



The Silent Messenger

Silent Mora–Ray Goulet Ring 122

www.Ring122.com

January 2020

Highlights from December's Yankee Gift Swap Meeting



With icy weather we had an intimate group at the meeting. This made for some easy chatting and networking. Ryan Lally called the meeting to order. The main business was a discussion of our upcoming show at the Chelmsford Center for The Arts on Sunday January 26. Mike Lee is doing a lot of planning and coordinating for the show. He said things are in good shape. All members are urged to spread the word so we have a good audience turnout. A poster for the event is at the bottom of this newsletter.

Dan Bybell rose to the occasion once again having prepared a card system to run the Yankee Swap. He called it Civil War. It was fairly involved so we mostly put out trust in Dan. First a card matching system decided the order that people could choose from the wrapped gifts. Once all gifts were taken, people had an option to attempt to swap with someone else. If the other person challenged it then a game of war with cards ensued between the two involved to see if the swap would occur. If the other person did not challenge and just agreed to swap then he gained some points that would be valuable in the second possible revenge round. After a number of swaps, re-swaps, and funny events people ended up with some new magic to take home.



Since it was still early, there was time for more pleasant discussion among the group. **Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 28, 7:30pm downstairs at the Universalist Church of Watertown, 35 Church Street, Watertown, MA.**

President's Message – Ryan Lally



One of the questions I always get asked as a magician is “How did you learn magic?” No, there is no Hogwarts that 11 year-old magicians attend. But the sentiment of Hogwarts — learning from teachers and peers — is exactly how I learned magic.

I’ve said it before and I’ll say it again: Creativity dies in a vacuum. In order to learn, you have to seek out others to help you. This, for me at least, is done both in the form of older magicians who have decades of knowledge and experience, and my peers that are along the same path as me.

The older magicians teach me lessons, and my peers help me to perfect them. There are many places where a magician can interact with these communities: magic shops, magic clubs, and conferences, just to name a few.

Recently, you could add social media to that list. There are numerous online forums and Facebook groups dedicated to providing magicians with just such a community to learn from and share ideas with.

But the best place to learn is in person. I’m currently at the Society of American Magician’s national convention in Las Vegas, and it couldn’t be a more interesting group of teachers and peers. Every time I attend a convention, it reminds me of how important community is for creative thinking...

...which leads me to this article. So many people believe that they peak too early. They stop learning and just struggle to remain status quo. But in failing to learn more, they quickly decline, and fade away.

A community helps remind us that we have yet to peak. With those who have learned more than us, it shows us how much farther we have to go. With peers at the same level as we are, it gives us companionship on the long, sometimes lonely road to the top. Creativity dies in a vacuum. Don’t let yourself get sucked into one. Find a community of like-minded people in your field, and learn from each other. Bounce ideas off of them and figure out how a crazy idea can actually work. That can only be done in a community.

Shin Lim wows at the Chevalier Theater! Along with Colin Cloud

A full house of 1,777 attended the Shin Lim’s show “Limitless” at the Chevalier Theater in Medford, MA on January 8th and I was lucky enough to be one of them! The stage’s setting might have been minimalistic but the sound and video was top notch and made the theater fill with a magical air. Shin Lim’s routines were beautifully choreographed to music and a perfect contrast to the Scottish-accented and bombastic mentalist Colin Cloud. Both were very entertaining in very opposite ways.

One effect began by Lim describing growing up in Acton, MA as a teen becoming both a piano and sleight of hand virtuoso, his return following carpal tunnel surgery, and how winning America's Got Talent (twice) and fooling Penn and Teller as well as winning FISM, changed his life. Shin demonstrated his own take on an Ambitious Card routine, a Die Routine that generated a random card that turned into multiple productions and flourishes of that same card, and ended the evening with his FISM-winning routine called 52 Shades of Red.



Introducing Shin Lim and then interspersed throughout the performance was Scottish mentalist Colin Cloud whose adlibs and comedic routine kept the crowd laughing. Mr. Cloud did a Book Test that involved several members of the audience. In another effect he was able to guess several peoples birth dates, what they ate prior to the show, and the names of the people they were with! He included a Sherlock Holmes-based mentalism effect using two unwitting volunteers, and other mysteries of the mind. The magicians are currently touring together and also performing in Las Vegas with Lim's "Limitless" show.

By David Penn, fill-in editor for this month's Silent Ring.

IBM RING 122, Silent Mora–Ray Goulet Ring

Website: <http://www.ring122.com> Meetings take place the last Tuesday of every month at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Watertown, 35 Church Street.

President: Ryan Lally, lallymagic@gmail.com

1st Vice President: Kevin Butler, kevibutler@comcast.net;

2nd Vice President: Dan Bybell, dan@bybell.com

Treasurer: Daryl Vanderburgh, dvanderburgh8@gmail.com

Secretary: Debbie O'Carroll, 978-462-9954; debbie@debbieocarroll.com

Sergeant-at-arms: Bob Filene, bobfilene@alum.mit.edu

Board of Governors: Mike Lee, Pat Farenga, and Elliott Palmer.

The Silent Messenger is published every month except for July and August. The deadline for submissions is the eighth of the month. Articles, inquiries, and letters can be emailed to the editor:

pat@magicianpatfarenga.com

Please share the flyer below for this month's upcoming member magic show in Chelmsford!



Silent Mora Ray Goulet IBM Ring 122 Boston
and the Chelmsford Center for the Arts Present a

FAMILY MAGIC SHOW

January 26, 2020, 2:00

Strolling Magicians-1:30

Chelmsford Center for the Arts, 1A North Road, Chelmsford, MA

Admission: Adults-\$10 & Students-\$5

Featuring:



Mikey Lee



Crazy Davy



Ryan Lally



Jared McNabb



Debbie O'Carroll, MC

Also Strolling Magicians



Kevin Butler



Daniel Barbás



Dan Hajjar