Calling Harry Lorayne a living legend is a given, but seeing the 91-year-old mnemonist and master of card magic perform, reminisce, and entertain us mightily and easily for 2-plus hours was a great experience.

Lorayne started his lecture with performances and explanations of some of his signature effects and sleights, such as the Halo cut and force, the Halo Aces, Numero Uno, and so on. He peppered his magic with technical insights (“The injog shuffle covers a multitude of sins”) and many funny and sometimes emotional stories about his life.

Next meeting: May 31. Biz meeting @ 7 pm (all welcome). General meeting @ 7:30 pm focusing on Walk-Around Magic.
He came prepared with a list of things he wanted to show us, but as he associated one thought with the next he took us to places and tricks that weren’t on his list and no one cared. Lorayne has forgotten more than most of us know about card magic and his deep knowledge was displayed throughout the night.

His discussion of outs was excellent and he later used an out when something went wrong during a card trick and it was a perfect example. His discussion of the value of acting for magicians led to some good stories about his friendship with Anne Bancroft and Mel Brooks. He showed us how he gets away with holding big breaks and said he coined the term “time misdirection” while offering some good insights about the concept. He said, “At my age modesty is becoming a drag.”

Then he went on to show us several gambling effects, ending with his story trick “Big Drinker and Little Guy.”

Ring 122 presented Harry with a birthday cake and we all marveled at his sharp mind, quick wit, and magic chops while we shared it with him. Get Harry to your next meeting while you can!

—Pat Farenga
The President’s Letter

Seems Like Yesterday

Where does the time go?

Didn't we just take our bows on the Regent stage? Is Pop Haydn still here? Why am I still repairing this car? The speed at which the year has gone by is mind-boggling. It just proves the old saying: “Time flies like the wind—and fruit flies like bananas.” We certainly did manage to pack a lot of things into a single year. We enjoyed some great lectures, learned new things, and had some fun along the way. I hope you enjoyed it at least half as much as I did.

So, here we are again, preparing for another SPRING BENEFIT SHOW at the Wellesley Community Center on May 20th. We have a great lineup of performers who have a fabulous afternoon of family entertainment in store. Be sure to pass the word to your friends and neighbors. We want to fill the house on behalf of a very worthy cause.

We are beginning to see momentum in attracting new members and bringing back some of the old ones. I'm looking forward to the results of our survey. It is always good to stay in touch and gather feedback as to what we can do better.

—Bruce Fenton

Business Meeting Topics (Business meeting at 7 PM; Regular meeting at 7:30)

• Results of the survey regarding a change of the meeting night to the last TUESDAY of the month.
• Report on the outcome of the magic show in Wellesley.
• Planning for our initiation ceremony.
• Vote on the viability of another 6-month subscription to Meetup.com (cost: $60).
• Nomination of Officers for the 2017–2018 season.
• Then we move on to the theme for the evening—WALK-AROUND MAGIC. Close-up without a table, working out of the pockets. Share your favorite routines.
• NOTE: Don't forget the SHOW AND TELL segment that we still endeavor to get off the ground. One volunteer shares anything related to magic for 10 minutes before the business meeting. It could be anything, a book, show or DVD review, a
performance of something you are working on for critique, or just a good story. Entertain us. We are insatiable.

The Secretary’s Report

The business meeting was suspended due to Harry Lorayne's lecture.
2017 Ring 122 Meeting Schedule

June 28: Member teach-in. Teach a trick to the Ring; contact Pat to be listed.

The May 31 meeting starts at 7:30 for members to share performances, thoughts, and ideas (show and tell) before the meeting’s topic, Walk-around Magic, is addressed. Please contribute something at the next meeting.

IBM RING 122, Silent Mora–Ray Goulet

Website: http://www.ring122.com

Meetings take place the last Wednesday of every month at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Watertown, 35 Church Street.

Ring 122 Officers for 2016

President: Bruce Fenton, galahad37@hotmail.com
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2nd Vice President: John Sanbonmatsu, js@wpi.edu
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Board of Governors: Alan Wassilak, Pat Farenga, and Jerry Schiowitz.

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The deadline for submissions is the eighth of the month. Articles, inquiries, and letters can be emailed to the editor:

• Pat: pfarenga@comcast.net