



The Apparition



Four Workshops in the May Meeting

Last month was amazing! This month looks very promising. We have lined up a hands on stand-up magic workshop. Looking for principles and/or routines to put in your next stand-up show? Looking to expand your repertoire of sleight of hand or magic knowledge? This is your night. We are going to have 4 workshops set up in the room (one in each corner). Mark Walsh is going to be talking about and teaching stand-up card work (including card manipulations). Are you the kind of person who is intimidated by card manipulations? I was for a long time. Time to break those fears and learn the principles of manipulation. Mark is going to be teaching a variety of things including beginner sleights with cards all the way through full-blown manipulations. There will be something for everyone. Then Pons is going to be teaching a workshop on mentalism. Ever wanted to learn the center-tear? This is a good opportunity to do so.

Pons is a great mentalist (and a great guy too!). Don't miss it. Forrest will be teaching ball manipulations. He will have balls of all sizes and textures. He will teach warm up exercises, stretches, etc. for the hands, ball sleights, vanishes, color changes, multiplication, etc. with and without shells. Finally, Fred Siegel will be teaching a hands on workshop on ... well ... Fred stuff. He insists on keeping us in suspense. But whatever it is, I'm sure it's going to be crazy. So bring your cards, bring your spheres, bring your brain, and bring ... well ... your lunacy and we will have a great night.

I look forward to seeing you there and participating in the workshops. There is always a lot to learn at these workshops and I predict that a great time will be had by all.

On for Teach-A-Trick this month is Corey Palasch.

David Hale.

Picture Gallery



I.B.M. Ring 6

Volume 2, Issue 5

May 2007

Meeting Times:

May 14, 2007

7:00 PM Doors Open

7:10 PM Dealers

8:00 PM Business Meeting

8:30 PM Magic Workshops

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Miscellaneous Musings by Forrest Chapman

No human being will ever know everything. Not even an expert in any given field will ever know everything about his specialty. If a person could live a million years and devote every waking moment to study, he or she would still never know everything. Therefore there is never a point at which a person can stop learning, and I propose, when a person should stop learning.

Consider the following statements:

- When one stops learning, life becomes stagnant.
- When one stops learning, there is only so much he can give to others.
- A learner is always fresh.
- For a learner, life is always exciting.

Let's bring this into our field, into the realm of prestidigitation.

Be a constant learner. Read magic books and magazines. Watch magic instructional DVDs. Watch performances. While these are fantastic for their amusement and entertainment value, it really won't cross into the realm of true learning until you work hard at embracing the philosophies, mastering the sleights, memorizing the routines, and studying the movements.

Stuff more junk in your trunk. I don't mean buy more slum magic for your sock drawer. I mean learn more moves and sleights to have in your repertoire. The more you have in your repertoire, the more you will be able to accomplish. So learn a few coin vanishes. Learn a few false shuffles. Learn a few flourishes. Expand your foundation on which you build.

Step out of your comfort zone. For example, I am not a card guy. I

mostly detest card magic. I love coin magic. I therefore have a natural propensity toward learning more and more coin magic. But for the sake of being a learner and having more junk in my trunk, I am working on a classic pass, a riffle pass, some false shuffles, color changes, etc. I'm not crazy about rope magic, but I have Michael Finney's rope routine on my "to do" list once the semester ends. This is a less-than-subliminal message to those of you who only do one genre of magic to expand your repertoire.

Invent your own routines from what you already know. Make them fun. Make them YOU. Here is where I am going to chase a rabbit trail for a minute (but have no fear, all roads lead to Rome). A brief insight as to what I am like off stage. I am like Peter Parker (who is also Spiderman). I am a clumsy, nerdy, things go wrong for me, humble pie eating kind-of-guy. But when I am in magic mode, I am poised, skillful, and potentially in complete control. But this dualism, this dichotomy comes out on stage too. I am the goofy, yet poised; clumsy, yet skillful; nerdy, yet debonair; calm and frustrated; focused and distracted; loser/winner. This character is I in real life. I don't try to play the part of a magician on stage. I play the part of me. I am my character. I have no stage name (although if I did, I like the name "Dexter" - just plain "Dexter." I also like Peter Pitchford. "Peter" for dopey, clumsy, nerdy Peter Parker and "Pitchford" for my magical hero, Cardini (whose real name was Richard Pitchford)). So instead of creating a character from scratch, I have decided to just be me. The me

on stage, however, must depict who I am by magnifying my idiosyncrasies, by exaggerating my clumsiness, dopeness, and nerdiness and by fully expressing my skill. This is a delicate balance to maintain. But I do it in real life every day so it is somewhat easier than one who designs a character from scratch.

Incorporate your passions into magic. Do you love mystery? Script a routine about Hercule Poirot or perhaps Sherlock Holmes. Do you love chivalry? Script a routine around King Arthur or Robin of Loxley or Richard Plantagenous. Do you love poetry? Write a poem or plug in an existing one to a routine.

Arthur Trace is a prime example of this. He loves jazz music and he loves art. If you have seen him perform you could pick up on this.

Perhaps you like to act. Go to it. Danny Archer is a great example of this as "Gino."

Do you like math? Science? Romance? Sports? Gardening? Baking? Scuba Diving? Dining? Sunset watching? Music (what kind)? Dancing? Sculpting? Origami?

Spend time laboring in thought over what you like and how you can incorporate this into your magic.

Part of being creative in your magic is being a life-long learner (end of rabbit trail). Expand your knowledge outside the magic realm. For instance, expose yourself to good reading - fiction, non-fiction, poetry, prose, philosophy, theology, science, archaeology, children's literature, etc. Have a deep well of knowledge and imagination. By being a life-long learner, one can dig a deeper and deeper well.

April Ring Report by Dave Kelly

Ring #6 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania - Delaware Valley Conjurers' Club Meets 2nd Monday, each month, 7:30 pm Hancock United Methodist Church, Rte 320, Springfield, PA
Dave Kelly, Recording Secretary, 90 Worrell Drive Springfield, PA 19064

April 2007

After a brief business meeting where we met several guests, president Forrest Chapman welcomed our visiting performers for tonight: members of the local Society of Young Magicians. These young magicians, all under the age of 18, put on a wonderful evening of entertainment for us.

Their Master of Ceremonies was Harrison, and he kept the show moving at a nice pace. Only when the performers needed additional set-up time did he do magic on his own. When he did, it was entertaining: a Red Card/Black Card trick, and later a vanishing knot effect.

The Palm Trio (Jacob, Jill & Melinda) began the show with a classic production act. The music set the mood as they produced silks and flowers all over the stage. They had a nice stage presence throughout the act. Next was Blaze, who did a paper tear, then produced a silver streamer, and had a nice instant costume change! He then performed a classic Linking Ring Effect, slowly, and to excellent mood music. Cute little Nancy Santalucia acted as a 1950s soda jerk, took orders for drinks, then produced six different types of soda. She had volunteers from the audience come up to taste the drinks, and they were

real cola, orange, cherry, gator-aide, and grape.

Next, Yosef did an amazing ring routine choreographed to music. His moves were smooth, and the rings flowed into and out of many designs. Melinda, of the Palm Trio, next appeared as an American Indian Princess and using the song "Colors of the Wind", produced boxes of flowers from an empty bag, and had beautiful colored feathered rings change colors right before turning into one giant multi-colored ring!

Dennis and Yosef then gave us a little history of the famous Bullet-Catching Trick before they duplicated the effect for us. A bullet was marked, loaded into an old muzzle-loading pistol with a red handkerchief, and fired at a glass frame that Yosef held in front of his face. When the gun fired, the red handkerchief was through the center of the glass frame, and Yosef had caught the bullet in his teeth! A truly professional effect. MC Harrison reappeared and performed an amazing routine using CDs that appeared, disappeared, and changed places instantly.

After the show, we congratulated these talented young performers. The art will be in good hands!

Not Just Routine

Card Through The Window

Trick Courtesy of: Brian Reaves
(manna@quicklink.net)

Original Author: Unknown

Effect: The magician allows the spectator to choose a card. Once they see it, they slip it back into the deck. The magician then shuffles the deck and without warning tosses it against a

nearby window. After all the cards settle, one is left sticking to the window. When the spectator goes to peel it off, he finds that it's actually stuck on the OUTSIDE of the window. As the cards are gathered up, the spectator's card is found missing and indeed stuck.

Card Trick:

A real baffler, but a little preparation is necessary. Get an exact duplicate of the card you want to force by buying two alike decks. Put double-sided tape (the clear kind) on the face of the card and stick it to the outside of a window near where you will be presenting the trick.

Now, get your spectator - making sure that their back is to the window AT ALL TIMES. Now force the card on them (using your method) and let them slip it back into the deck. Shuffle the cards, but keep a lookout for the card they chose. When you see it, make it the top card of the deck.

Now, WITHOUT WARNING toss the deck past the spectator to the window. Make sure that you palm the top card before you let go. As the spectator turns to watch the cards fly, slip the palmed card into your pocket.

This one is great, but angles are everything. If they see the card before you toss the deck, the trick is a bust.

I.B.M. Ring 6

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International Brotherhood of Magicians

Submit Articles to "The Apparition"

The Apparition is your newsletter as much as it is any other member's of Ring 6. We encourage you to submit your ideas, articles, tricks and anything else that you may think of to make it better for all. It is a big job to create the entire newsletter all alone every month. I am happy to do it, but all of your voices will make it more enjoyable to the membership. Feel free to bring your articles to any Ring 6 meeting and I will include them in the next issue. You can also email your content to me at :

dshale@ccn1.com or fax them to
(610) 692-0275

The newsletters are going to be published two weeks prior to each meeting. This will allow time for the post

office to deliver them to the recipients that receive them through the mail. That means that the deadline for any contributions from the members is the last Monday of the month. Articles that are submitted after that date will be placed in the following issue.

It may take a village to raise a child, but it takes an entire Ring to produce a great newsletter.

David S. Hale—Newsletter.

