



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





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 MacBlane

Secretary: Joey Hoffman Treasurer: Bruce Purdy

Sgt. At Arms: Dave Hanselman

IBM Ring #74 meets at 7:30pm the second Thursday of every month virtually via Zoom, and the third Thursday of every month IN PERSON

Please submit material for publication in the Wandogram to:

wandogram@cnymagic.com

or by Snail Mail:

Bruce Purdy

P.O.Box 213

Cayuga NY 13034-0213

Questions? Call (315) 256-9095

Submission deadline:

First Thursday of the month

Motion To Raise Membership Dues

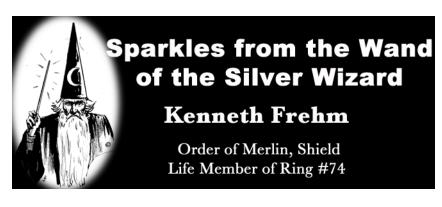
Our club vice-president, David MacBlane has proposed a motion to raise the club membership dues at our recent officers' meeting. The current dues are \$25 for members and \$10 for senior citizens. These numbers are out of date and have not been addressed in many years. The proposal is to raise the dues to \$40 for members and \$30 for seniors. There will be exceptions for hardship cases.

The officers have agreed that our fiscal year for dues is July to June. We also agreed that if you pay your dues before the end of September 2024 you will pay the current dues. Beginning October 1st, the new fees will go into effect.

We will vote on the need for a discussion of the motion at our next in-person meeting. The need for a meeting to address the motion will be ratified if a quorum comprised of one-fourth of the members including two officers vote in favor of the motion.

For the motioned to be passed, one-third of the attending members must vote in favor of the motion to be approved.

For those who are in arrears for more than sixty days will be dealt with by the officers in order to keep our club growing.



I'm watching Mother Nature wave her magic wand and seeing that she's turning much of the local foliage into shades of yellow and red. We all know what she has in store for us as her second act unfolds. Me thinks I'll wave my wand and equip my car with its winter tires!

We had a special treat last month. Jimmy C visited our club and shared his enthusiasm, and extensive magic knowledge with us. Those members who showed up were treated to three hours of useable entertainment tricks and tips. Jimmy's style and attitude is infectious. He is so motivational and not only does his love for entertaining shine through, but also his desire to make each of us better magicians and showmen. He drove in and back from Rochester and didn't charge our club his normal lecture fee. He did ask for attendees to send him. a short note and review. He uses these as part of his extensive marketing efforts to garner new business. If you attended and haven't sent him yours, please do so right away. His email is: jimmycmagic@yahoo.com.

Our Ring is holding a BBQ/ Picnic in Mid-September. On Sunday the 15th, Ring members, associates, friends, and family will party together at the Clay Center Park in Liverpool. It is a Ring function and there is no direct monetary cost to you. Although completely non-compulsory, we ask attendees to bring a dish to Salads and desserts are suggested. The Ring will supply hotdogs, hamburgers, buns, soda, water, condiments, and paper goods. Yes, we will be holding a public show and Joey Hoffman is the honcho. Of course, all magicians are encouraged to bring "walk-around" stuff to share. We will be setting up in late morning. There is a pavilion in case of rain,

and we have a real stage if we choose to utilize it. Please attend. This is a great opportunity to socialize with each other. Please send me your headcount a.s.a.p.

As I mentioned previously, our Ring's legitimate expenses, like everything today, have risen. Your officers met and are recommending a reasonable increase in dues. Starting with our 2024-2025 year, the schedule will be as follows: \$40/yr. for regular members (excluding a few "Life" members) and \$30/yr. for seniors (over 65yrs). A motion was made and seconded. We will hold a vote at our next in-person get-together to accept this proposal. Those of you who paid the previous rate before September 15th will enjoy the lower rate this year. A few, who are still in arrears will have until mid-month (September) to secure this older rate.

Along with this reasonable rate increase, our organization must find other sources of income. We ask all of you to put on your thinking wizard hats and let us know your ideas. Do you belong to other social groups? Would your church or nearby organizations consider funding a magic show? Please think about it. We need your input and help.

I'm proud to tell you that your officers are a functioning team. We have new member applicants waiting to do their 10-minutes. Bruce Purdy our Treasurer/ Wandogram Editor, and David MacBlane, our official Web Wizard produce extremely professional and top-notch publications. We stand tall in our international community, as we represent the International Brotherhood of Magicians of Central New York. I'm looking forward to learning more magic, partying and working together this year with all of you.

> Abracadabra... Kenneth Frehm



Ring #74 Scribe's Report B_y Joey Hoffman

August's meeting was fantastic. 11 of us appeared including our guest of honor, Territorial Vice President Doug Welch. Your presence is always appreciated. We also had a new prospective member, Matthew Dowd. It was a pleasure to meet you and we hope to see you at future meetings!

Doug Welch started off the night giving a talk on some of things he's learned from doing magic for 50 years. This was filled with tons of fantastic advice and anecdotes that could be applied to any magician of any level. While just about everything he said was noteworthy, some of my favorites were, "asking as many questions as you can before determining price or agreeing to do a show", "If you're having fun, the audience is having fun", "Always be prepared and try to be flexible", and "Learn something from every show".

I then gave a short lecture on my favorite type of magic, card magic. I showed and explained how I do some of my favorite moves like the double-lift, retention shuffles, false cuts, slip-cuts, and taught some effects to go with them. I also explained my philosophy on deck switches and how to get away with using multiple decks in a routine. Thanks for listening, everyone.

Returning member Tom Bresadola shuffled a deck and had a card selected and kept face down under a spectator's hand. Tom then had the rest of us choose a color, then a suit, then a number. Once we were happy with our choices, red, heart, and 10, Tom revealed the chosen card to be the 10 of Hearts.

David Kilpatrick did a very nice book test effect. He had Doug select a random page from a book and focus on a word. He was then able to guess what word Doug was thinking of. David then had Matthew select a page and read a paragraph. David was able to give a summary of what the paragraph was about. I've seen a lot of book tests where a word or phrase is revealed, but not the summary of a paragraph. Good stuff Dave!

Thomas Yeldon had a large bag filled with change. Four spectators reached into the bag and grabbed a handful, and Thomas did the same. Just by listening to the coins shaking in each person's hand, he was able to determine not only how much each

person had, but exactly how much more he had than everyone else. Some of us have seen this before and it fools us every time.

Bruce Purdy performed his version of The Professor's Nightmare. It was very entertaining, especially the ending. Bruce put one rope in one pocket, and another rope in the other. He then began pulling on one, which moved the other, almost as if they were connected. When Bruce pulled one side hard enough, the two ropes came out as one!

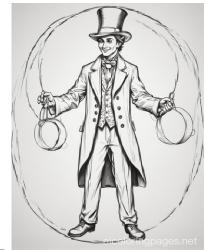
Ken Frehm had me shuffle a deck of cards and cut them into two piles. I grabbed one pile and flipped it over, spreading out the cards. Ken studied the spread out cards for a minute and began predicting if the next card in his pile was red or black. He correctly predicted about half of a deck of cards with 100% accuracy.

The following Monday, we were also fortunate enough to have our friend from Florida, Jimmy C, give us about a two hour lecture. Our meeting place was filled with local members, as well as members from other rings. If you've never seen or met Jimmy, I encourage you to look him up. He's a real pro doing shows year round, and for good reason. He has this remarkable energy and style that's astoundingly captivating. It's fun to just watch him do what he does, and I think a big reason behind that, is that you can tell just how much fun he enjoys performing. His personality shines through each effect adding a little something extra to it.

He went over effects for kids through adults, as well as some great props that he uses. He wasn't here to sell us anything. He answered all of our questions and even provided links to props and tutorials. These were all excellent, tried and true effects that he uses at his own shows. Thank you once again, Jimmy. We all really enjoyed it and greatly appreciate your time.

As it stands, the date for our Zoom meetings will be the second Thursday of the month, and our in-person meetings 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. We welcome all!

Joey Hoffman
Secretary for Ring #74



The Greatest Magician of the Century

By David MacBlane

Few of us have not been influenced by magicians of the past. They set the bar high and we use their experiences to modify the magic to modern standards.

Some of the most praised magicians spanned the late 19th century to the 20th century. Of course the most notable is **Harry Houdini** (1874-1926). Born as Erik Weisz in Budapest Hungary, Erik took the stage name Harry Houdini after the famous Jean-Eugene Robert Houdin. Houdini emigrated to the United States and became one the best escape artists ever known. He was also comfortable with other magic that were not based on escapes.

Alexander Hermann (1844-1896) was born in Paris as Claude Alexander Conlin and although he did not cross the 19th to 20th centuries, he was still a big influence on magic at the time. Better known as "Hermann The Great" he eventually took on the name "Alexander - The Man Who Knows"

Harry Kellar (1849-1922) was born Heinrich Kellar and became a big name in the crosscenturies magician and had a big following in the late 19th century.

But, perhaps the most influential magician who crossed centuries was Howard Thur**ston** (1869-1936). Thurston was a stage magician from Columbus, Ohio, United States. As a child, he ran away to join the circus, where his future partner Harry Kellar also performed. Thurston was deeply impressed after he attended magician Alexander Herrmann's magic show and was determined to equal his work. He eventually became the most famous magician of his time. Thurston's traveling magic show was the biggest one of all; it was so large that it needed eight train cars to transport his road show.

Howard Thurston was arguably the greatest magician of the century.

Thurston was born in Colum-

bus, Ohio (now home to Magifest, one of the biggest conventions in magic) and had a rather difficult childhood.

He ran away from home at a young age and was eventually taken in by a family of traveling performers. A lot of people joke about 'running away to join the circus', but Thurston literally did just that.

This experience exposed him to the world of show business and the art of illusion, setting him on a path that would make him one of the most celebrated magicians in history.

As luck would have it, the great Harry Kellar was also performing in this circus, and he would go on to become a mentor to Thurston.

It isn't clear as to when or whether Thurston returned home, but I found multiple sources indicating that he did at least return to school and even pursued a career in the ministry before he opted to focus entirely on his performing career. Harry Kellar, upon retirement, named Thurston his successor and passed him the 'mantle of magic'.

A hotly debated tradition called 'The Royal Dynasty of

Magic,' where the mantle would continue to be passed down to this day. The tradition currently resides with Lance Burton.

Known as the 'King of Cards', Thurston is perhaps best known for his card manipulations and the 'Rising Cards' trick, in which selected cards would mysteriously rise from the deck.

I know many magicians who have learned a version of this routine and we can thank Thurston for popularizing it.

Unlike Houdini, who focused primarily on escape acts, Thurston's show was a dazzling display of vibrant costumes, grand illusions, and a skilled team of assistants, drawing huge crowds that would even include US presidents.

He astounded audiences by making a horse vanish from a platform high above the stage, vanishing an automobile, conjuring up a troupe of dancing girls, and performing the classic sawing-a-lady-in-half illusion, while a group of audience members watched closely from the stage!

Yet, despite these grand spectacles, what truly cemented Thurston's legacy was his impeccable skill with playing cards.

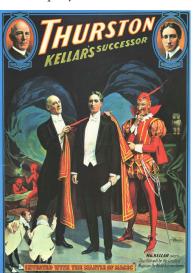
His card act, where cards seemed to materialize at his fingertips before he skillfully threw them across the stage and into the audience, was a highlight of his shows.

This act, performed in every show for over 40 years, was what truly built Thurston's renowned reputation! His traveling magic show was the biggest one of all time.

Here's one more fact about Howard Thurston that I can tell you is 100% accurate.

Howard Thurston once published an easy trick that looks like this...

The magician drops a deck of cards into a hat and the hat is shaken up by the audience.



The magician then reaches into the hat, hiding nothing in their hands. They call the name of a card and then retrieve it from the hat. They repeat this multiple times to show that they can find any card they name!

Obviously, I can't get into the method, but this performance absolutely fried spectators around the globe.

If you haven't dug into the world of Thurston, I encourage you to look up his effects, illusions, and card work. You won't be disappointed!

As always, if you have your favorite or want to comment on this article, please don't hesitate to contact me.



Magic, Magic Everywhere!

This weekend is chock full of Magic!

Friday and Saturday, Sept.13 & 14, "6 Impossible Things" is playing in Rochester. (Note: This does not appear to be the show of the same name that Joshua Jay famously created.)



6 IMPOSSIBLE THINGS

6 IMPOSSIBLE THINGS is a family friendly, Alice-in-Wonderland-parody magic show! Award-winning Las Vegas magician Jordan Rooks returns with a breathtaking new performance of storytelling, comedy and magic for the entire family. Explore the tea party, see why a raven is like a writing desk, and come be part of the magic for an unforgettable experience!

Length: 45 Minutes

Venue: School of the Arts: Allen Main

Stage Theatre

Tickets: Required Genre: Comedy

Production Company: Jordan Rooks

Also, this Friday Sept. 13, Michael Carbonaro will be appearing at the Turning Stone Casino in Verona NY.



And, of course, we will be holding our picnic on Sunday, Sept.15 at the Clay Central Park. 11am - 5pm. Along with the picnic we will be presenting a public show right there at the park.



Sunday, September 15, 2024

2:00 P.M.

Clay ParkCentral 4821 Wetzel Rd.

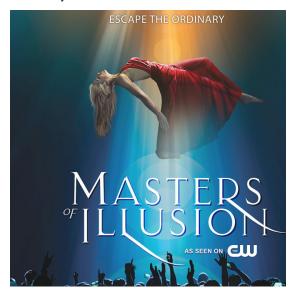
Liverpool, N.Y.

At the Stage & Pavillion See: Saltcitymagic.com

That is all this weekend!

Of course, this weekend is just the beginning

Upcoming Magic events include performances by "Masters Of Illusion" at The Vine showroom at Del Lago Casino on Saturday October 26



and "The Illusionists" at the Landmark Theatre in Syracuse on Thursday November $21\,$



If you love live Magic, as I know you do, there's plenty to feed your passion.

A few adjustments to our meeting schedule

As you know - if you were there - last month we got bumped out of our meeting room at Dennys, due to a scheduling issue on their part. We did hold our meeting in a general seating area of the restaurant. It worked, but was not ideal.

For October, we already know there's a conflict, so have decided to hold our meeting a week later than usual - which we've been assured will be available for us.

Of course, our picnic will be this Sunday (15 September), so we will NOT be holding our regular meeting on the 19th.

Likewise, we will NOT have our regular meeting in November, both because of our 75th anniversary banquet on 9 November, and because the meeting date happens to be the same date that "The Illusionists" appears at the Landmark Theatre.

So the official dates that we will get together are:

September	15	The Picnic	Clay Central	Park
October	24	Re-scheduled meet	ing night	Denny's
November	9	75th Anniversary p	party Spag	hetti Warehouse
December	19	Regularly schedule	d meeting	Denny's

Our ZOOM meetings will go on as regularly scheduled:

September	12	ZOOM
October	10	ZOOM
November	14	ZOOM
December	12	ZOOM

Next meetings:

Thursday, 12th September 2024 ON LINE Virtual meeting.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7941606677

(Please sign in at about 6:45pm)

Sunday, 15th September 2024 Club Picnic **Clay Park Central**

Save the Date!

Thu.12th September	ZOOM meeting
Sun. 15th September	Ring 74 Picnic
	Clay Park Central
Thu.10th October	ZOOM meeting
Thu.24th October	In-Person meeting
	Denny's
Sat.26th October	MASTERS OF ILLUSION
	Landmark Theatre
Sat. 9th November	75th Anniversary Party
	Spaghetti Wearhouse
Thu.14th November	ZOOM meeting
Thu.21st November	THE ILLUDIONISTS

Harris Solomon Ring IBM Ring #74 P.O.Box 213 Cayuga NY 13034 - 0213 www.saltcitymagicclub.com

