

FLEMING FLASHPAPER

December 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 DECEMBER 7TH: CLUB MEETING:

This is the time of our annual catered dinner. Please bring a dessert or salad. Everything else is provided.

For those who would like to perform, the theme is seasonal magic, so get your holiday routine ready!

REMEMBER TO BRING A TOY OR MONEY DONATION FOR THE "SPARK OF LOVE" TOY DRIVE.

CONTRIBUTE A MAGIC TRICK EXPLANATION!

We would love to include your magic creation in the newsletter if you are willing to share it with the members. Simply send an email to karl.johnson@gwcmi.com

Nicolas Garcia will be featured in a play at the 24th St Theater:
1117 W 24th St. Los Angeles
December 14th and 15th at 8:00 pm
December 16th and 17th at 4:00 pm
For tickets, call 212-745-6516 or go to www.24thstreet.org

RING 21 CLUB MEETING:

First Thursday of the month

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday December 7th
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



JANUARY 4TH: ROBERT BAXT LECTURE!

LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MISDIRECTION!



ROBERT IS A FISM WINNER
FOR COMEDY MAGIC. HIS
LECTURE IS ON COMEDY MAGIC
AND HOW TO ROUTINE IT

THE LECTURE HAS NO CARD
TRICKS, OR DIFFICULT MOVES
BUT PLENTY OF LAUGHS!

FIRST PART OF THE LECTURE
WILL BE A COMPLETE SHOW,
FROM BEGINNING TO END!

SECOND HALF IS THE
EXPLANATIONS.

MAGICIANS PRAISE HIM:

SEE WHAT THEY SAY ON ONLINE ABOUT HIM!

GOOGLE: "WIZARD PRODUCT REVIEW: 'BAXT, A BOY, & A BUCKET'
& SEE [HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/AOANRV9PHcA](https://youtu.be/aoANRv9PHcA)

I DO WANT TO PUBLICLY THANK ROBERT BAXT FOR WHAT I THOUGHT WAS A FINE
PRESENTATION THIS AFTERNOON! FOR THOSE THAT BOUGHT HIS LECTURE NOTES
TODAY, I PARTICULARLY WANT TO POINT OUT A BRILLIANT TECHNIQUE (ON THE
VERY LAST PAGE), A TIP HE NEVER DISCUSSED IN HIS TALK. FOR THOSE THAT DIDN'T
PURCHASE THE NOTES: [CLEARING MY THROAT] "NEENER, NEENER!"

-RICH COWLEY, ON THE MAGIC CASTLE MEMBERS ONLY FORUM

"ALL MAGICIANS COULD USE SOME HELP FROM YOUR INVENTIVE (AND TWISTED)
MIND. WITHOUT YOU, THEY ARE NOTHING!"

-GABE ABELSON, COMEDY WRITER FOR NBC'S
"TONIGHT SHOW" WITH JAY LENO AND FORMER
MONOLOGUE WRITER FOR DAVID LETTERMAN

THE LECTURE BY ROBERT BAXT

THURS. JAN. 4TH
7:30PM
PROVIDENCE ST
ELIZABETH
GARR CENTER
10425 MAGNOLIA BLVD
NORTH HOLLYWOOD

BOB'S FIRST MEETING!

First, my apologies, I lost all the photos from my cell phone, including the November photos. Anyway, here goes the description and you will need to create the images in your mind:

Our new president, Bob Thomas, called his first meeting to order on November 2 with the announcement that our December meeting—in keeping with tradition—will be our Holiday Party, with a catered dinner (Mexican style), members performing “seasonal magic,” and a toy collection for needy kids called “Spark of Love.”

Bob also announced we are looking for “themes” for our meetings and suggestions for potential lecturers for the upcoming year. Also on the agenda is the search for a new web master since Karen, who has been at it for the last year or so is cutting back her activities.

On a sad note Bob conducted a broken wand ceremony for Lee Delano, a Ring 21 member for many years as well as a long time Magic Castle member. Lee also had a distinguished career as an actor and comedian with many appearances in major films and television shows. Lee was a close friend of such stars as the late Sid Caesar and Mel Brooks and appeared with both of them in films and TV.

After four lucky winners in the night's raffle took home their prizes, Bob asked Gerry Schiller to perform the “trick of the month.” This had been highlighted in the month's newsletter and is a favorite of Gerry's that he calls “Good Vibes.” The trick involves a spectator shuffling five cards, choosing one of them, mixing them again, and laying them out on the table.

Amazingly, as the performer guides the spectator's hand over the five face-down cards, it always seems to be drawn to the chosen one, because (obviously) she has “Good Vibes.” The beauty of the trick is that the cards don't have to be playing cards—they can be ESP cards, the magician's business cards (with five spectators' names or drawings on the blank side), or cards with different super heroes pictures on them.

Our evening's theme was:

“My favorite card trick.”

Bob Thomas did an amazing “Phantom Card,” in which the chosen card appeared in the flash of the spectator's iPhone! Raul Fernandez did a three card prediction and did it while telling a story.

New member Erin Kabbash did “Revolution” making the deck in the box spin on his finger.

Terrell Chafin did a four ace assembly and ended it with five cards that became a royal flush.

Karl Johnson had one participant select a card that only they saw and the card was pinned to his shirt. Another participant tried to guess at the card, and the pinned card changed into their thought of card.

Gerry Schiller revealed each of three chosen cards in a different way: spelling to one (it was even flipped over), making one change as the spectator rubbed it on the table, and having the last one show up in his wallet.

It was indeed a great evening and new president Bob Thomas has begun his leadership with skill and led a marvelously educational experience for all those in attendance

The Greats of Magic

A Series of Capsule Biographies of Famous Magicians

By Eric Yosomono



Jasper Maskelyne

Jasper Maskelyne was a third-generation magician who volunteered his services to the Royal Engineers when World War II broke out. He hated Hitler as much as the next guy, so why shouldn't he get to employ his unique illusionist skills in taking the Nazis down? OK, so it's hard to imagine what a magician would have to offer -- pulling a rabbit out of a top hat while wearing a flamboyant sequined jumpsuit only makes the enemy want to kill you more. Hell, there wasn't even a "magician soldier" in the *G.I. Joe* universe, and they had a guy who did nothing but throw crocodiles at people.

But, despite the idea being seemingly too silly for even a Saturday-morning cartoon, the Allies agreed. Not only did Maskelyne get his fancy ass promoted to major, he got an entire unit made up of handpicked artists, magicians, carpenters, electricians and criminals called [the A-Force](#), aka The Magic Gang.

The A-Force's mission was to use magic to trick Axis forces. Correction: to use *illusions* to trick Axis forces. As exciting as it must sound to have a real-life magician working on your behalf, the brass in charge weren't exactly keen on employing Maskelyne's unusual skill set. When he first enlisted, he was used as a freakin' troop entertainer, like some kind of Bob Hope. Somehow, being a glorified carny was not what

Maskelyne had in mind when he enlisted. Just look at him. Clearly, this was a man who didn't have time for malarkey.

The solution, as the story goes, was simple. And by "simple," we mean "cartoonish and insane." To convince the higher-ups that they could use an illusionist on the battlefield, he would float a fake but realistic version of the German battleship [Admiral Graf Spee down the Thames](#). Just so we're clear, this wasn't a little tugboat that Maskelyne whipped together in his backyard. The [Graf Spee](#) was a 610-foot long juggernaut ...

... that had been scuttled the year before. So when Maskelyne created the illusion of the floating ship using a small balloon model and mirrors, his superiors were duly impressed. Because as much as the Allied forces wanted to defeat Hitler with their massive armament, what they really wanted to do was not have to fight Hitler *because* of their massive armament. A guy like Jasper Maskelyne could probably do some damage in that department.

Now, here is where we have to note that there are no surviving photographs of this balloon battleship (to be fair, there wouldn't necessarily be any even if it were true), so there are people who [doubt](#) that the illusion was actually pulled off. If not, whatever he did do persuaded the higher-ups to let him take his act to the battlefield. In other words, the man either showed them some mind-blowing magic or gave them an equally impressive line of fibbing.

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
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

HOLIDAY SONG PREDICTION

By Gerry Schiller

COMMENTS AND EFFECT SUMMARY

There are lots of tricks that can be adapted for use in a holiday setting. An easy example of this is “Good Vibes” (see the November newsletter for instructions). Just make up five cards (any size) and put a different holiday symbol on each (like a wreath, a Santa Claus, a menorah, etc.).

Here’s a different trick where I’ve taken several ideas and linked them into a holiday prediction.

EFFECT

The performer hands a sealed envelope to a spectator to hold, then distributes 6-7 sheets that each have the words to a different holiday song (like *Jingle Bells*, *Silent Night*, *Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer*, etc.). Each of several spectators folds the sheet and drops it into a (supposedly) empty large Manila envelope. Another audience member helps come up with a number, a folded page is selected from the envelope, another spectator counts down to the line chosen, and it matches the line on the sealed prediction envelope.

SETUP

Use your computer to find and print out the words to six or seven holiday songs, each on a different sheet of paper. Also print out six copies of one of them (e.g. *Rudolph*) for the force. Copy the eighteenth line of the song (Won’t you guide my sleigh tonight) on a slip of paper and seal it in a small envelope. Force a copy of *Rudolph* by using a change bag, force bag, or make one with two large Manila envelopes. Cut the flap and one side from one, slide it into the other, glue two edges, and put the force (*Rudolph*) slips behind the false side.

PRESENTATION

Presentation: Have someone hold your prediction, give out the pages with the song lyrics to show they are all different, have people fold the pages and drop them into the Manila envelope—after showing it apparently empty.

Force the number using the 1089 force: ask for a 3 digit number (all digits different and no zeros). Write it on a large pad. Have Spectator “A” reverse the digits, and subtract the smaller from the larger. (Example: number chosen 541, reversed to 145; $541-145= 396$). Now reverse the numbers again and add to the last number $396+693 = 1089$). NOTE : THIS WILL ALWAYS BE THE FINAL NUMBER.

Now ask Spectator “B” to add the four digits $1+0+8+9= 18$ and count down to the 18th line of the selected song sheet (*Rudolph*). It will match the prediction when your prediction envelope is opened.

2017 – 2018 EXECUTIVE BOARD	MEMBERS AT LARGE
<p>PRESIDENT: Bob Thomas 661-390-3068 bdbbss@yahoo.com</p> <p>VICE-PRESIDENT: Karl Johnson 818-790-9600 karl.johnson@gwcmi.com</p> <p>SECRETARY: Gerry Schiller 805-499-8921 geraldschiller@gmail.com</p> <p>TREASURER: Robert De La Guerra 818-269-8917 delaguerramagic@yahoo.com</p> <p>SGT-AT-ARMS: Karl Johnson 818-790-9600 karl.johnson@gwcmi.com</p> <p>PAST-PRESIDENT: Wendy Sobel 310-753-5357 wsobel@roadrunner.com</p>	<p>Terrell Chafin 323-478-9748 terrell.chafin@gmail.com</p> <p>Gadi Rowelsky growelsky@gmail.com</p> <p>Don Kenney 818-896-7261 dkmagik@ca.rr.com</p> <p>Bill Turner 818-786-5326 billturner26.2@hotmail.com</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 karl.johnson@gwcmi.com Deadline for submissions for the next newsletter is the 3rd Thursday of the prior month. Please put "IBM 21 Newsletter" in the topic line.</p>	
<p>Website: www.ibmring21.org</p>	<p>Twitter handle: @ibmring21</p>