

Wandogram



"Harris A. Solomon Ring" IBM #74 Syracuse N.Y.

October
2023





Harris Solomon

**A monthly newsletter of the
Harris A. Solomon Ring #74
International Brotherhood of Magicians
(the Salt City Magic Club)**

President: Ken Frehm
Vice President: David Kilpatrick
Secretary: Joey Hoffman
Treasurer: Bruce Purdy
Sgt. At Arms: Dave Hanselman

**IBM Ring #74 meets at 7:30pm
the Third Thursday of every month (Virtualy for now)**

Please submit material for publication in the Wandogram to:

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or by Snail Mail:

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Submission deadline:

First Thursday of the month

Meeting night changes

by

Bruce Purdy

As far back as anyone can remember, our official meeting has been on the third Thursday of each month.

Durring the pandemic, we started meeting on ZOOM on that night. When we were able to meet in person, the in-person meeting was shoehorned in to the SECOND Thursday.

The good news is: we are now returning to normal, and meeting in person on the third Thursday (Currently at Denny's Restaurant in Liverpool.)

The ZOOM meeting has been moved to the second Thursday.

Since the Wandogram goes out on the Second Thursday, there's not much lead time for the ZOOM meeting, but you should have plenty of notice for the official meeting.

This also frees up a conflict for our southern friends, as Ithaca meets on the Second Thursday, so they can make ours as well.

The suggested theme for October is "Halloween" "Spooky Magic" or "Houdini." As always, you are welcome to stray from the theme if you wish, but it will be fun to see what people come up with.

I hope to see you there!

Musings on Halloween, Magic, and a few relevant quotations

By
Bruce Purdy

***“goulies and ghosties and long-leggedy beasties
And things that go bump
in the night”***

***“Double, double toil and trouble;
Fire burn and cauldron
bubble.”***

October is “Magic Month” leading up to National magic Day - Halloween! Spooky, haunting, or Fun loving costumes & Candy, or memorialising the life & death of Erich Weiss aka Houdini. How you choose to celebrate Halloween is up to you (More than one of the above is OK too!)

Although Houdini was a debunker of spiritualism, seances etc., He did tell Bess that if it were possible to communicate with her in a seance, he would do so - and had a code message that only the two of them would know. Despite her announcement that after ten years it was clearly not possible, to this day Magicians hold an annual seance to try and reach Houdini.

People love to consider - or imagine - that spirits, ghosts and the like exist and come into our world.

That strange powers and forces exist, and mayhaps can be controlled.

***There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio,
Than are dreamt of in your philosophy.***

Hamlet

That’s our stock in trade as Magicians. We play with these fantasies. We create mini plays or skits about powers or worlds outside of what most people know to be the “real world.” We use our imagination, and help the audience to use theirs.

“Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world.”

Albert Einstein

Halloween - and the month leading up to it - is when everyone is especially in tune to the supernatural. When imagination runs rampant and Magicians are more in-demand than any other time of the year.

For a children’s entertainer, silly references to trick-or-treat, jackolanterns, black cats, dressup

and the like is a natural.

For an adult audience, an old-fashioned spook show, a creepy experience or a seance are all appropriate. Perhaps inspiration might come from the late Eugene Burger’s “Spirit Theater.”

Here are a few more quotes, which I believe apply to the mindset to which we Magicians should aspire - in this season, and tear ‘round:

What the eyes see and the ears hear, the mind believes. I am a great admirer of mystery and magic. Look at this life - all mystery and magic.

Harry Houdini

“There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle.”

Albert Einstein

“Reality is merely an illusion, albeit a very persistent one”

Albert Einstein

“the world is full of magic things, patiently waiting for your senses to grow sharper.”

w.b. yeats

“And above all, watch with glittering eyes the whole world around you because the greatest secrets are always hidden in the most unlikely places. Those who don't believe in magic will never find it.”

Roald Dahl

As the veil between our world and the other becomes thinner this time of year, I wish you all a Happy Halloween!





Congratulations to David MacBlane who performed his ten-minute routine for acceptance into our Ring. David did a great job and received a unanimous “Yea” vote from all those present.

The September meeting was the first “In-Person” meeting held at a public venue for the last three years. As you know, I’ve been hosting the “In-Person” meeting at my house during these years.

We had a great turnout and welcomed some prior members whom we haven’t seen in quite a while. Hopefully, we will see them often in the future.

A discussion was held about switching our meeting dates. I queried those associates who hail from Rochester, Virginia, Ithaca, Texas, and California. There was agreement and it’s now official.

Our Zoom meeting will be held on the 2nd Thursday of every month and our “In-Person” will be held on the 3rd Thursday. As long as we have a good turnout, we will be welcomed at the Denny’s restaurant.

The address is: 103 Elmwood Davis Rd. in Liverpool. Although not a prerequisite, attendees are strongly encouraged to order some refreshments, food etc. Many months, I hear, “Oh, I forgot.” Why not mark your calendars? These dates are now set “in stone.”

Both our meetings in September were extremely well attended. We had record turnouts for the Zoom meeting and the “In-Person” as well. Thanks go out to you who participated. Ring #74, The Salt City Magic club is alive and well!

Steve Tichy has accepted the role of “Chief” for our social media initiative. Steve, along with a few of our more “e” literate guys will be tackling the important challenge of improving our social media. We will be refreshing our internet/web media presence.

This is a must today if we are to improve our club and hopefully attracting new members. As you know, many social clubs were weakened and closed through the Covid years. Natural attrition decreased our numbers as well. We will be working on our existing enrollments, and more

importantly provide a bunch of new features. Updated photos, videos, biographies, possibly “Teach a Trick” are just some of the ideas we are tossing around.

Have some ideas? Some suggestions? Please let Steve or me know. We need content and whatever else that would reflect the opportunities we offer. One of our prime objectives (I.B.M.) is to further the art of magic. Let’s do our part. Thank-you in advance for your input and involvement.

Abracadabra
Ken Frehm



Some humor from Ken Frehm

Rhymes With Orange



Ring #74 Officer Report

By
Joey Hoffman

The last few months, we've been having our in-person meetings at Ken's house. It's been great as it gave those who wanted to meet face to face a chance, and a great space to do it. Aside from our yearly parties, we as a club haven't really had a chance to all get together since before Covid.

This month, with the help of Steve Tichy and David Hanselman, we were able to reserve our old meeting place, Denny's in Liverpool. The two of them teamed up to reach out to members we haven't seen in a while and gauge if there was any interest in meeting in a more public space. Their effort was a success, we had 11 people! It really was awesome seeing everyone together again. Thanks again Steve and David for making it possible.

Our newest member, David Macblaine, performed his ten minutes for the club. He showed his prowess of sleight of hand and misdirection with a three part torn and restored card ef-

fect, where the card became more restored each time. Next, he had a match torn out of a book and lit. Dave put the match in his mouth and swallowed it. When we looked at the matchbook, not a single match was gone. The matchbook was closed and a card was selected and lost in the deck. He instructed us to open the matchbook, and it transformed into our selected card! Nicely done Dave, and welcome to the club!

Steve Tichy took out three different colored scarves, and wrapped them up one on top of the other. He then took scissors and cut right into the top scarf. The hole was opened showing the next color, and again he cut into it. Once again, he did this with the third. When the scarves were separated, they had all been magically restored with absolutely no cuts in them.

David Hanselman had Art select a card, memorize it, and place it face down. He then took

out his camera, and showed the back was empty. A blank card was placed inside, and closed up. Dave took a picture of Art while he thought of his card. The back was removed and the blank card had changed into the selected card.

Thomas Yeldon grabbed a deck of cards and took out the Kings and Aces. The Kings were placed face down and he placed each Ace in a different one of his pockets, making sure to show us the face of the card each time. With a magical gesture, the face down cards had turned into Aces, and the Kings were in his pockets.

David Kilpatrick placed a prediction down and had a number selected. The number was 17, so Dave dealt that many cards. Our card was turned over and it was a Queen. The prediction was revealed and said "you will not pick a joker". While Dave was correct, that wasn't what blew us away. When he spread the cards, they were all jokers!

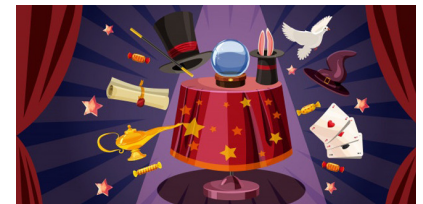
Dave Sorenson performed a very visual routine with lots of different moves, transformations, and vanishes. A silk turned into a pen and then vanished, and

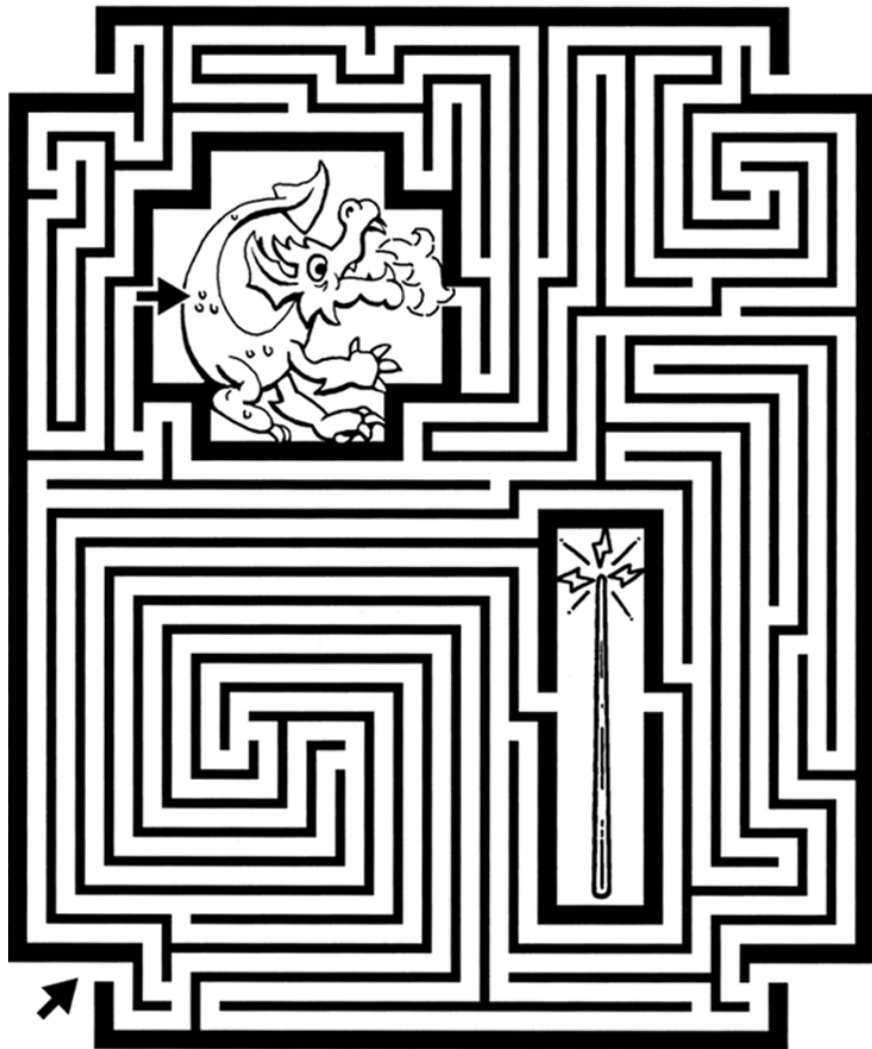
reappeared. A wand kept getting bigger and bigger until it was covered with silk and it vanished!

Ken Frehm had a card selected from a red deck, and lost it back into the pack. The deck was covered and when he turned it over and spread the cards, all the cards had changed to blue. All except for one, our chosen card.

As it currently stands, the new date for our Zoom meeting will be the second Thursday of the month, and our in-person meeting will be the third Thursday of the month. Both meetings start at 7, so try to sign on or get there a little before. Interested? Email kfrehm@gmail.com and a link will be sent to you. We welcome all!

Joey Hoffman
Secretary for Ring #74





Your first fire-breathing DRAGON! He's young and inexperienced, but you'll still need your magic WAND. Be sure to approach the dragon from behind, or you'll be roasted.

Next meetings:

Thursday, 12th October 2023
ON LINE Virtual meeting.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7941606677>
 (Please sign in at about 6:45pm)

Theme: Halloween, Houdini or National Magic Month

Thursday, 19th October 2023
In Person meeting.

Denny's

106 Elwood Davis Road

Liverpool NY

Theme: Halloween, Houdini or National Magic Month

Save the Date!

Thu. 12th October	Monthly ZOOM meeting
Thu. 19th October	In-Person meeting Denny's
Thu. 9th November	Monthly ZOOM meeting
Thu. 16th November	In-Person meeting Denny's
Thu. 14th December	Monthly ZOOM meeting
Thu. 21st December	In-Person meeting Denny's

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