

The Silent Messenger

May 2024

Ring 122 April Ring Report

We began our meeting with an overview of our April show, which was impressively organized by Mike Lee and well attended! A tidy profit was made, and a rollicking fun time was had by attendees and performers alike. A brief discussion ensued with notes, and a potential review session will be set up at a future date for notes.

This led to a bit of sad bit of news, as Dan Bybell had been in hospital and missed the show. With a "show must go on" attitude, he managed to join our meeting from his hospital room. We were glad to see him in good spirits and to hear he was performing magic for the doctors. We all wish him the best.

Our discussion pivoted to Felice Ling's upcoming lecture, and the possibility of meeting at [Snappy Patty's](#) before the meeting. That possibility collapsed into certainty, and the plan is to meet there at 5:15.

A decision was made to reach out to Jerry Schiowitz's family for a Broken Wand ceremony. Mike Lee will be in contact with them.

Dan Bybell brought to our attention the need to book our upcoming meetings soon. He will be emailing some others in the club on the next request so that we can document how to request rooms going forward.

Our last meeting item was the upcoming election nominations for the next meeting. The consensus is that we need to discuss some new voting methods to adapt to the changing needs of our club, especially regarding club bylaws that are no longer feasible or outdated. Bob Filene also mentioned a breakdown of each role's responsibilities for clarity, which was informally

agreed upon. Pat Farenga was volunteered (sorry Pat!) to reach out and solicit nominations and ask about those interested in returning to their roles.

Onto this month's theme - Magic you purchased but have not yet used. Bob Filene started us off with a seldom seen second half to the Crazy Man's Handcuffs - the Crazy Man putting his handcuffs back on, relinking the rubber bands and showing how crazy he truly is.

The Rogue didn't have any particular item that fit the theme, so he used the time to talk about an effect he was working on and ask for thoughts.

David Penn had a laundry list of items he hopes to get to! My scroll had enough room for the following - a unnecessarily large Clippo the Clown; some Pyro Powder from Ickle Pickle; Houdini's Diary; an Okito box; a PK ring; some Coin Shells possibly from Ray Goulet; linking rings by the very same; and some hopes to perform coins across and Miser's Dream.

Dan Bybell was our grand finale, and he did so with flair in his hospital gown. After a grand introduction by our president, Dan performed a rope effect (likely from a Karl Fulves' book) that was a nice pairing to Bob's earlier trick. He also showed off a corking clever way to win a bar bet. Ask him about it, just don't bet money on it!

Thus concluded our April meeting.



AbracaDemocracy!

Hear ye, hear ye!

Our club elections are near, and this month's meeting will cover nominations. If you are interested in any of Executive board positions, email [Pat Farenga](mailto:Pat.Farenga).

The Executive Positions available are:

President

Vice President

Second Vice President

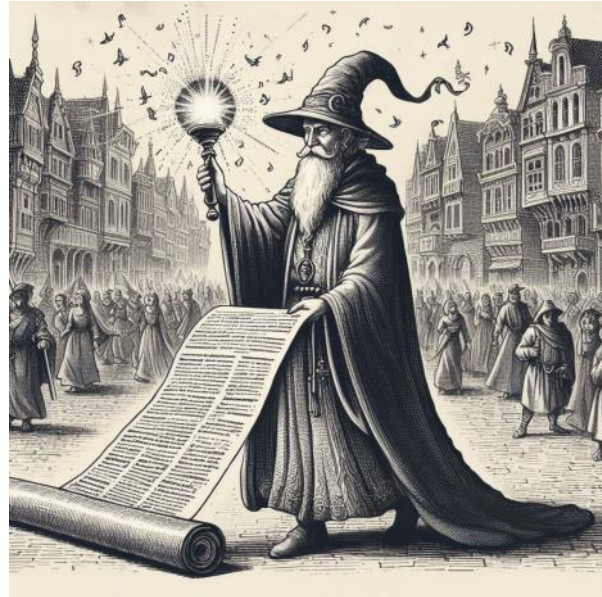
Treasurer

Editor

Secretary

Board of Governors

We will also be discussing how our voting procedures going forward in order to adapt to our new hybrid meeting format. Board roles and responsibilities will also be reviewed and listed for clarity.



Don't miss this month's meeting, with special guest lecturer and IBM alumnus

Felice Ling!

Monday, May 20th @ 7PM

6PM Dinner at Snappy Patty's beforehand



President's Report

Magic with Integrity

My goal is to perform with magical integrity, which one definition I am adapting slightly means to perform with a “sincerity of heart and intention.”

I realized recently, while performing a magic show for a group of seven-year-olds, that it is vitally important to have magical integrity; to really believe in my magic as I present it.

Maybe this seems obvious, but at this last show a dog kept wandering into my stage area, guests arrived late and chairs had to be found, a wind gust threatened to tip over a small table I was using, the birthday boy and his friends ran up to see if they could figure out the effect, etc. There were many distractions competing for my attention and threatening my magical integrity. Still, I tried to remain magically present in my performance. It's more than just selling the effect - when I'm not “all in” presenting an effect with magical integrity, then I find neither is my audience. The magical illusion slips, and so does my performance. Sometimes this can be corrected with additional practice and rehearsal, but sometimes even well practiced effects can miss when not performed with magical integrity and without “sincerity of heart and intention.”

I was dealing with a tough crowd of seven-year-olds at this recent birthday party – every time I brought out an effect, someone would shout that they had “seen this one before.” Yeah, that kind of crowd. As we know, the show must go on, and it did. Afterwards, and with a tip in hand from the dad for handling the very boisterous crowd, I thought about the word integrity as it pertains to magic. Performing with “sincerity of heart and intention.” Am I always performing with magical integrity?

Without the sincerity of heart, our audience will not follow where the magic needs to go; without the magician believing in the effect with all their heart, the audience will not believe it either. As magicians, we practice a very specific set of movements and matching patter to our effects, but that's not enough to elicit the audience response we seek. It's that extra sense of belief, of magical integrity, that makes it all work right.

One performer that I feel exemplifies this approach is our lecturer this month, Felice Ling. Truly a complete magician performing with magical integrity! Come to see her in person or via Zoom and you will see what I mean! And join us for a pre-lecture dinner at Snappy Patty's in Medford, just down the street away from the Medford Library, at about 5:15-5:30pm.

On a separate note, please join me in prayers for Ring 122 member Dan Bybell who is presently undergoing a challenging health situation. Our thoughts and prayers are with him and his family.



**IBM Ring 122 President
David Penn**



Our very best wishes, thoughts, prayers, positive energy, and whatever else is up our sleeves to **Dan Bybell** who is currently in the hospital.

If you would like to reach out to him or send a card, please email ibm.ring122@gmail.com if you do not have Dan's contact information and we will get you in touch.

We hear that his daughter was able to arrange a video message from Penn and Teller, and now Dan is now an informal resident magician after the staff found out how well connected he is! To the right is an AI composite image of his recent performances on site.



Upcoming Meeting Themes

June: Elections/Present an Original Effect **August:** Summer BBQ/Show/Magic Auction

July: No Meeting

Our next meeting is **Monday, May 20th at 7 PM on Zoom and at the library!**

We will have election nominations followed by our lecturer—Felice Ling!



IBM Ring 122
Silent Mora-Ray Goulet



www.ring122.com

Meetings take place the last Monday of every month. Meetings are in Person and on Zoom.

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