



THE TARBELL TRIBUNE

NOV. 2024

IBM RING 43 NEWSLETTER

A Special Message : Our Newsletter Refresh

Welcome to our IBM Ring 43 Newsletter refresh! As we continue to remain focused on providing tremendous value to our current members, we are also looking to the future of our beloved community. Our ring members are deeply rooted within the history and culture of the Chicago magic scene, and it's our responsibility to remain committed to developing the next generation of great Chicago magicians. Building, maintaining, and leading relevancy within our community requires a larger emphasis on the digital channels. Our newsletter refresh is just the start; there are more great things to come!

The Month & Upcoming

Next Meeting: Friday,
November 17th at 7:00 pm
Joe Diamond Lecture @
Magic Inc

We are excited to host a lecture from Joe Diamond for our November Ring 43 meeting. Joe brings a deep knowledge of the world of mind reading and mentalism, and we can't wait to learn from his many years of experience. His lecture details are provided in this month's newsletter.

It is wild to think the Holiday's are upon us as we begin planning for our annual Holiday Party on December 13 at Mr. Beef and Pizza. Before you know it, our 'EST-Night' competition will be here on January 17, 2025, so start planning and practicing your performance for a chance to win the contest!



Last Month: Story Time

Our October meeting began with a Front Table by **John Hutsebaut**. He demonstrated and taught a card trick where two sets of half playing cards were mixed up and then magically restored themselves. Next came a Bicycle Joker which floated around the face of the card and then the entire card levitated. He also showed a trick where a borrowed dollar bill was draped over a rubber band and was then caused to penetrate through the band.

Kevin Owens opened the meeting and announced that Alec Schraegle was our new Media Director. He explained the theme for the evening which was "Tell Me a Story" featuring effects highlighted with a story patter.

Jay Collen went first. He shared a story about the history of magic, illustrated with The Egg Bag Trick, made famous by Max Malini. The entire routine is in Jay's Book, "Magic Unconcealed".



Story Time Continued...

Terrence Hunter, who loves telling stories, was up next. He held up a banner with a red and blue cartoon fish. He turned it over several times, showing the front and back, then rolled it in a tube, reached inside, and produced a small aquarium! He then tore the center out of a napkin, vanished the napkin, vanished his wand. When he opened the piece, he tore it out of the center, forming a star shape.

Paco Perez did a card trick about four kingdoms renting hotel rooms. He dealt four card packets with A-J for each suit. He put the packets together and mixed them up. When he redealt them, the four of each kind were now together.

Asher Stuhlman, our newest member, explained that he was studying to be a detective. He showed a series of cards with different footprints on them. Alec Schraegle picked a topic and laid the cards on the floor. Asher walked over them blindfolded and barefoot and correctly guessed the murderer.

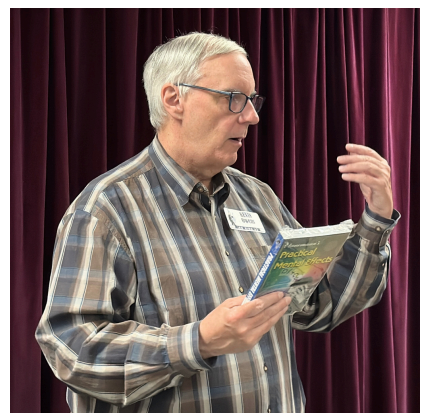
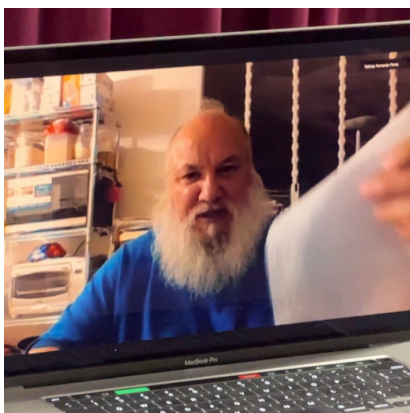
Fernando Garcia told the story of The Collector, a serial killer who kept trophies from his victims. Fernando had a list of ten suspects and a series of clues. A volunteer named a number (6) and he counted to the sixth suspect (Jason). When he turned the clues over, each had a letter on the back and together they spelled "JASON".

Daryl Rogers, performing over Zoom, explained how Harry Houdini met his wife, Beth. He showed two blank slates which he placed together. When he separated from them, they had a spirit message printed on them. He then showed a wooden Box of Sefalaljia containing a glass and a small ball. When he closed the box and reopened it the ball had magically jumped into the glass. Next he placed just the center of a red rope and the center of a white rope in the box but they somehow magically linked together!

Fernando Flores did a torn-and-restored napkin trick explaining that even if a group broke apart it could always come back together.

John returned to tell the story of the Gordian Knot. He tied an elaborate knot in a rope and explained how Alexander the Great had solved the Gordian Knot and gone on to rule the world. John then caused the knot to magically come sliding off the end of the rope.

Kevin Owens also did a Back Table covering the book "The 13 Steps of Mentalism" by Tony Corinda. He also talked about "Practical Mental Effects" by Anneman. Kevin touched on a number of the effects and methods used to perform mentalism.



Prez Says...



On a Personal Note...

I don't normally write much personal stuff in my columns, but... I recently celebrated 30 years with AT&T. For the bulk of my career, I've been leading the contact center technology roadmap/architecture for the company. This includes all the technology used when you call (or chat) into our support centers. I've applied for 2 patents (one granted, one pending) in this space and have led various "transformation" projects over the years – with our size most projects are multi-year efforts. BTW if you ever have an issue with AT&T service, I have a special escalation process that can be used -- so let me know.

ATTENTION!!

We need volunteers to perform close-up walk around and stand up at our Holiday party on Dec. 13th at Mr. Beef & Pizza. Reach out to one of our board members if you're interested!

Last year, AT&T decided to consolidate locations combined with a return to office mandate of 3 days a week to a few hub cities. Each department also decided which hubs they would use as a "core hub." Our org decided on Dallas, Atlanta and Seattle. The first "wave" (last year) was to relocate or "surplus" folks not in a hub city. Thankfully Chicago was designated a hub at the last minute. "Wave 2" came this past February where people not in a "core hub" would need to move or leave the business. Fortunately, my group created deferrals, and I was told I would have to move by July 2025 and should hear more details with "wave 3" in 2025. So they kicked the can yet again....Then "wave 3" was accelerated to September and I got a letter saying move by July 2025 or decline which means take a surplus payout and be off payroll by end of year (a date wasn't provided, but that's the general consensus).

Luckily, I was granted an exception to remain virtual and it appears the sword of Damocles has been lifted (for now). We don't believe there are any more planned "waves," but who knows. So, I stay gainfully employed and my wife can't complain about my book buying habit.

Lightning Round Q⚡A



Q: What was the most challenging skill or principle you had to master, and how did overcoming it shape your growth as a magician?

A: One of the most challenging principles I had to master was misdirection especially in billet work. Early on, I struggled with making my audience look away at just the right moment, which requires both timing and confidence. Mastering this skill taught me patience, precision, and an understanding of human perception, shaping me into a more polished performer.

Q: Can you share a moment where a performance went completely wrong? How did you recover, and what did you learn from it?

A: During one show, a gimmicked trick went awry, and the audience saw a hidden prop too soon. I recovered by laughing it off, turning the mistake into a joke, and moving on to another trick hopefully not missing a beat. This experience taught me that maintaining composure and humor can turn mistakes into moments that endear you to the audience.

...Q&A continued on next page

Q&A continued...

Q: How do you balance technical mastery with storytelling to create a truly memorable experience for your audience?

A: Balancing technical mastery with storytelling is essential because it turns mere tricks into experiences that resonate emotionally. I practice each move meticulously but focus equally on crafting a narrative that captivates the audience's imagination. This balance allows me to create performances that linger in the minds of viewers long after the show ends.

Q: What role has failure or experimentation played in developing new tricks or routines? Can you give an example where taking a creative risk paid off?

A: Failure and experimentation are vital to my process because they reveal unexpected ideas and lead to new, creative routines. For instance, I once experimented with an unusual prop in a routine (an Ouija board) unsure of how it would play, and it became one of my most talked-about tricks. This taught me the importance of pushing boundaries, as those risks often lead to the most innovative and memorable magic.

Happy Birthday

David Amundson
Paul Basbagill
Dan Feltey
Alan Koslow
Bill Martin
Josh Meador
Dylan Snow



Please join us in welcoming our newest Ring 43 member, **Asher Stuhlman**, when you see him at our monthly meetings.

Events Calendar

Nov 15 Joe Diamand Lecture
Dec 13 Holiday Party*
Jan 17 EST-Content Night

Meeting location is graciously hosted by



1838 W Lawrence Ave. Chicago, IL 60640

*Location at Mr. Beef & Pizza in Mt. Prospect

Chicago Magic Lounge - Shows Every Night!
chicagomagiclounge.com.

Magic Inc. - Support your local magic shop!
For more info, call 773-334-2855 or magicinc.net.

Club Meetings:

S.A.M. Assembly 3—Now meeting at Magic Inc, first Monday of the month 6:30pm.
www.magicalchicago.com

Conjurer's Corner Magic Club—Fourth Monday, Mr. Beef & Pizza, 1796 S. Elmhurst Rd., Mt. Prospect.

Magic Masters—Fourth Wednesday, The Station Pub & Restaurant, 6657 South Street, Tinley Park.

Mazda Mystic Ring—Second Thursday, Knights of Columbus Hall, 10 Villa Court, Elgin.

S.A.M. Assembly 106—Second Monday, The Timbers, 1100 N. River Rd., Shorewood.

S.A.M. Assembly 148—Third Monday, Epiphany Evangelical Lutheran Church, 314 W. Valette St., Elmhurst.

IBM Ring 43 Board of Directors

President - Mike Kamlet (312) 213 - 3001

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Secretary - John Hutsebaut (847) 337 - 9761

Treasurer - Kevin Owens (312) 929 - 3644

Board Member - Terrence Hunter (773) 802 - 8348

Newsletter Editor - Alec Schraegle (312) 259 - 8632