



Silent Mora
Ring 122
Oct. 2012

THE SILENT MESSENGER

Upcoming Events

**October 23rd:
Keith Fields Lecture
at Ring 122**



This isn't just a lecture ... it's a magical event!

Probably the funniest lecture you will ever see. The best comedy magician from the UK, and a regular columnist for *Vanish* magazine.

Lecture is at 8pm. \$5 for Ring 122 members, \$10 for other IBM members, \$20 for guest magicians.

See page 6 for more events!

David Stone: Fast, Visual, and Surprising



When we returned after our summer break the French magician David Stone treated us to a dynamic lecture on Sept. 18.

Before Stone lectured he said that everything he did before an audience was scripted and, despite what appeared to a loosey-goosey performing style with many off-the-cuff remarks and "mistakes," by the end of the evening he proved it to us.

From his opening production of coins and cards to his final explanation of his balloon swallowing and reproduction routine

Stone displayed a keen eye for visual magic and a willingness to share his talent and ideas. For instance, he showed us the work on all the coin sleights he used, and the tips for producing coins using the thumb palm and back thumb palm were very useful.

He shared how to create a clever holdout using a magnetic clip from Office Depot and a lighter. Bring the lighter out to ignite flash paper and voila! The coins are in your palm. He showed us how to use Goshman's deck steal from the shoulder, Marlo's snap change, a card control, how to do Pat Page's production of a glass of liquid as you remove your jacket, and he tipped the working of all the effects he showed and sold. Stone's Misdirection Deck is a stunning card opener; his bottle production is surprising and efficient.

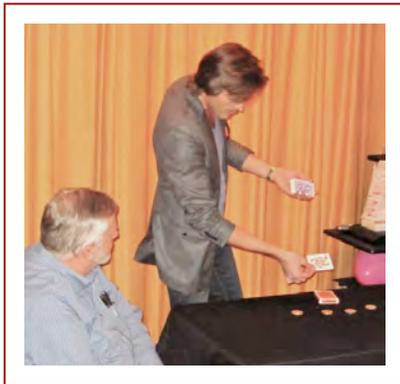
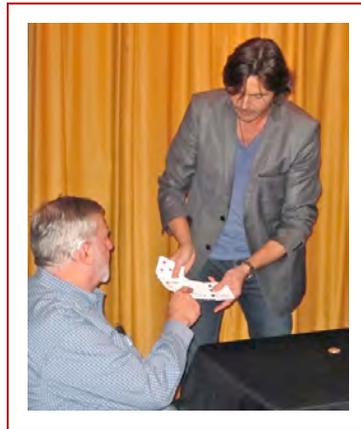
Finding a torn and vanished card in Jim Rainho's cell phone battery case was pretty neat and the method slick. The second half of Stone's lecture was built around his DVD and gimmick The Tool; he showed us several strong and

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(David Stone: Fast, Visual, and Surprising, continued from page 1)

different tricks that used the Tool gimmick. After some sight gags with a set of false teeth and the water he produced from his sleeve earlier, he entertained us with fire wallet ideas, a color changing spot, and an amazing performance and explanation of balloon swallowing. The unconventional method Stone devised to reproduce the balloon is worth seeing just for the laughs you'll have when he reveals the method.

David Stone's magic is fast, visual, and quite surprising. The same is true for his speech; his remarks were more "blue" than we've heard from lecturers. Nonetheless, David Stone runs a tight show that is well worth seeing and learning from.



—Pat Farenga

Photos by Jerry Schiowitz and Gil Stubbs

Secretary's Report



The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by our president, Andrew Inglis. The treasurer's and secretary's reports were accepted by the members. We held a first reading for Matias Letelier and he was welcomed as a provisional member of Ring 122.

Our president, Andrew, announced that a \$35.00 gift certificate for The Magic Arts Studio would be raffled at meetings when we have no lecturer.

Ray Goulet asked Debbie O'Carroll to contact *The Linking Ring* to find out why our Ring was not listed with the other Massachusetts Rings. David Phillips reported on the progress of the Ring 122 website. Kevin Butler, our refreshments chair, brought a sign-up sheet for volunteers.

Andrew Inglis asked members to volunteer for the pool of performers who will be chosen randomly to be critiqued each month before our business meeting. Rupayan Neogy was picked to present a performance for assessment by the club at our October meeting at 7 pm.

Pat Farenga said that our Halloween Magic Show will be presented at Grace Episcopal Church in Medford on October 27th at 4pm. The SAMCON Convention will be held at The Marriott in Peabody on November 3rd.

— Debbie O'Carroll

IBM Ring 122, Silent Mora

Website: <http://ibmring122.000space.com/index.html>
Meetings take place the last Tuesday of every month at Ray Goulet's Magic Art Studio, 137 Spring Street, Watertown, MA, 617-926-3949.

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President's Message



Our September meeting treated us to an excellent and provocative lecture by David Stone, who has burst on the international scene, especially in the last ten years, with some excellent performances of close-up and several very creative and successful books, DVDs and marketed effects.

Unfortunately, in my opinion, David included in his otherwise fine presentation a fair number of inappropriate comments, gestures, and anecdotes of a sexual nature, some of them misogynistic and homophobic. Call me a fuddy-duddy, but I believe that comments such as he made are not entertaining and are completely unnecessary in a magic lecture. If I go to see a magician in a comedy club, I expect to see such behavior, but not in Watertown when I am hoping to learn and to go home inspired.

Permit me to get down off my high horse, and now I will report that thirteen Ring 122ers put their names into our 7pm Performance Pool. The first name drawn was Rupayan Neogy. He will perform a routine for us at our meeting of October 23, beginning at 7pm, and we will have an opportunity to comment on his performance. Come early. Rupayan is always fun to watch. Don't hesitate to see me to add your name to the Pool.

Also, look for PLP (Past Local President) Jim Canaday at our October Meeting.

I hope to see you there. Don't forget to put on that name tag.

Best Regards,

Andrew

The Silent Messenger is published every month except for July and August. Editorial duties rotate each month between Jerry Schiowitz (October editor) and Pat Farenga (November editor). Articles, inquiries, and letters can be e-mailed to the editors:

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The Magician and the Mortician

By Patrick Farenga

I'm the first male Farenga not to go into the family funeral business since the 1930s; when I became a fulltime writer and editor that caused some tension in my family. However, my father did me one better when he was in his sixties and he decided to retire from the funeral business and pursue a career as a lounge singer.



The Magician and the Mortician, 1970

He has had a successful run as a singer, including singing in clubs and lounges in New York, Atlantic City, Las Vegas, in a Lifetime movie and an NBC television show. Now that he's 82 Dad doesn't perform as much but when he gets an idea for a show he gets energized, and that's what happened when he dreamed up *The Magician and the Mortician*. He got so enthusiastic he booked us at a restaurant in Eastchester NY where we performed on Sept. 14 to more than 60 people.



Pat Farenga Sr., mortician, "knocked them dead" with songs!

The show was a great exercise for me as a magician because of everything that went wrong. I prepared a club act to be performed on the floor with no one behind me. I spent a considerable amount of effort working up my opening (*Miser's Dream*) and closing (*Dancing Hanky*) routines set to songs by Louis Prima and I was excited to perform them. But when I arrived in New York I learned I would perform surrounded!

Dad relied on the restaurant to "do things right", and when I arrived from Boston at 6PM to set up for the 8:30 show, the restaurant would not change their seating arrangement. I

worked things out with the DJ, who set up directly behind me and promised to keep my secrets, but I had to think of new angles and movements to do most of my act since I had people seated behind me to the left and right.

Then a video guy showed up to tape the show and his big camera and light couldn't fit into the area without blocking diners' views, so the camera and light were three feet from me the whole time I performed. This meant, at the last minute, I had to ditch my closer, the *Dancing Hanky*, and turn my table and act to hide my most exposed side.

My opener worked well, but the next effect, a version of Joe Carson's *Egg and Mat* routine, was exposed to the two tables behind and to the left of me. It was either expose it to them or to the entire right side of the audience! I winked and smiled at them often, letting them "in on the joke" as my way to buy their silence and compliance while the rest of the audience wondered how I made things vanish behind the mat. Fortunately my next three tricks—a mid-air card stab, a thumb tie, and the revelation of a prediction I mailed to a judge in attendance a week earlier—worked well surrounded.

I decided to improvise some concluding comments at that point and ditch my *Dancing Hanky* since the people, the light, and the camera were all way too close to do it well. So I spoke warmly about my Dad, introduced him, and he charmed the crowd with his crooning. It was a fun, lovely night in hindsight, though at the time I was a bundle of nerves.



That show taught me that I must speak directly with the manager of the venue before I perform there in order to assure I have the best possible performing space for my act. The restaurant has a weekly walkaround magic performer so perhaps they thought I would be doing the same, though it was pretty clear Dad and I were doing a club act. I also learned that I can hide my frustrations from the audience and put on an entertaining magic show no matter how many obstacles arise, and that is a valuable lesson I think I can only learn from experience.

The Crafty Conjurer

Instant Twentieth Century Bandanas

by Debbie O'Carroll

Bandanas with pictures of animals and objects are all the rage (Photo A). Find them in any craft or department store and quickly put together a fantastic Twentieth Century Silk Routine at a past century's price.

These illustrative bandanas can also be used to tell an interesting story to accompany your routine. I needed a monster trick for my Halloween show, so I purchased two bandanas with monkeys and two bandanas with skulls (Photo B).

I enhanced the magic with a King Kong story. The monkeys represent King Kong and the skulls are imagined to be Skull Island, his home. Most of you know the working of the classic Twentieth Century Silk effect. My explanation of how to construct the trick will make it evident.

Materials

- Two pairs of bandanas. Make sure that the border of one pair matches the border or background color of the other pair.
- A change bag or other vanishing device.

How to Make the Effect

Tie one corner of a monkey's bandana to one corner of a skull's bandana. (Photo C)

Roll the monkey's bandana diagonally into a tube, and fold the tube in half (Photo D). The corner end of the monkey's bandana covers the knot (Photo E).

Hide the monkey's bandana tube by covering it with the two sides of the skull's bandana.

Performance

Tie one corner of the ungimmicked skull's bandana to the skull's bandana that holds the concealed monkeys. You will actually be tying the corner of the rolled-up monkey's bandana that is hidden in the skull's bandana to the ungimmicked skull's bandana. Vanish the other monkey's bandana by your favorite method.

Where did the monkeys go? Pull the skulls bandanas apart. The monkey's bandana has reappeared and is tied between the skulls (Photo F)!



Photo A



Photo B



Photo C



Photo D



Photo E



Photo F

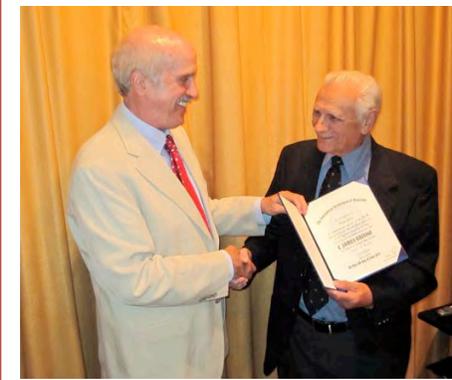
Magic Between the Drops

Gil Stubbs volunteered to do a magic show at a block party on September 8th, at the end of his street in Wellesley.



His neighbors arrived between showers that day, until a drenching thunder shower put an end to his show after two hours. Between showers, Gil was able to squeeze in 26 tricks with cards, coins, silks and ropes, culminating in “baking” chocolate chip cookies in a dove pan and then tearing up and restoring the Boston Globe in the rain.

Jim Rainho Honored



At the September Ring 122 meeting, President Andrew Inglis presented Jim Rainho with the IBM Order of Merlin – Excelsior, for 60 years of uninterrupted membership in IBM. Jim joins Ray Goulet in having been awarded this honor.

Upcoming Events

Oct. 19th, 8pm: Nelson Illusions. Stadium Theatre in Woonsocket, RI. Tickets \$21, \$26, \$31 & \$36. Box office: 4501-762-4545, www.stadiumtheatre.com

Oct. 19th: The Salem Haunted Magic Show with Chris Bolter. Free show for any member of a magic organization at 5:30 at the Hawthorne Hotel in Salem Massachusetts. The show is geared for ages 13 and up. Runs from the Oct. 19-31st. Go to www.thesalemmagicshow.com for more information.

Oct. 23rd, 8pm: Ring 122 lecture by Keith Fields. Fields has performed and presented all over the world, mostly as a standup magician/comedian. He grew up in England, but lives in Michigan with his wife and children. \$5 for Ring 122 members, \$10 for other IBM members, \$20 for guest magicians. www.KeithFields.com

October 27th, 4pm: Halloween Magic Spectacular, presented by IBM Ring 122. Grace Episcopel Church, 160 High St., Medford, MA. Reservations/information: (781) 526-4376, or fennways@comcast.net. Tickets: \$10 individual, \$25 family.

November 3rd: SAMCON. Peabody Marriott, Peabody, MA. More information: samcon@sam104.com

November 7th, 7pm: Bob Solari Lecture, Don Beebe’s Barn, Norwich, CT. Tickets \$20. More information: Joe Spinnato, www.magicsam63.com .

November 10th, 8pm: SAM Assembly 16 Theater Magic Show. Tickets: \$10. More information: Dennis Pimenta, (508) 883-3575

Ongoing Magic: The Mystery Lounge, every Tuesday at 8:00 PM at the Comedy Studio, located on the 3rd floor of the Hong Kong restaurant in Harvard Square, Cambridge, MA. Performers and information: www.mysterylounge.com.

