



# THE SILENT MESSENGER

Silent Mora—Ray Goulet  
www.Ring 122.com  
May 2016

## May Meeting

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday, May 25th, 7:30pm**, at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Watertown, 35 Church Street.

### Meeting Event: 8pm



**Joe M. Turner** is a professional speaker, mentalist, and magician based in Atlanta, Georgia, and is currently serving as the International President of I.B.M.

His lecture will include ring and string, card material

for novice and intermediate performers, personal work on the memorized deck, and much more.

#### Admission charge:

\$5.00 for Ring 122 members

\$10.00 for other I.B.M. members

\$20.00 for non-members

Free admission for S.Y.M. members



**June 3rd: Ring 122 show at the Regent Theater, Arlington, MA.** We need stagehands and close-up magicians. Please contact Ryan Lally:

[lallymagic@gmail.com](mailto:lallymagic@gmail.com)



**June 29th:** Lecture by Master Magician **Rafael Benatar**. See page 3 for more information.

## Mixing Business with Pleasure

Ring 122 had a long business meeting to firm up our plans for our June 3 stage show and our schedule for our last two meetings before our summer break. We have two great lectures lined up now: I.B.M. President Joe Turner on May 25 and Rafael Benatar on June 30. Our lecture committee of one—John Sanbonmatsu—has also lined up Pop Haydn for an exclusive lecture at Ring 122 in late August. Stay tuned!

After the business meeting we got into Teach-in mode, where several members demonstrated a trick and then explained its workings to the club. **Debbie O'Carroll** went first. She had several boxes made out of playing cards that resembled origami. Deb tossed one of the boxes into the air and smashed it with her hands, causing a wonderful card explosion. She showed us how you can put a prediction, bill, or another card inside the box and use this as a dramatic reveal. She also noted that you can construct the box using duplicates of a force card for a great ending. Debbie provided us with cards, tools (pens and rulers), and folding instructions. She learned this effect in a Linking Ring issue that she couldn't remember the date of.

**Gil Stubbs** passed out plastic coins, his favorite coins to manipulate, and showed us several different ways to take one coin and split it into 2. **David Oliver** showed him a nice way to use the two coins for a coin penetration with thumb palm. Gil also showed us a color change using a double lift.

**Kevin Butler** did two tricks that involved math and memory. First Kevin writes a prediction. He then asks someone to shuffle a deck of cards and then Kevin quickly memorizes the positions of all the cards in the deck. Kevin asks for a number and an audience member says 19. Kevin counts to the 19<sup>th</sup> card. It's not the card he predicted. He asks another spectator for a number, and he's given 12. The difference between them is 7. Kevin counts to seven and the card matches his prediction. After this Kevin performed a Magic Square from a book by Joshua Jay.

**Pat Farenga** performed a trick by Rafael Benatar, The Favorite Cards of My Friends. He asks two audience members to name their favorite cards. Then Pat gave his own favorite card to a third spectator and asked him to place it in the deck. Pat shows the cards that are above and below this card and they are the audience members' cards. While discussing the trick Doc Rogers noted this appeared in Genii magazine in a special section about Bill Simon's Prophecy move.

**Bill LeBlanc** showed us a freak show—namely photo postcards of sideshow freaks

(Continued on page 2)

**Mixing Business with Pleasure  
(Continued from page 1)**

from the past. One of the cards is not a freak—it's one of Bill's relatives! — and then the cards are shuffled and distributed to the audience. Bill asked Felice Ling to of a necklace and then created a napkin rose out of the streamer necklace. **Bob Filene** was also inspired by Bill Simon's Prophecy move. Bob used a business card to write two card names on a business card and then had a spectator slide the business card anywhere in the deck. The cards above and below the business card are the same ones that Bob wrote on the business card. Bob then did Barry Richardson's synergistic memory prediction.



Debbie O'Carroll showed us how to make a dramatic card box reveal prop with card boxes.



Gil Stubbs revealed how to split one coin into two.



Kevin Butler did two tricks that involved math and memory.



Pat Farenga performed "The Favorite Card of My Friends."



Bill LeBlanc showed us a freak show (actually photo postcards of sideshow freaks from the past).



Bob Filene performed Bill Simon's Prophecy move with business cards.

—Patrick Farenga  
Photos by Bruce Fenton

**Secretary's Report**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by our president, Bruce Fenton. The treasurer's report was accepted by the members. There was no secretary's report.

It was announced that Rafael Benatar will lecture at our June meeting.

Gil Stubbs gave us links to his monthly cable TV show "Gil Stubbs World of Magic". For more information email Gil at [gilstubbs@gmail.com](mailto:gilstubbs@gmail.com).

Bruce Fenton will put together a historic video for our show at The Regent Theatre on June 3rd.

Gil Stubbs announced that he is teaching a magic class at The Wellesley Community Center from May 3rd to May 31st at 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10.

—Debbie O'Carroll



**What's Missing from this Stage?  
Stagehands!**

We need two of them for the June 3<sup>rd</sup> Regent show to ensure a smooth transition between acts. Also, close-up magicians are needed for entertaining in the lobby before the show and during intermission. Contact Ryan Lally if you're available to help. Thanks!

[lallymagic@gmail.com](mailto:lallymagic@gmail.com)



*The Silent Messenger* is published every month except for July and August. Editorial duties rotate each month between Jerry Schiowitz (editor of this issue) and Pat Farenga (editor of next month's issue). The deadline for submissions is the eighth of the month. Articles, inquiries, and letters can be emailed to the editors: Pat: [pfarenga@comcast.net](mailto:pfarenga@comcast.net); Jerry: [annjer@rcn.com](mailto:annjer@rcn.com)

## From the President The Mastery of Time Travel



One of the most fascinating subjects in literature is that of controlling our placement in time. We take great pleasure in skipping through history with Twain, Vonnegut and many others, sometimes through the use of a great machine or magic portal, sometimes it just happens all by itself.

Personally, I have been dabbling in this phenomenon since the mid '60s. Some would say that I got stuck there but nothing could be further from the truth. I have become quite adept at zooming forward in time with astonishing speed. Going backward? Not so much. The reverse function doesn't work so well with current technology. If it did, there would surely be lots of politicians hoarding it for themselves. Forward time travel is extremely difficult to control. Last November, I started raking the lawn. The next thing I know, it's May 6th and I'm still raking, - amazing!

You will experience this for yourself over the next few months where Ring 122 will participate in a mind-boggling series of events. Commencing at our meeting on **May 25th**, we welcome the arrival of the President. Not that one, I'm talking about the esteemed President of the whole I.B.M., **Mr. Joe Turner**, who has prepared an excellent lecture and other surprises for us. Trust me, this event is not to be missed.



You will not have time to catch your breath when **BANG!!** We find ourselves on the stage of the Regent Theatre in Arlington on **June 3rd**, where our compeers will attempt to travel backward, in a magical exploration titled; **100 YEARS of MAGIC**. Someone from the future informed me that this was a fabulous show. Is that crazy or what?



The journey isn't over yet. **WHOOSH!!** It is now **June 29th** and you find yourself back in our regular meeting place, in the presence of **Master Magician Rafael Benatar**. Many of you are still wearing the same clothes. Be sure to use this time to pick his brain, his knowledge will be most useful In the future.



The ride doesn't end here. Blink twice, **KABOOM!** The date is **August 31st** and appearing from out of nowhere is none other than the master of time travel himself, **Pop Haydn!** The future doesn't get any better than this.

*Immediately afterward, you are all welcome to help rake the leaves in my yard.*

You can't stay here and now. The process has been at work since you began reading this. So charge up your flux capacitor and join the adventure ... to infinity and beyond!

—Bruce Fenton

## **Tips, Tricks, and Hints for a Successful Magic Performance** (Based on an Article at GoodTricks.net)

The art of performing magic as an entertainment art is exactly what it says, "*performing*". Therefore it is important that magician have a good repertoire at his or her disposal, and is ready to tackle most situations that may arise. Here are some pointers and ideas on how to structure your act, together with some useful phrases to use, should the opportunity arise. Although some of the content won't be new to experienced magicians, it will serve as a reminder for things forgotten.

### **Practice**

Practice is the only surefire way that you can get your tricks up to a polished standard. It is not so much the difficulty or simplicity of the trick that counts, it is making sure that you are competent in performing it in front of an audience. It is embarrassing to forget a part of the magic trick halfway through, or to mess up the handling. Lots of practice should also enable you to chat away to your audience while performing and (importantly) not have to keep your eyes on the cards or trick, throughout the performance.

### **Structure**

Try to structure your performance by planning your tricks so that one trick leads onto another, either by theme or by some story line that you may be telling. Also, save your strongest and most impressive tricks until the end of your act. This will prevent an anticlimax that would occur if the audience were to view your best tricks before then.

### **Control**

It is important to learn to control everything going on during your performance. Factors include where your audience is positioned, where and when they look, and what they are thinking about. Basically, misdirection is making sure that your audience is sufficiently entertained by your act to stay focused on the magic and not try to figure out how the trick is done. This is not usually a problem as more often than not, the audience is completely oblivious to the actual workings of the trick.

Incorporating misdirection into your act can be done physically with the use of props such as a magic wand or even tossing a coin into the air at the precise moment where you want the audience's focus of attention to be diverted. Even things as subtle as running your fingers through your hair can be enough, as can drawing attention to a member of the audience with a cheeky comment to distract your guests without them realizing this.

"Time misdirection" is another useful sleight in your arsenal. This is where you leave a little time to pass between the actual deception move and the final revelation. A classic example where time misdirection is successfully used is in "The Cross Cut Force", which is one of the simplest but most effective card forces there is.

### **This Wasn't In The Script !**

There are times that things will not go exactly as planned. This is a fact of life, and a successful act will depend on the magician having some fast patter at hand, to make light of any problems in the performance. This patter can often win over an audience who is usually quite forgiving, realizing that even magicians are human. Here are a few lines to use in your magic act when things don't go exactly as planned:

"Ladies and gentlemen, when I arrived here tonight, I received a special request. However, I'm going to perform anyway"

"It's so quiet in here, you could hear a career drop"

"Gee, that's weird, it worked perfectly in the magic store"

"That's the first time that ever happened again"

"It doesn't look as bad from my side"