

The Silent Messenger

November 2023

Ring 122 October Ring Report

After pleasantries were exchanged, and we wished David a safe trip to Turkey for a wedding, we attended to the business items.



In an attempt to end our nomadic nature, we have secured a space at the Medford Library through January. We hope that this venue works out so that we can establish it as our new home. In order to secure an available space, we have decided to move our meetings from Tuesdays to the last Monday of the month. Additionally, we need to be out of the venue at 9PM so we are currently moving the meetings to 7PM and may need to move them earlier after we get a feel for things. Our next meeting is November 27th at 7PM.



We are looking to host another Spring show after the success of this year's show. We have managed to secure the same venue for this year and are planning on a date around Belmont day again.

Our December meeting last year was held at [City Works in Watertown](#) and we decided to continue that tradition. This will be a more informal meeting where we just have some food, drinks, and magic at the table with friends. We hope to see you there!

The SAM 9 magic show was a success. A big thanks to those who assisted, attended, and per-

formed (David Penn, Pat Farenga, Mike Lee, Rob Kinslow, Alan Wassilak, Daniel Barbas)!

Finally, David asked for some advice on handling a rabbit for a show. Both Dan Bybell and Barbas did some quick research before the group brainstormed some ideas and wished David luck. Hopefully he keeps a recording of that show to share!



Onto our Halloween themed Tricks!

David showed off his haunted mystery bag which holds much more than you would think. There were chains, bats, a severed hand, and finishing off with an entire sword!

Rob presented a head scratcher—a packet trick where the red king is found as an



imposter amongst the others. His punishment? Off with his head!

(Continued on page 2)



Pat Farenga showed off the most ambitious trick of the night, which he calls "How the Internet Works." Truly a clever illustration of how the internet works in truly strange ways, and it's wireless!

And for the last trick of the night, Daniel Barbas showed off a haunted doll that can detect nearby spirits. It apparently does so by performing a stand-up routine.

Thus concluded our October meeting.

(In attendance: , Daniel Barbas, Dan Bybell, Pat Farenga, Rob Kinslow, Mike Lee, David Penn)



Final Notice!

Your 2023-2024 Dues are Due!

It's that time of year again! Dues are due. Dues pay our Zoom bill, the magician who lecture, and other expenses to maintain our club.

It's still a bargain at only \$35 for electronic delivery of the Silent Messenger, \$45 if you desire snail mail delivery. For your convenience, there are multiple ways to pay:

By Check: made payable to IBM Ring 122, to:
Daryl Vanderburgh, 31 Stonebridge Rd, Wayland, MA 01778

Electronically via Venmo or PayPal to dvanderburgh8@gmail.com.

Please include the description: **IBM Ring 122** dues in your payment memo. Thank you!

- Daryl

**Our next meeting is Monday, November 27th
at 7 PM at the
Medford Public Library,
2nd Floor (in the Auditorium)
and on Zoom**

The Library is our new meeting place, and our meetings have now changed to Mondays in order to secure the space.





President's Report

Dollar Store Magic

This month's theme is "Dollar Store Magic/Magic on the Cheap." I chose this theme because it fits with our yearly theme of learning how to be more creative and original with our magic routines. I get all sorts of ideas when I walk the aisles of dollar stores. Items that I can buy two of to make disappear and then reappear, silly items that can turn up and elicit a laugh, items to wear as a costume (for me or my volunteer), fake flowers, unusual lights, cheap cards to rip up, the list is almost endless. But most of all, I enjoy the ideas that pop into my brain from all the stimulation by the variety of objects I see. Dollar stores help me to think and be creative.

According to the website, SkillsYouNeed.com, "the need for creative thinking arises because our brains naturally tend to fall into certain 'short cuts'. Once we have a piece of information, we tend to use it again: that's how we learn." But that systematic thinking is the opposite of creative thinking. Disorder enhances the creative process, so when we apply routines in our lives and figure out short cuts to make our lives easier, the creative mind is curtailed. Interestingly, we call our magic act a routine but thinking routinely is not the way to be original.

Here are some thoughts on how to think more creatively.

1. What would happen if I change (the object/the patten/ the outcome/ the expectation for an effect I already own)?
2. What could I change or improve about an older effect to make it fit today's culture?
3. What could I do to add music, or motion, or a sound effect to enhance an effect I own?
4. If I was dreaming about a certain effect, what would the presentation look like? How would it be more fantastic, and then how could I make that come true?

Most of us don't set aside time to think creatively. I think abstractly whenever I'm driving (sometimes leading to missed exits and turns), and when playing or listening to music. I also like to daydream when running. Sometimes these daydreams lead to solutions to problems but most often they just keep my mind occupied while I'm working out, leading me to feel very relaxed after a run.

Talking to others and bouncing ideas off of them leads to processing my ideas or finding out that the idea is already done by another magician. Nothing beats talking things out with other magi which is why I'm very excited about getting together in person for our November meeting!

PS: Here's a clip of magician [Rick Holcombe on creativity with coins](#).



**IBM Ring 122 President
David Penn**

Upcoming Meeting Themes

The lecture themes this year are on designing original and creative routines – the thought process and development of ideas. I have asked Tony Cabral, Evan Northrup, and Joel Acevedo if they could offer lectures this year, with Felice Ling as a possibility if she is available. All are talented performers at the Boston Magic Lab and wonderful creative thinkers!

November: Dollar Store Magic/
Magic on the Cheap

April: Magic you purchased but never
performed before!

December: Holiday Dinner Meeting
@ [City Works](#) Pour House (7PM EST
12/18)

May: Election nominations/Joel
Acevedo (to be confirmed)

January: New Year/New Magic

June: Elections/Present an Original
Effect

February: Money Magic Effects

July: No Meeting

March: Evan Northrup

August: Summer BBQ/Show/Magic
Auction

Our next meeting is **Monday, November 27th at 7 PM** at the
[Medford Public Library](#),
2nd Floor (in the Auditorium)
and on Zoom



IBM Ring 122 Silent Mora-Ray Goulet



www.ring122.com

Meetings take place the last Tuesday of every month. Meetings are on Zoom temporarily.

President: David Penn, penn.d@comcast.net

1st Vice President: Pat Farenga pfarenga@comcast.net

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

Treasurer: Daryl Vanderburgh, dvanderburgh8@gmail.com

Secretary: Open

Sergeant-at-arms: Kevin Butler kevibutler1@gmail.com

Board of Governors: Mikey Lee, Rob Kinslow, and Ryan Lally

Editor: Daniel Barbas ibm.ring122@gmail.com

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

Articles, corrections, inquiries, and letters can be emailed to the editor, Daniel Barbas at

ibm.ring122@gmail.com