not we will meet back at the French Social Circle.

I hope everyone will/has enjoyed the 4th of July weekend. My hometown of Weymouth, MA has an annual 4th of July Festival on the beach with fireworks. (Big ones since they're over water.) When I was young, I tried performing street magic at the festival. I had a couple of milk crate and a slab of wood that I stapled some felt over. I think I ended up only performing a couple of tricks that day, but I still have the board and use it for a laptop stand and play board games on. Very handy.

Speaking of that board, I've always wanted to do a card stab where three cards are stabbed in an increasingly dramatic fashion. The first card would be stabbed blindfolded via a card control to a known location. Then to prevent you from even seeing the back of any cards you would cover the spread with some newspaper, and you would still stab the next card. (Via Robert Giobbi's trick "Stickler" in his book Standup Card Magic). For the final card, which has been signed, you stab through the paper and miss a card entirely only to cut open the board's felt and find the card beneath it. (Not sure how he did it but Delgaudio did something similar in [this trick](#) but you could just force this card and have a duplicate.)

See you at Dan's,
Brad

Minutes, continued.

packet are counted, and the cards in the larger group are counted down to this number. The card at that number is the chosen card! (The secret to this effect is that when the chosen card is returned to the half-deck, a false shuffle is used to put and keep the chosen card on the bottom.)

Dan showed a "wallet" trick he made from instructions in Reel Magic Magazine for an effect called "Special Delivery." It's like a Temple Screen. but with no pockets. Dan showed us how to make our own wallet and passed out a few he had made. Marlene put her initials on a coin and Dan put it into an empty Coke can.

Bob had Jon think of a card as he spread them. He asked questions about the card and narrowed it to the sixes. He guessed the six of hearts. It was the only card that said "pick the six of hearts" on its back in the entire deck.

International Brotherhood of Magicians — History

submitted by Dan Sclare, club historian

In the early years of the 20th century, magic organizations were centered in major cities. Even the expanding numbers of SAM Assemblies were seated in metropolitan areas like New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, and Cincinnati. Regular correspondents by mail, Len Vintus, of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, and Gene Gordon, of Lyons, New York, founded the International Brotherhood of Magicians on February 10, 1922. Their goal was to find a way to bring together fellow magicians who could not attend regular meetings and to "promote Brotherhood among Magicians and for the benefit of collectors of things Magical." The way to do it, they determined, was via post. Vintus was Member Number One (and President), and Gordon Number Two, of the fledgling organization.

Among the stated goals, as reported by Gordon—Chairman of the Executive Committee and Publicity Director—in the November 1922 issue of *Sphinx* magazine were:

Helping members to increase their collections and secrets, photos, literature, etc., is one of the main objects of the club, besides providing a fraternal society composed of true lovers of magic.

The organization grew quickly, with several notable names among the early members (Harry Blackstone, Sr. was Member Number Ten). Of Gordon's abilities at generating interest, Clinton Burgess said in his *Sphinx* column, "the IBM will become known from Halifax to Honolulu."

The Linking Ring, described by Gordon as a "multigraphed [mimeographed] paper for members only" began publication in late 1922. The bimonthly paper, published by Len Vintus and edited by Ernest K. Schieldege and Gordon, included editorials, a running membership roster (along with the member's address and birthday), tricks, news from members in Great Britain, other news and notes of magical interest, informative articles, and an advertising section. In the beginning, the paper was free to all members in the Brotherhood which cost just one dollar for a lifetime membership and no dues.

The low fee was accounted for because the IBM had no official headquarters (though Vintus ran the organization out of his office at the Union Bank Building in Winnipeg) and no clubhouses. It was apparent that Vintus was absorbing most of the cost of incidentals such as stationery, membership application forms and cards, and advertising. "Money doesn't count in the I. B. M." said Gordon in February of 1923.

By its first anniversary, the IBM had its first local chapter (they would not be known as "Rings" until the late 1920s) in Rochester, New York, and a second was formed in Hartford, Connecticut, a month later. Enthusiasm for the organization became apparent when it was noted that "IBM" could also stand for "I Boost Magic." Said Gordon of his "live-wire" group, "We would rather have five boosting members than a hundred members who joined merely to belong to something."

IBM History continued

In the August 1923 issue of *Sphinx* magazine, The Great Kolar noted in his "Chats" column,

Practically all of the SAM boys are joining or going to join the IBM, as one of the principal features is the ease with which they can secure the addresses of fellow magicians in all parts of the world and swap ideas, tricks, and even apparatus.

In Assembly Reports, SAM members were encouraging their fellow compeers to join the IBM as well. By October 1923 the organization had over 200 members with Membership Representatives (through whom magicians could join) in Scotland and New Zealand as well as the U.S. and Canada. Beginning with the Volume Two, Number One issue (November 1923), a subscription rate of one dollar was charged for *The Linking Ring* (still a newsletter style paper) which had doubled in size. Commencing with Volume Three Number One—with a smiling Len Vintus on its cover—The Linking Ring began being published as a...

[this is where the page cut off]



LEN VINTUS



GENE GORDON

Dan also notes:

The first three members of the IBM:

M.J.G. McMullen aka Len Vintus
 Gordon Avery aka Gene Gordon
 Ernest Schieldge aka Don Rogers from Hartford, CT, and a charter member of Assembly 21

Meeting Photos



CCMA Officers

President

Brad Beady bdbeady@gmail.com

Vice-President

Dan Sclare dansclare@gmail.com

Secretary

Dana Ring dana@danaring.com

Treasurer

Eric Wolfe alfwolfe@gmail.com