

Mordecai's Journal



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February 2024



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Meetings:

Second Monday of every month except December

French Social Circle

341 Kelly Rd.

Vernon, CT 06066

February Meeting: Recent Acquisitions

This month, we ask you to show us some new magic you got or trick you learned over the holidays. The meeting starts at 7:00 PM on February 12. Join a bunch of us who will get there early for dinner at 6:00 PM. "Show us what you got!"

Report of January Meeting

8 January 2024 7:105PM

We started off the new year right with a terrific lecture from our longtime member, **Charlie Hayden**.

He performed a quick routine: He put a hanky over his hand and the hanky twitched. He removed the hank to show he was just twitching his index finger. Big laugh. He put the hank on his hand again, but when he took it off, he had four dollar-coins between the fingers of his hand. (Not the "golden" ones; the big honking Eisenhower ones!) He still had the hank in his other hand. Dropping the coins, he reached under the hank and whipped out a wine bottle.

He segued into his humorous spongeball routine which he calls "eeny-meeny-miney."

He did a Coins-through-hand which had a climax of the coin appearing under someone's watch.

He did a Card Swap in which a volunteer picks a card, signs it and holds it in their hand. Charlie picks a card for himself and signs it. He holds his card between his palms to make it disappear, but it doesn't vanish. However, the card proves to be the volunteer's signed card, and the card in the volunteer's hands is Charlie's signed card!

When Last We Met



Charlie Hayden gives a very involved lecture.

He finished up with Coin-to-bottle, a Four Ace trick, and finally, his improvements to Slydini's Coins Through The Table.

Afterwards, he explained it all, including how to do a the rollout of the coins, how to hide the wine bottle, plus lots more. For instance:

He showed us how he finger-palmed the four dollar coins and does a double-double rollout under the silk.

The bottle, heretofore in his pants at belt-height, is pulled out under his hand when the coins are displayed at the fingertips, the silk hiding the bottle.

Card-swap—Starts with a signed duplicate on top. Lets card be chosen, and signed. While they sign, turns over the top card by pushing card against his body. Places signed (chosen) card on top and shows. Double lift, gives to volunteer to cover in their hands. Finds unsigned original. Signs. Does another double-lift and holds (their) card in his hand and then does the reveal!

He also showed us Coin Into Bottle which uses an ingenious hollow "cork" into which a folding half is

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From The President's Change Bag

Happy February!

I was happy to see a good many members at the Charlie Hayden lecture last month. Charlie shared a lot of great routines and some great knowledge from his many decades of performing. I personally had never seen a mouth whistle gimmick like the one Charlie uses throughout his routine which I thought added an extra bit of fun to his sponge balls routine.

Other than the lecture, I didn't get to see much magic although I was able to catch [Gutenberg! The Musical!](#) in New York before its run ended at the end of the month. Although the show itself wasn't magic based, it was very magical, from the surprising number of ways you can use a bunch of hats to a very startling and unexpected set change at the end of the show.

Before the show, my partner and I went to [FAO Schwarz](#) which was also very magical. If you haven't been, it's a massive, three floor toy store (probably the most famous of the few remaining). Each turn we made there were employees playing with a toy and showcasing them around, almost like you see at a dealer's room at a magic convention. There actually was someone demonstrating one of the wall-full of magic tricks. I didn't get to see it but from the patter it was most definitely a Svengali Deck.

On the third floor, I just missed someone demonstrating that spinning, floating card. (Anyone know the official name and credit for this trick?) I did sneak a peek at the worker's booth after he left and he was using a deck from Penguin Magic, so they might have been actually into magic, instead of contractually obligated to be like first-floor-Svengali guy.

See you at the next meeting,
Brad

Minutes, continued

inserted.

He did a great Four-Ace trick, not unlike a version of "McDonald Aces."

He finished the lecture with showing us his improvements on Syldini's Coins Through The Table. Masterful.

The Answer To Last Month's Puzzle

<i>Color</i>	1 Y	2 B	3 R	4 G	5 W
<i>Specialty</i>	6 I	7 E	8 C	9 L	10 M
<i>Drink</i>	11 N	12 T	13 J	14 S	15 V
<i>Pet</i>	16 O	17 P	18 K	19 Q	20 F
<i>Portrait</i>	21 D	22 A	23 H	24 U	25 Z

For those of you asking "HOW were we supposed to get that?" here is the explanation. (Note that I carefully chose drinks, pets, etc. so that everything has a unique initial. When I write "C2" I mean "clue #2" from last month's newsletter—Mentalist owns a ferret; when I write "B12" I mean "box #12" in the grid—in this case T.)

First off, C8 tells you the Juice drinker is in the middle house, so B13 is J. Next, C9 tells you the Illusionist is leftmost, so B6 is I. Then C14 tells you the house to the right of that is blue, so B2 is B.

Now you have to combine clues. C4 says the green and white houses are next to each other so green is either in B3 (with white in B4) or in B4 (with white in B5). However, C5 says the green house drinks soda, but the middle house drinks juice, so B4 is G and B5 is W. This also means B14 is S.

There are two colors left. C1 says the Close-up guy is in the red house, but the leftmost house has the Illusionist, so B3 is R, and B8 is C. B1 is the only house left and yellow is the only color left so B1 is Y. By C7, B21 is D.

C12 says the pig is next to the Dante portrait. Since Dante has only one neighbor, this is easy. B17 is P.

What does the Illusionist drink? It can't be tea as that's what the Escapologist drinks (C3). And it can't be vodka, because the vodka-drinker has a Zarrow portrait (C11). That leaves the negronis. That's where that goes! So put an N in B11.

Where is the tea-drinker? Either in B12 or B15. Okay, now we have to pick one and see where it gets us. Let's *assume* that T goes in B15 (and thus, V goes in B12). Then B10 is E (by C3).

The Mentalist can't go in B7 because by C2 a ferret would go in B17 and there's already a pig there, so B9 would be M, leaving B7 to be L. However, C13 says B22 should be U, but C11 says B22 should be Z. Therefore, our *assumption* is wrong, and the correct location for T is B12, and B15 is V.

This also means that B7 is E (C3). By C13, the Lecturer cannot be in B10, so B9 is L (and B24 is U by C13), leaving B10 for M (and B20 is F by C2).

Okay, we're in the home stretch! The Houdini portrait cannot

go in B22 (by C6) because of the pig, so B23 is H (and B18 is K), and B22 is now the only place left for Anderson.
 By C10, a house next to Anderson has an ocelot. One neighbor already has a kangaroo rat, so that leave B16 for O.
 Therefore, at long last, we know that the Quetzal belongs in B19.
 If you're ever in Vegas, stop by and visit these people. I hear they all love Xanath.

Meeting Photos



The coins at the fingertips.



Doing the sponge ball routine.



The "virgin finder."



The bottle he produced from nowhere.

He managed to get a half-dollar in there, too.

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