

Mordecai's Journal



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March 2023



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Vice President: Dan Sclare
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Meetings:

Second Monday of every month except December

Rockledge Grille

289 S. Main St.

West Hartford, CT 06107

March Meeting: We're Back, Baby!

Rockledge Grille is open on Mondays again, so our monthly meeting is moved back to here. We're grateful for this move since most members seem to prefer the Grille's central location. The theme for this reunion is **Magic by Women**. In honor of Women's History Month, we ask for "Magic by Women Creators and Performers." Be with us on **March 13** back in West Hartford for our meeting starting at 7PM, or come early for dinner and pre-meeting socializing.

Report of February Meeting

13 February 2023 7:27 PM 10 members attending

After a short business meeting, we brought out our magic with the theme: "Magic to do for your loved ones." Not everything fit the theme, but no one was complaining.

Dan Sclare, after showing how the "battery" in his cellphone can be removed, did a version of the Magic Coloring Book in which a colorful scarf was "pulled" out of the book, which made all the colors disappear. Then the drawings were "pulled out" in the form of a long black string, leaving the book blank.

Bob Bader showed a spool of paper, which he unwound with Norman St. Laurent's help. The paper strip had the number "8" followed by nearly 70 zeros (it was about ten feet long). This represents the number of ways into which a deck of cards could be shuffled. (More than the number of atoms in the Earth!)

Then he did this trick. Actually, he did "this" trick. He took out a card box with the word "THIS" printed on it. Each of the cards also had "THIS" on its back. The deck was spread face up and a card was chosen and put aside. The spectator could have

When Last We Met



Dan Sclare shows the battery in his phone.

chosen "this" card, or "this" card, or "this" card, etc. But instead he chose "that" card. When turned over, the card had "THAT" printed on its back! The kicker was that now the box also sported the word "THAT."

Bob then took out a sketchpad with a 4 x 5 grid printed on and asked for a 4-digit number. He put aside a prediction, and called for more 4-digit numbers and contributed a few of his own. Then the numbers were all summed, the answer matched his prediction. This was a clever variation on an old chestnut.

Bob Hale asked us what we considered the most "romantic" card. Most of us agreed it would be the Queen of Hearts. In fact, there was a Q♥ right on his card box. A card was chosen from the deck, but it wasn't the queen--but now the image on the box matched that choice!

He also showed us a scrambled Rubik's Cube in a bottle. He had actually taken apart a R-Cube and re-assembled it inside the bottle. He had found the instructions somewhere of how to do the disassembly and reassembly, and then passed the

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From The President's Change Bag

Happy March!

I hope the month is starting off well for everyone. This past weekend was the New England Magicians Conference (NEMCON) for which I am the registration and website chair. I'm sure I saw many of you at the registration table and throughout the conference. For those of you who attended I'd like to hear what you thought and how we can improve for next year.

One of my favorite parts of NEMCON is seeing what friends have been working on in the year since I have last seen them. I saw a really cool Any Card at Any Number from friend and club member Kevin Aust where the only time he touched the deck is when he dealt. I also saw a gag of a magic trick from Boston magician Zach Evans where he made a nickel disappear before my very eyes. Zach also did a trick for CT native and NEMCON performer Blaise Serra where he made his selected card disappear, then the deck, and finally the TV in the suite. Quite a trick!

I also enjoy perusing through the dealer room, especially for some of the older magic products and material. One special pick up for me was a classic Rising Card deck, which uses a mechanical method. I haven't been able to find this deck on any of the major magic dealer websites, so I was quite happy to pick one up.

See you Monday,
Brad

Minutes, continued

bottle around our assembly. He also passed around another R-Cube and had us all take turns scrambling it a little. He took the Cube back and said he was going to do a speed-solve and try to break the record. He dropped it into a paper bag, and in 4.3 seconds (just shy of the record) pulled out a completely solved Cube. He admitted that he, of course, cheated. The "solved" Cube was a shell. When the shell was removed, the scrambled Cube was revealed inside. But ... *that* Cube, that we all shuffled, was an exact match for the Cube inside the bottle!

Meeting Photos



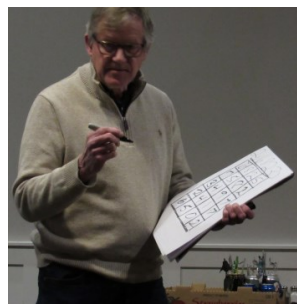
More of **Dan Sclare's** artwork with beverage cans.



Norman St. Laurent holds one end of a spool.



Bob Bader holds the other end.



Bob calling for numbers to add up.

More Meeting Photos



Bob does THIS
with those
and ends up with
THAT.



Bob with his
Cube-in-a-Bottle
and his
“lightning-fast-restore”
of another Cube.



Bob Hale shows a
deck with a Queen on
the box.

A card is selected—
it’s not the Queen, but
it now graces the back
of the box.



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