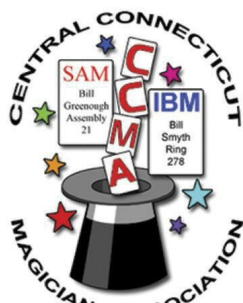


Mordecai's Journal



www.ctmagic.org

February 2023



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Vice President: Dan Sclare
Secretary: Dana Ring
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Meetings:

Second Monday of every month except December

French Social Circle

341 Kelly Road
Vernon

February Meeting: Valentine's Day/Intimate Connections: Tricks to do for Loved Ones

Valentine's Day approaches. We all love magic, but what magic do you do for those you love? Explore the romantic side of legerdemain this month. Or at least do a trick that you, yourself, *really* love. Join us on **February 13** at the French Social Circle in Vernon for the meeting starting at **7PM**, or come early for dinner and pre-meeting socializing.

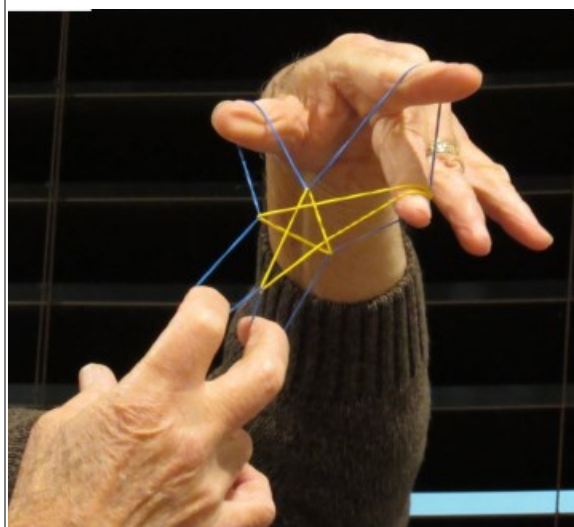
Report of January Meeting

9 January 2023 7:30 PM

12 members
attending,
3 guests

To start off the New Year, we had not one, but two PNPs in attendance: **Tom Gentile** and **Rich Dooley**. Just before the actual meeting, Tom passed around some magic items that he had obtained from **Sid Radner's** son. Most of the time we had no idea what they were, but we had fun coming up with theories. **Eric Wolfe** started us off with an interesting tale of a young magician who went to Tannen's to find "something valuable" that he could add to his act. (Eric matched the story with items he had on the table.) The magician behind the counter showed the young man, who said he was known as "Harry the Hat," (!) two ring boxes--one with a gold ring, one with a diamond ring. The older magician bet the younger one \$20 that he could work a miracle with one of the rings. "Mr. Hat" chose the diamond ring and was told to snap the box shut. A third, larger, box was opened and inside was another box. Inside that was *another* box. Inside

When Last We Met



Dan Sclare with the climax of "Stargazer."

that was *still another* box. When that last box was opened the diamond ring was found. The store magician explained that he used a gimmicked box that they sell to sneak the diamond ring into the other box. Mr. Hat agreed that was pretty good, and took out his wallet to give him the \$20. The older magician said it wasn't necessary to pay off the bet--he was just trying to sell a magic trick. Mr. Hat said he wasn't paying off the bet, but felt he should give him something in return for the gold ring he just stole from the un-gimmicked box! There, in Mr. Hat's wallet was the gold ring. **Dan Sclare** did an "anti-card rise." A card was selected and the deck put half-way into a box sitting on a peg that went through it. When the peg was removed, all the cards dropped into the box except the selected card. Dan also did "Stargazer" which ended with a rubber-band star. **Dave Garrity** had a deck of blank cards with celebrity names. He linked this to a "magic square" which could "Kevin Bacon" to Tom Hanks (the chosen name) eight ways.

(Continued on page 2)

From The President's Change Bag

Hello everyone!

I hope everyone is doing well and your New Year's resolutions are coming along well. (Hopefully you still remember you had them.)

One of my resolutions was to perform more magic as I tend to hog all the secrets for myself and not show anyone anything. This month I managed to sneak in one card trick to my partner that I found interesting. The trick itself was simple; while my back was turned, I riffled the cards in front of her, she called stop and looked at a card. Without breaking eye contact with her, I turned around and gave her the cards. For the remainder of the trick, I seemingly never broke eye contact with her while she held the cards. And yet I was able to tell her the card and, as a follow up, find it while she mixed the cards all over the table with my back turned.

The method? A simple, side steal/palm of the card after she peeked it. By mentioning that you will never break eye contact, you're able to steal away the card without any heat whatsoever. With the card palmed away you can have them look into your eyes and while gesturing, peek the card. Or like I did, I touched her temples and managed to spot the card's identity out of my peripheral vision. Finally, since the card is under your complete control you can produce it from the shuffled deck, pluck it out the air as she throws the cards, make it vanish, what have you.

I think it's an interesting alternative methodology to the standard peek, as you are over stressing that you will never look at the deck and yet you know the card. I think in general laypeople can't fathom the concept of a steal or palm, much less so if you don't produce the card from a place other than the deck.

See you Monday,
Brad



Minutes, continued

Bob Bader showed an old Martin Gardner card trick which he does for kids so that at the end, each of five kids "wins a prize." Rich Dooley did a card-escape in honor of Houdini.

Dan had a Metamorphosis on an extremely tiny scale. **Tim Sylvester** did a Tenyo effect: a little solid plastic guy is placed in a case and plastic swords are thrust through him. When the swords are removed, the plastic man is unharmed.

Kevin Aust asked for a card to be named. Then a number. He dealt down that number--and there was the named card! He followed this with a great effect of having three cards chosen, then named each one!

Meeting Photos



Examining the props from **Syd Radner**' son. Some items were obvious (left); others definitely not (right).

Some artistic soda cans. This involves drawing the figures upside-down near the top of the can, then *carefully* cutting them out and bending them up to "stand" on the can.

At left, a clip from the Oct. 2007 issue of M-U-M showing the source.



More Meeting Photos



A no-hands card rise. The cards are in a case, and strings are attached through the hooks.



Eric in front of his props for a story of a young magician in a magic shop. At right, the result of opening boxes within boxes within boxes.



Eric Wolfe and Dan Sclare hold the case at a distance between them. PNP Rich Dooley watches.



Dan's anti-card-rise. The deck sits on the peg. The peg is removed, and only the chosen card stays up. (The nine of spades was popular tonight.)



Selected cards rise with no-one touching the case.

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