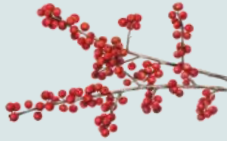


S i l e n t M o r a — R a y G o u l e t R i n g 1 2 2

The Silent Messenger

January 2023



Ring 122 December Ring Report

After two years of remote meetings, Ring 122 met in person at City Works Eatery and Pour House in the Arsenal Yard complex in Watertown for our holiday party! We enjoyed chatting about recent magic shows we had seen, had some good food and beverages, and exchanged gifts! I hope next year more magi can make the event but the six of us who attended had a great time! My favorite moment was learning a two-dollar puzzle effect



Pictured (From left to right): Mike Lee, Kevin Butler, Alex Morehead, Pat Farenga, David Penn.



P r e s i d e n t ' s R e p o r t



Inventory Time!

My New Year's resolution is two fold: to create an inventory list of my magic effects and to do a personal inventory.

Do you have a spreadsheet of your magic effects and magic routines you know? For me, this is a long-term goal because I went on a bit of a buying spree last year and now have several effects that I never even tried out yet. Of course they were must buys at the time (Bob Filene, I still have to open TLC!), but now I can barely remember what they were about! More importantly, what type of audience would I use the effects for. Separating my effects into a spreadsheet based on audience age, duration of effect/routine, type of magic (vanish/production/comedy, etc), volunteers needed or performed solo, music, materials required, patter, and anything else I can think of that makes one effect distinctive from another. (Please send me your category ideas!)

I look forward to this activity as a way to remind myself of effects I haven't used in a long time, routines I haven't done for years, and as a way to refresh my act. I also have been focusing on children's magic for so many years that when I had an inquiry about a teen

event, I wondered what effects I would use and should I even submit a quote since I felt out of practice as far as teen and adult magic shows go.

I challenge you to use the idea of an inventory to help bring order to your magical world. I bet you will see value in the time you spend and possibly even find a couple of long-lost effects in the process (where did I put that RUE sign?). That's like getting free magic!

Now that you have a magic inventory goal, what about a personal inventory? Are you feeling supported in your magical journey? Are you gathering with other magi in person and/or online? Have you set a goal for learning new effects, reading a magic book or two, joining the National Ring Open Mike Zoom, or finding other ways to learn more about your craft?

I wish you all a wonderful magic journey in 2023!



**IBM Ring 122
President
David Penn**

History of Magic in New England

Learning the Ropes: Part 2

Dave Cresey performed as a magician for much of his life, but he's most famous for creating high-quality mouth coils and other paper products for magicians. Dave learned his manufacturing skills by working for Jim, who, in addition to performing, made and sold magic tricks through his mail-order company Simplex Magic. "When Dave started working for me," Jim says, "I picked up gimmicks from a man in the North End of Boston who was a manufacturer of magic. In fact, he used to build a lot of things for Holden's Magic Shop. His name was Joe Frustaglia. And when he died, he left me a lot of his machinery and a lot of his gimmicks, and templates, such as ones to make, especially, paper flowers. I had these in a box in my cellar when Dave was working for me. And one day I ran across them and explained to Dave what they were. He says, 'Oh I could do that. Thanks for the idea.' 'You're welcome,' I said. And that's how we started before he went to the mouth coils."

"That's not right," interrupted Dave. "You said, 'I could use a lot of spring flowers. I'm not getting enough from Jim Linton.'"(1)



Pictured: Alan Wassilak(Left)and Dave Cresey (Right)

"I forgot about Jim Linton! Anyway, we started making spring flowers, to the point that Dave says, 'Hey I don't have to work for you anymore. I am now making a good amount.' Then you went into the mouth coil business, and that was basically it."

Dave described how he got into the mouth coil business. "I was doing shows and using mouth coils manufactured by Max Londono. (2) I didn't like his product because of how it was manufactured. He used a water-based glue to connect the sheets and he was using a real terrible paper. Using water-based glue for a prop you put in your mouth—think about it. His manufacturing process was great, but it was the way he connected the papers together. After a certain period of time the glue solidified and turned into dust, so now you're groping for pieces in your mouth. So, I got the bright idea of doing it with tape."

"I was buying my tape and paper from retail stores and Jimmy (Rainho) was the one who said, 'You should get a hold

of the dealer or the manufacturer and buy directly from them.' So, I did. I also made spring flowers for Jimmy.

Jimmy said after I bought him some bouquets, 'You need a system.' 'A system?' 'Yeah. How much does a coil cost you?' 'I have no idea?' 'Don't you know percentages?' 'Jimmy, I quit school in the seventh grade. I can't tell you one percent of a dollar.' He says, 'Well, that's what it is.' Jimmy taught me a lot. Along the way, between Jimmy and Ray (Goulet), I had a great life. Just unbelievable. When I started, I was manufacturing for Jimmy, and I stood behind the counter and worked for Ray in the magic shop. Great times. Jimmy took me to my first real magic convention—Tannen's. Jimmy really inspired me to manufacture. If it wasn't for Jimmy and Ray, I don't know what would have happened to me and magic. I have no idea."



Pictured: Ann Goulet and Ray Goulet performing as ["The Raymonds"](#)

Ann and Ray Goulet performed magic all over New England and eventually the world. Ann said they performed on 22 trans-Atlantic cruises just with their favorite ship, the S.S. United States. They also worked for the French, Holland American, Italian, and Cunard Lines. "It didn't cost us a dime and we traveled all over Europe," said Ann. Their act changed a lot over the years, but when they were on the cruise ships as The Raymonds, they performed dove productions and vanishes, card manipulations, the Snake Basket, Passe bottles, rope tricks, and several audience-participation effects. They also made sure to meet with magicians and magic collectors during their travels, including the legendary Billy McComb. McComb made his US debut in Boston as a performer at the invitation of Ray and Ann.

"We were very good friends with McComb; great friends," said Ann. "We met him in Europe. Ray recommended him to Herman Hanson for a Magicale or convention, whatever. You know he was a well-known person all over Europe, and then he became well known around here." Alan added that McComb's very popular trick, the McCombical Deck, debuted at that convention. (3)

Dave interrupted Ann's description of their voyages with this anecdote. "It wasn't always luxurious travel and shows. I remember Ray talking about driving up Mount Washington to perform at the Mount Washington Hotel and you got caught in a snowstorm when you were driving home."

Ann was nonplussed. "Yeah, well that happened often. Sure, when you're working in New England that's part of life. The show goes on whether it's snowing or isn't snowing."



Pictured: Ann Goulet



Author: Pat Farenga

Sources

1. Linton was also a manufacturer for Max Holden's Magic Shop.
2. From the post on this page by Craig Atlantismagic.com: "[Maximiliano Londoño] was born in Cali Colombia Feb 15, 1931, and his mother was a seamstress, father was a mechanic. His earliest job was oiling machinery for his father. He learned his first trick from a medicine pitchman which was a change of crumpled paper to money. This was taught to him by the pitchman in exchange for Max's works as a skill. Much of what he learned early on was from the library and there were precious few magic books, so he devoured information regarding related works as well. He was a memory expert (teaching in Bogota eventually), ventriloquist, mentalist, and manipulator. He is credited with the invention of the mouth coil ..." ([link](#))
- 3.—The original instructions with the Haines House of Cards McCombical Deck trick start with this sentence: "This is the exact presentation of the prediction trick which Billy McComb used at Boston to set the Conventioneers rocking on their heels with laughter and amazement."

Remembering Ann Goulet

September 23, 1928—December 16th 2022

Ann Marie Ford was born in Boston on September 23, 1928. Ann was the oldest of eleven children of James E and Anna M (Kinney) Ford. She lived in Watertown her entire life until health issues required her to move into an assisted living in Reading, to be near her sister. However, she always missed her beloved home on Marshall Street that she purchased over 70 years ago with her husband Ray. Ann passed away on Friday evening, December 16, 2022, at the age of 94.

Ann's cousin, Al Manning, introduced Ann to Ray Goulet during her Junior year of high school. They went to the Junior prom together and, as fate would have it, that night turned out to be the beginning of their many years together. They were married in St Patrick's Church on October 12, 1949.

This love allowed them to travel all over the U.S. and Europe. They performed in many venues, including shows on cross-Atlantic trips on the Queen Eliza-

beth. Eventually, they decided to settle down, buying a block of stores on Spring St. in Watertown. For many years, they owned and operated the popular Magic Art Studio and Mini Museum, the latter of which housed their extensive magic collection.

Editor's Note:

While I did not get the chance to meet Ann or Ray in person, I certainly stand on the strong foundation they helped build, and love hearing about them when IBM members share their stories with me.



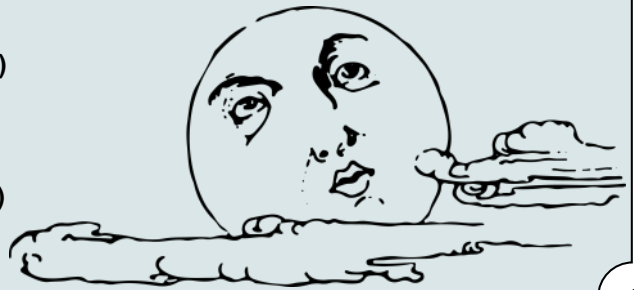


Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 31st at 7:30 PM
on Zoom.

This month's theme is **New Year, New Magic!**
Be sure to bring along anything new in your magic
world—a new trick you've been trying, a new routine
you've been testing out, or any reading from 2022 you can
recommend!

Upcoming Meeting Themes

- February: Lecture, To Be Announced (Zoom)
March: Mentalism (In Person)
April: Book Magic and Favorite Gimmicks (Zoom)
May: Lecture, To be Announced (Zoom)
June: Elections, Group Trick Creation (In Person)
August: Summer BBQ (In Person)



IBM Ring 122
Silent Mora-Ray Goulet



www.ring122.com

Meetings take place the last Tuesday of every month. Meetings are on Zoom and at currently at the Watertown Public Library, 123 Main Street, Watertown, MA

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The Silent Messenger is published every month. The deadline for submissions is the eighth of the month.

Articles, inquiries, and letters can be emailed to the editor, Daniel Barbas at ibm.ring122@gmail.com

