

Mordecai's Journal



www.ctmagic.org

January 2024



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 Rd.

Vernon, CT 06066

January Meeting: A Charlie Hayden Lecture

For the beginning of the new year, we will have a lecture by the man, the myth, the legend, **Charlie Hayden**. He show us a little bit of everything. The meeting starts at **7:00 PM** on **January 8**. Join a bunch of us who will get there early for dinner at 6:00 PM. Let's learn some new stuff.

Report of November Meeting

13 November 2023 7:10 PM

14 members attending
1 guest

The Secretary's report was accepted as published.

Eric Wolfe presented the Treasurer's report.

Tonight's theme was *Show and Tell*.

Charlie Hayden did a torn-and-restored straw wrapper, and his version of Slydini's Coins Through Table. He promised to teach us all how to do it at a lecture, tentatively scheduled for January's meeting.

Tim Hamilton demonstrated an old effect in which four cards (such as Aces) are placed atop the deck, then individually inserted into the deck only to reappear on top. The key is to hide four "dummy" cards behind the four original cards.

Rick St. Pierre talked of the old "21-card trick," but said the NEW version has 24 cards. They were dealt out and one mentally selected. After much comic seriousness, he found the card. His key was essentially a version of The Memorized Deck.

Not to be outdone, **Dana Ring** assailed everyone with The 27-Card Trick. A card was selected by one spectator from a packet of 27 then thoroughly shuffled. A second spectator was asked for a number from 1 to 27. The cards were dealt into

When Last We Met



Charlie Hayden doing Coins Through.

three piles, with the first spectator reporting which pile contained his card. This was done twice more, then the chosen card proved to be at the same exact number as was chosen by the second spectator. Dana explained that this took a lot of math. [Rather than bore you with it here, I ask that you go to YouTube and search for "The 27 Card Trick." One of those contains a tutorial that is actually much better than the one I gave the club!]

Tom Gentile told a story of his career in magic, illustrated by colored silks that he put in a metal cylinder and screwed it shut. When unscrewed, the cylinder contained one long multi-colored ribbon. Tom then showed us how his Change Cylinder works.

Bob Bader did a "2-card" trick which said "Wild Card" on their faces. Shaking the pack caused an Ace to appear between them. This was repeated. Then the original cards were turned over revealing they were the other two Aces, and the "Wild Card" writing was gone.

Eric Wolfe showed a "new" deck he got which shot cards out of the box.

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From The President's Change Bag

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone had a happy holiday and a good end to 2023. It was good to see a good majority of our members at our holiday party at Rockledge Grille in December. It was a fun time filled with food, good cheer, and magic performances from a few people. We will be returning back to the French Social Club in Vernon on Monday January 8th for a lecture by Charlie Hayden. Hope to see you there!

It's around this time that I like to look back at past magical experiences I've had over the course of a year. One I saw was Asi Wind's show, *Inner Circle*, this year, a show that is now finally ending after starting in September 2022. It was one of the few card-trick central shows I've seen and was most enjoyable.

This year was also a great year for magic books, with Vanishing Inc. releasing around the MAGIC Live timeframe in August. The standout for me has to be *The Definitive Mental Mysteries of Hector Chadwick* (which now I'm unsure actually came out this year but nonetheless) which I've written about in past newsletters. I'm looking forward to his new book coming out next year.

But my highlight of this year came at the very end when Andy from [The Jerx](#) (whom I've written even more about) posted the The Jerx Christmas Spectacular. This was an all-night "party" where several notable magicians would drop in and share a trick or two while Andy posted in between each, acting as a host. There were so many rich new ideas from many notable magicians, not to mention exclusive deals and discounts. All of this is still posted on his website as of the time I'm writing this newsletter.

I look forward to all the magic coming in 2024 in all aspects: seeing shows, new magic products and, of course, sharing and learning magic with all you CCMA-ers.

See you at the lecture,
Brad

Minutes, continued

Brad Beady demonstrated what he considers the best Card Force. It looked legitimately fair, but Brad uses a cull to move his choice to where the *spectator's* choice is.

Meeting Photos



Charlie does a flourish.



Dan Sclare holds a picture of Houdini. If I had taken a better picture, you'd see that he has a card sticking out of his pants.

A New Year's Puzzle

This is an old logic puzzle I first encountered about sixty years ago. I've modernized it and given it a magician flavor.

On an odd little street, somewhere in Las Vegas, five magicians live in five houses all in a row, with only the desert on the other side. Each house is a different color, and each magician has his own specialty, his favorite drink to have when he comes home from a gig, his own pet, and a painting of his favorite magician from the past. Here are fourteen clues to help you determine who lives in where, and the color of his house, and his preferred drink, pet, and magic idol.

1. The Close-up worker lives in the red house
2. The Mentalist owns a ferret.
3. The Escapologist drinks tea.
4. The green house is just to the left (as you face them from the street) of the white house.
5. The mage in the green house drinks soda.
6. The mage with the portrait of Houdini owns a kangaroo...rat. (You can't keep a *real* 'roo in Vegas!)
7. The mage in the yellow house has a portrait of Dante.
8. The mage in the center house drinks juice, freshly squeezed, all kinds.
9. The Illusionist lives in the first house on the left.
10. The mage with the portrait of Anderson has a neighbor who owns an ocelot. (He has a permit for it.)
11. The mage with the portrait of Zarrow drinks vodka.
12. The mage who owns a pig lives next to the mage with a portrait of Dante.
13. The Lecturer has a portrait of Umberfield.
14. The Illusionist lives next door to the blue house.

Now: who likes sucking down negronis, and who owns the quetzal?

Here's a grid you can fill out as you make deductions

<i>Color</i>	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Specialty</i>	6	7	8	9	10
<i>Drink</i>	11	12	13	14	15
<i>Pet</i>	16	17	18	19	20
<i>Portrait</i>	21	22	23	24	25

Incidentally, *Life International* magazine first put this out in 1962. It has popped up on the internet in various forms using different identifiers, but the same clue structure. However, the original had the houses in clue #4 switched, which made it a lot more difficult.

Photos of the Holiday Banquet



Tim Hamilton with a Vanishing Box.



Eric Wolfe looks away as **Norman St. Laurent** writes down his choices for Eric's next T-shirt.



Mark has **Patty Sclare** add up some numbers.



Bob Hale does a Cup and Ball.



Each answer was written with a different-colored marker.

Norm's completed Chart.



Well, there was more than one ball. Plus fruit. **Bob Bader** has joined the chat.



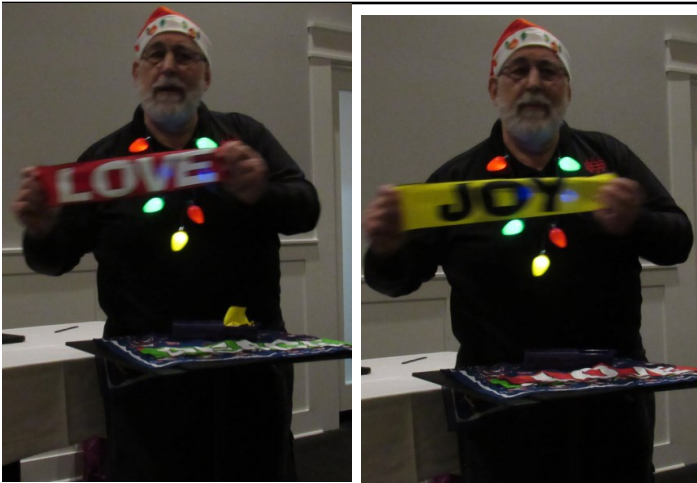
A perfect match!



Mark Thomas sets up an elaborate card effect with volunteers **Dorrie Mitchell** and **Jill Hale**.



Bob (B) does some fancy arrangements for **Tom Gentile**.



Tom Gentile displays what the past year has brought him: Love and Joy (♪ *come to you and to you your wassail too* ♪).



Brad Beady had an envelope to deliver. He repeatedly flipped a coin with us all calling it, eliminating the ones who guessed wrong. Eventually only one person was left. The envelope held a card that was made especially for *her*.



A successful effect, and Happy Holidays to all!



Charlie Hayden doing A hydrostatic effect.

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