

# FLEMING FLASHPAPER

August 2017

CARYL FLEMING IBM RING 21 NORTH HOLLYWOOD CALIFORNIA  
Celebrating the enjoyment and camaraderie of magic since 1938!

## DON'T MISS OUT: WHAT'S COMING UP!

THURSDAY AUGUST 3<sup>RD</sup> : NEXT MEETING – BIRTHDAY MAGIC

Come prepared to perform birthday magic. This could be magic with a birthday theme or magic you would perform at any birthday event.

AUGUST 27<sup>TH</sup>: OUR VERY OWN... BOB THOMAS!

Bob Thomas will be appearing at Flappers on August 27. Please go see him and support our club member!!

HELP US BY SIGNING UP ON MEETUP:

Here are the instructions:

First you need to get into your google play store search for Meet up. Download the free app. Follow the steps. Confirm your location (BTW, you can change that at any time after you've signed up). You need to pick at least one of the meet up groups listed and enter your e-mail to be contacted about upcoming meet ups. You will be asked for a photo of yourself (this was sort of dd) but I did it

and after that you should be a member and can search any and all types of groups

RING 21 CLUB MEETING:

First Thursday of the month

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday August 3<sup>rd</sup>  
7:15 pm

Providence St Elizabeth  
10425 Magnolia Blvd  
North Hollywood, CA

We are on twitter!  
[@ibmring21](https://twitter.com/ibmring21)

And the internet:  
[www.ibmring21.org](http://www.ibmring21.org)



# PATRIOTIC MAGIC!

The July 4th week meant that Ring 21—even though most people had already gobbled up their fried chicken and had their ears blasted with fireworks—could do a somewhat traditional patriotic celebration. This pretty much means some magic that (one way or another) involves some red, white and blue or perhaps some historical aspect of our country.

There were some announcements: Gerry Schiller doing the Castle brunch shows in July, elections coming up for ring offices, and our yearly banquet set for October. We also had some guests from other rings visiting who were considering joining Ring 21 due to our new, convenient location in North Hollywood:



Jeanna Crawford and David Contalessa



Alex Acosta (Left center)



Lex Schwartz (Middle front)

Then our raffle gave five lucky members a trick to take home, and, hopefully, learn.



Bob Thomas did our first “patriotic” trick, called “The Final Answer” which is an improved version of Mental Epic. (There is no force!). Instead of the traditional flag, he had volunteers suggest other colors for a flag which he wrote on a blackboard.

When he removed a panel above the choices, sure enough there they were, predicted by Bob before the choices were made.

The trick has been donated to Ring 21 and we will be auctioning it off at the October banquet.



Karl Johnson had a stick with a stack of poker chips—all white except for one blue one. When he covered it with a patriotic tube, he was able to make the blue chip change to any position we requested.



David Contalessa had some classic American half dollars and proceeded to do an amazing routine with the coins and an Okito coin box, cleverly getting the coins to pass through the box—one at a time.



Gerry Schiller closed the evening's formal magic with playing cards and each had the image of a US President. He did both a trick where the chosen card appeared at the same number as the cents in his coin purse, as well as an effect where the one circled on a collage of the cards appeared in a covered frame.

Then, in keeping with some more tradition, we had our "ice cream holiday social." There was lots of ice cream, and lots of toppings to add to the sweetness.

The rest of the evening involved a good deal of informal magic—that wasn't so much a celebration of July 4th but a chance for several performers to try out some close up magic they were working on.



Alex Acosta did his wonderful complete strolling magic set in preparation for an upcoming competition. We wish him the best!



Lex did a couple very good card tricks.

**The Greats of Magic**  
**A Series of Capsule Biographies of Famous Magicians**  
By Gerald Schiller



**Adelaide Herrmann**

Though often relegated to a mere footnote in magic history, Adelaide Herrmann was—in many ways—the equal of her famous husband Alexander and his nephew, Leon.

Born Adelaide Scarcez in 1854, she became a popular dancer in her youth. At the age of twenty, she met the dashing German magician, 31-year old Alexander Herrmann, who had learned conjuring skills from his brother Compars and dubbed himself “The Great Herrmann.”

Adelaide and Alex soon married and she quickly became part of his act. Among the many illusions she was adept at were: emerging from flames, having her head chopped off, floating in the air, and vanishing through a mirror.

Their act was very popular and highly successful and the Herrmanns became extremely wealthy, often earning over a hundred thousand dollars a year (equal to more than ten times that in today’s money!)

In 1896 Alex Herrmann suddenly died. Adelaide was shattered, but felt that his legacy had to continue—especially with many bookings still to fulfill. At first she formed a partnership with Leon Herrmann, nephew of Alex, but this soon broke up.

Then she enlisted the services of William Robinson (who had worked for her husband and soon would appear on his own as Oriental magician Chung Ling Soo). Soon they opened a magical musical production in New York, called “A Night in Japan.” The show was highly successful and soon was touring Europe to great acclaim.

Adelaide Herrmann insisted on extremely lavish settings, props and costumes and her illusions were amazing and highly complex. In “Noah’s Ark” a large cupboard was shown empty, then filled with water, and soon began to move about the stage. In moments it produced a menagerie of animals of every kind and ultimately a young lady.

In “The Haunted Artist,” she painted the portrait of a woman on a canvas and soon a real woman emerged, and ultimately returned back into the picture.

She performed a levitation, and, for a time, even staged the dangerous “bullet catching effect,” which her husband had frequently used in his act.

Adelaide Herrmann toured her shows for 19 years and later set up a smaller show in New York’s Coney Island, calling it The Mystery Palace.

Often referred to as The Queen of Magic, she continued performing until the age of 75. She died in 1932 at the age of 78—quite possibly the very first woman magician to headline a major magic show until that time, and acknowledged by all who saw her as a truly outstanding performer.

# MAGIC TRICK OF THE MONTH!

If you would like to share a magic trick, please email it to the editor at [karl.johnson@gwcmi.com](mailto:karl.johnson@gwcmi.com)  
If you share a magic trick in the Newsletter, we ask that you come perform it or arrange for someone to perform it at the next meeting

## MISMADE BIRTHDAY CARD

By Karl Johnson

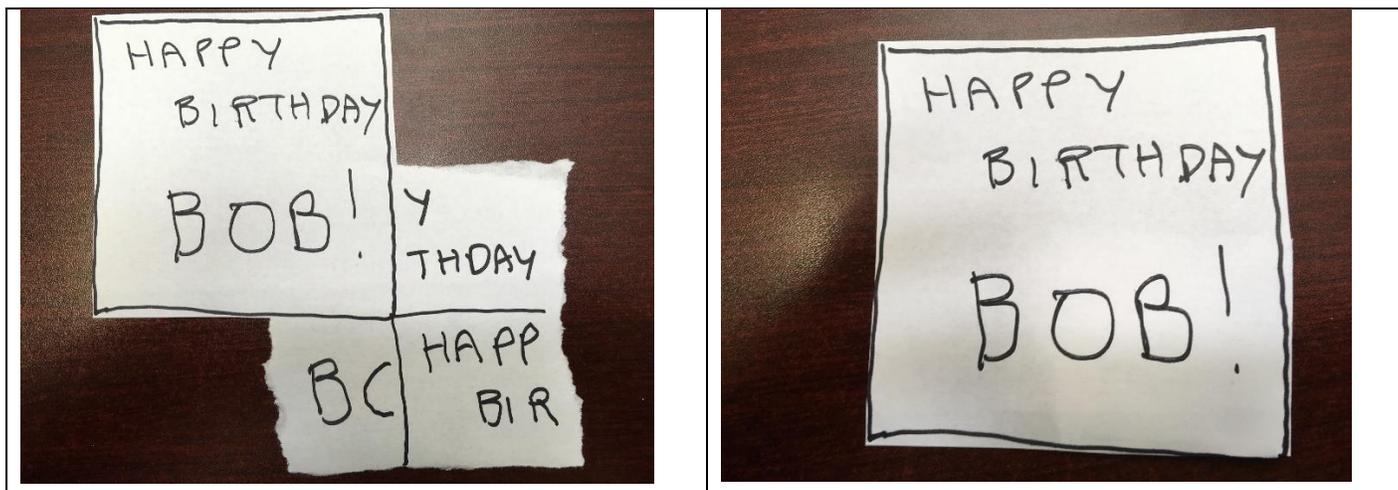
### COMMENTS AND EFFECT SUMMARY

This is a very strong magic effect and very easy to prepare and perform.

The effect is you present the birthday boy, girl, man, or woman with a hand-made birthday card from the heart. You ask them to initial the card so it is more personal. You also initial the card. You then have doubts about just giving them a measly card, so you tear it up. You then realize that a hand-made card from the heart really isn't a bad gift. If only you hadn't torn it up. You then restore the card, unfortunately, it is restored with its outsides in and it's insides out!

### SETUP

You will need a piece of cardstock that is twice the size of the resulting card. Small poster-board paper works very well. Create a crude "birthday card" that looks like the photo on the left and fold the bottom "extra" pieces to the back as in the photo on the right:



Place this in your pocket with the "extra pieces" closest to your body and you are ready to go.

## PERFORMANCE

Say: "Today is your special day... your birthday. I wanted to get you something special, so I made you a special birthday card!" Take out the card, concealing the folded parts on the back. Say: "I know it's not much, but it's handmade from the heart. I want you to treasure it as long as you live, so I am going to initial it here and I'd like for you to initial it here as well." Place your initial on the lower right quadrant and invite them to initial next to yours, also on the lower right quadrant. If you are working with a small child, have them scribble something in that lower right quadrant and then comment on what a wonderful initial they have, etc.

Then, as if realizing this is really a crappy gift, you say: "Wait a minute. You are getting all sorts of great gifts today and ... let's face it, this is not going to be a gift you are going to treasure your entire life. I'd bet it hits the bottom of the city dump by Tuesday. No, this is just wrong. I'm going to just tear it up." Using the back pieces as a guide, tear the "card" in half and then in half again. Show the four pieces.

Then, as if realizing maybe you shouldn't have torn it up, you say: "Wait a minute. That wasn't a terrible gift. You know why?" Pause and let them answer. Roll with whatever they say, but bring it back to: "Yes, what you said and because it was from the heart." If you embellish the "card" with a little flower drawing for a girl or a little star or a boat, you can point out how you spent time drawing this "yaght". Then say: "No, let's make this right. Does anyone have any number 7 magical restoration dust?" Sprinkle dust or do whatever magical "thing" you do and say: "Let's bring this card back to life!"

As you massage the pieces back together, pull the torn pieces into your right hand and unfold the mis-made "card" and hand it to them with your dirty hand. As they are taking in the card, take a step back and place both hands into your pockets. If you have a follow-up trick in your pocket, ditch the pieces and come out with your next effect.

## CREDITS

Shawn Farquhar has a similar effect called Torn 2 Pieces. His effect uses a custom photo gimmick. If you haven't checked out his effect, I suggest you do.

2016 – 2017 EXECUTIVE BOARD	MEMBERS AT LARGE
<p>PRESIDENT: Wendy Sobel 310-753-5357  <a href="mailto:wsobel@roadrunner.com">wsobel@roadrunner.com</a></p> <p>VICE-PRESIDENT: Bob Thomas 661-390-3068  <a href="mailto:bdbbss@yahoo.com">bdbbss@yahoo.com</a></p> <p>SECRETARY: Gerry Schiller 805-499-8921  <a href="mailto:geraldschiller@gmail.com">geraldschiller@gmail.com</a></p> <p>TREASURER: Robert De La Guerra 818-269-8917  <a href="mailto:delaguerramagic@yahoo.com">delaguerramagic@yahoo.com</a></p> <p>SGT-AT-ARMS: Karl Johnson 818-790-9600  <a href="mailto:karl.johnson@gwcmi.com">karl.johnson@gwcmi.com</a></p>	<p>Terrell Chafin 323-478-9748  <a href="mailto:terrell.chafin@gmail.com">terrell.chafin@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Peter Dang 818-726-9386  <a href="mailto:peterdangdesigns@gmail.com">peterdangdesigns@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Lois Harmeyer 626-358-2637  <a href="mailto:lharmeyer@dslextre.me.com">lharmeyer@dslextre.me.com</a></p> <p>Don Kenney 818-896-7261  <a href="mailto:dkmagik@ca.rr.com">dkmagik@ca.rr.com</a></p> <p>Bill Turner 818-786-5326  <a href="mailto:billturner26.2@hotmail.com">billturner26.2@hotmail.com</a></p>
<p>BOARD MEETINGS are on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm at  Four 'N 20 Pies located at 4723 Laurel Canyon Blvd, Valley Village, CA 91607. Phone: 818-761-5128.</p>	
<p>EDITOR: KARL JOHNSON 818-790-9600 <a href="mailto:karl.johnson@gwcmi.com">karl.johnson@gwcmi.com</a>  <b>Deadline for submissions for the next newsletter is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the prior month.</b>  <b>Please put "IBM 21 Newsletter" in the topic line.</b></p>	
<p>Website: <a href="http://www.ibmring21.org">www.ibmring21.org</a></p>	<p>Twitter handle: @ibmring21</p>