

FLEMING FLASHPAPER

July 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 JULY 6TH: BE CREATIVE—AND PATRIOTIC

It's Fourth of July week and time to celebrate our nation's founding—with Magic! So our theme for this week's meeting will be: Patriotic Magic. Can you come up with some magic to commemorate Independence Day??

How about using some red, white, and blue silks— or streamers—or colored ropes?

Why not do a trick with an American flag?

Consider using a picture of a famous American for a torn and restored effect.

Do a coin trick or a dollar bill trick—and call attention to the President's images.

Just be creative and do some magic to help us remember some person or aspect of U.S. history.

We'll wrap up the evening with our traditional "Ice Cream Social." There will be ice cream for all with lots of dessert toppings to give us a very sweet conclusion to our patriotic holiday celebration. Let's all participate to make it a fun time for all.

RING 21 CLUB MEETING:

First Thursday of the month

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday July 6th
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



SUMMER PICNIC

The June 2017 picnic was a lot of fun. Bob Thomas cooked hamburgers and hot dogs on the club's new BBQ and members brought many delicious dishes.

Enjoy the various photos of members enjoying the Picnic:



Not in the pictures above is our very own Wendy Sobel who took all the shots!

The Greats of Magic
A Series of Capsule Biographies of Famous Magicians

By Gerald Schiller



John Scarne

Although known primarily as a writer and lecturer on gambling and its various techniques and scams, John Scarne was also a highly accomplished sleight-of-hand magician.

Born in 1903 with the rather challenging name of Orlando Carmelo Scarnecchia, his earliest years were spent among gamblers and card sharps. He left school in 8th grade—interested only in gambling and boxing, and one of his early boxing partners was Jim Braddock, who would later become world heavyweight champion.

Eventually he changed his name to the more easily pronounced John Scarne, and spent long hours practicing sleight-of-hand card manipulation. He developed many card tricks utilizing the skills he had learned watching professional gamblers.

As he performed in clubs and at parties, Scarne's popularity quickly grew. He generally worked in intimate settings since his card effects were not as visible in a large stage environment.

Scarne soon became one of the highest paid card manipulators—commanding \$1000 or more for an evening's show (in the days when many magicians were earning fees of 25-50 dollars).

During World War II Scarne achieved major recognition writing articles on cards and dice for *Yank*, the Army's newspaper, as well as touring hundreds of army camps and naval bases performing cards tricks and answering questions about gambling.

The many celebrities he taught card effects included the Prince of Wales, actor/director Orson Welles, baseball star Joe Dimaggio, boxer Joe Louis, and TV star Milton Berle. He appeared frequently at the White House performing for President Franklin Roosevelt. The President was especially partial to Scarne producing his selected card from the magician's mouth!

Scarne wrote extensively about gambling and testified before a Senate Committee investigating gambling and organized crime.

Articles about him and his achievements have appeared in many publications from *Time*, *Newsweek* and *Life* to *The New York Times Magazine* and *Reader's Digest*.

Held in high repute by many fellow magicians, Scarne was called "...without a doubt the greatest card manipulator in the world," by mentalist Joseph Dunninger. John Northern Hilliard, who wrote extensively about magicians and magic history, said of him, "I have seen all kinds of magicians, but I have yet to see anyone who surpasses Scarne in originality and sheer skill of hand."

His many books include *Scarne on Cards*, *Scarne on Dice*, *Scarne on Magic Tricks*, and *Scarne on Card Tricks*.

John Scarne died in 1985 at the age of 82.

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

RING ON NECKLACE

By Karl Johnson

COMMENTS AND EFFECT SUMMARY

A ring is borrowed. The ring vanishes and appears on your necklace.

Over the years, I have tried many versions of ring on necklace. While many of them are very amazing, I found that all of the ones I tried either required too much setup or had too much to hide, or both. One day, played around a bit with a regular magnetic clasp add-on to a necklace. These items are readily available and are designed to be added to any regular necklace. I stumbled upon a move that makes the linking of the ring on the necklace seem like pure magic. This is the method that I developed from this experimentation.

SETUP

You will need an ordinary necklace and a matching magnetic clasp. You will need a necklace that is long enough so that when you pull it over your head, clasped, the necklace is long enough to still be in your shirt. I have found that necklaces between 36 and 40 inches long work best for me. The magnetic clasps come in silver or gold colors. Both are easily available for a pretty modest cost on the internet. Simply unclasp the necklace and then clasp the magnetic clasps to the regular clasps on the necklace. The magnetic clasp is so small that no one even notices anything unusual about it.

I also perform a cross through clothing effect in conjunction with this effect. If you want to do something similar, you will need two identical items to go on your necklace. I use two identical crosses made out of nails. I purchased them very inexpensive from the internet.

I will describe the handling for both of these together. If you want to just do the ring on necklace, then just skip the explanation for the cross through clothing.

I will explain this as if you are using a cross, so substitute "cross" for whatever you use on your necklace. To do this routine, you will place two crosses on your necklace and you are ready to go.

PERFORMANCE

CROSS THROUGH CLOTHING

I am going to explain this one first, because when I do them together, I do this one first. If you are not going to do this one, then just skip to the next explanation.

You can do this in a religious context or not. In fact, you can use the same intro either way: "I'd like to show you something pretty amazing. I don't know how or why this works, but it does."

First, pull the necklace over your head without unclasp it, by grasping it from behind with your right hand. At the same time, grasp the two crosses in your left hand so they don't see that you have two crosses. As you conceal one of the crosses in your left hand, take one of the crosses with your right hand and pull it up the chain toward the clasp as you say: "Let me take the cross off the chain." Unclasp the chain from the clip, not by pulling the magnets, but by opening the regular clasp. The magnets are so small, no one realizes what they are, even if they are staring right at them. Hand them the cross and ask them to hold it. This is the perfect way to get the participant involved in the magic. They held the cross off the necklace. Re-clasp the clip to the necklace. I find that on my necklace, this isn't so easy. No problem, that just makes the effect stronger. However, if yours is easier, no need to pretend it is harder than it is. Just clasp it normally.

Once you have clasped it, Hold the magnet ends with your right hand and continue to hide the cross on the chain with your left hand. Pull the necklace over your head and tuck it into your shirt, all the while, keeping the cross hidden.

Take the loose cross back and say: "I have had this nail cross for a really long time. It is never away from me. Watch what happens when I wrap it inside my shirt like this." If you are wearing a button down shirt, make sure you do this to one side.

Have them touch the cross through your shirt, apparently just wrapped around the cross.

Then, say: "Watch. This is unbelievable. I have no idea how this happens."

Reach up and slowly pull the chain from your shirt, revealing the cross on the chain.

If you don't use a cross, you can use the same basic principle, just create a story that suits you. Perhaps you have an amulet that was given to you by your parents or grandparents long time ago. It doesn't matter what is on the necklace, but if you make it important to you, then the magic is even more magical.

CREDITS

This routine is based on the age old "Coin through Pocket" routine where you place a coin in your pocket and then pull it through the folds in your pants outside your pocket. Greg Wilson has done a great job with this concept in his release "Unleashed". The above routine is a very specific handling using a different prop and different patter. If you don't already own "Unleashed", I highly recommend you check it out.

RING TO NECKLACE

Say: "let's try something else. Do you have a ring I can borrow?" As they are removing their ring, pocket the extra cross. Take the ring in your right hand, holding it flat between your middle finger and thumb. Take a look at the ring and make a comment about it. Many magicians like to do the gags about how small the stone is or that there is an inscription that says "Kmart" on the inside. If you want to do that, fine. I personally don't. I just comment on how nice the ring is and ask them about it's significance.

Then say: "Don't worry, I'll make sure your ring is safe. How much is your ring worth?" Pause to let them respond. Whatever they say, you say: "Don't worry, if anything happens, I have my cross as collateral. It's value is priceless." Point to your chest, where the cross would be under your shirt.

As you transfer the ring from your right hand to your left hand, you place the ring in your cupped left hand, where it goes out of sight of the audience and then you pull your right thumb ever so slightly, causing the ring to swivel back into your right hand. Close your left hand as your right fingers come out of the hand, apparently empty, but hiding the ring. Drop your right hand and hold out your left hand, closed, as if holding the ring. Practice by actually holding a ring and then holding your hand empty as if holding a ring. At the same time, your right hand is going to maneuver the ring so it is lodged between your middle and ring fingers. This will allow you to hold your hand flat while hiding the ring.

Take your flat right hand over your left closed hand and tap the back of your left hand with your fingers as you say: "Tap my hand like this." Drop your right hand as they tap the back of your closed left hand. As they are tapping your left hand, simply push the ring with your right thumb so you are now holding it flat between your thumb and fingers, still hidden.

Open your left hand, showing the ring has vanished. In a very monotone voice, as if you have said this a million times before, say: "Oh, no. I can't believe the magician has caused my ring to disappear. Who would have ever anticipated this turn of events?" Pause for a second and say: "No problem, I have this cross as a lovely... you know... priceless replacement... for your lifetime... irreplaceable... ring... yeah." As you say this, both your hands go to the back of your neck.

Here is the move: It is not that hard, but practice it off your neck until you get it down. Here is the practice: Hold the ring lying on your right fingers, held by the thumb. Hold the necklace with your right hand, just under the magnetic clasp. Place the ring under the magnetic clasp so the magnetic clasp is centered in the middle of the ring. With your right thumb, push the magnetic clasp so it separates and the right side goes through the ring. At the same time, your left thumb pushes the other side of the magnetic clasp and it will re-attach on the bottom of the ring, with the chain now through the ring. Try this a few times, and you will see just how easy it is to link the ring onto the chain. Next, practice doing the same thing with the chain on your neck.

If, in performance, for whatever reason, it takes you a few seconds to link the ring onto the chain, say: "I can't seem to open the chain, let me just take it off." As your left hand pulls the chain over your head, your right hand guides the ring around your neck and drops it below your shirt. Your right hand then grasps the front of the necklace on both sides and slowly pulls the necklace and the ring from your shirt, revealing the ring and the cross on the necklace. Take your time with this last phase of removing the necklace. Let them clearly see the necklace coming out of the shirt with the ring attached.

Hold the necklace with both hands, so the necklace forms a bit of a triangle, with the ring and cross dangling on the bottom. Pause and let this magical moment set in. I sometimes say: "Look at that! There is a ring on my necklace."

Undo the clasp (not the magnetic clasp) and remove the ring. Hand it to the participant and say: "Lucky for you, my cross always protects me and anything valuable. Keep this ring safe, and whatever you do, NEVER lend it to a magician."

OPTIONAL MOVE

As they are getting their ring, you reach into any of your pockets and remove a penny in your left hand. Hide the penny in finger palm. After you do the false transfer of their ring to your left hand, you say: "Don't worry, I promise to take good care of your ring. You have to hold a ring carefully, because any sudden movement like this, could be ..." Toss the penny across the room. If you do this, it is important that you get their attention back. Say: "Oops. No, wait. I can make your ring reappear. Don't worry." Hold your hand open, showing it empty, then close it and continue with the routine where you tap your hand and have them tap your hand.

CREDITS

This routine came from working with a variety of ring on necklace routines. However, the last one I tried was David Regal's Regal Chain. I liked the routine, but the gimmicks were so bulky, they would pull the chain down my back and the necklace would quickly become a choker necklace. That was about the time I started playing with magnetic clasps.

2016 – 2017 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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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.

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**Deadline for submissions for the next newsletter is the 3rd Thursday of the prior month.
Please put "IBM 21 Newsletter" in the topic line.**

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