

# MAGI-GRAM

Official Newsletter of IBM Ring 50 -- The National Capital Ring -- Volume 74 No. 10 November  
2017

## ♣ ♣ New Members Perform ♣ ♣

### November Meeting Highlights

Fourteen new stars came out the night of the November meeting of Ring 50, as magicians who became members this year took the stage to perform, most of them for the first time before this audience - and the quality of the magic was remarkable. Three of the magicians were members of the Club's youth group, "The Counts of Conjuring". A full description of the performances, emceed by President **Larry Lipman**, is below - but first:

require the donation of a new toy or some non-perishable food item to be collected by the Alexandria Citadel of the Salvation Army. Also, please register because seating is limited to 100 people. (Please see attached flyer and registration form.)

### Broken Wand

President Lipman announced that Long-time Ring 50 member **Stan Rosenthal** of Silver Spring, Md., passed away on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. He was 88. A grave-side Broken Wand ceremony was part of funeral observances held for Stan and members of his family on November 25th, attended by Ring 50 members: **Danny Selnick, Larry Lipman, Bob Patterson, John Roberts, Arnie Fuoco, Sam Brothers and Augie Arnstein**. Territorial Vice President **Dwight Redman** conducted the Broken Wand ceremony. Stan became a member of Ring 50 in 1962 and was President in 1968-69. In his later years Stan grew a luxuriant white beard and, according to witnesses, made a "Perfect" Santa Claus. Ring 50



Stan Rosenthal

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### Children's Holiday Magic Show

Event chairman **Danny Selnick** announced that our annual show for kids is on track with a great line-up of talent: **Noland Montgomery** (Noland the Magician), **Louis Hofheimer** (Captain Token the Magician) and **Louis Meyer** (Louis the Magician). Danny said the hotel has agreed to double the space available for the show and in return, employees and their children will be admitted as guests. Danny urged members to make use of social media to get the word out to encourage registration. So, tell your friends and neighbors to bring their kids and join the fun on December 6<sup>th</sup> at the Holiday Inn on Eisenhower Ave., from 7:00 to 8:15. This is a free event but admission will

President **Larry Lipman** recalled the warm welcome and countless tips he received from Stan joined the club and afterward. Stan was an accomplished close-up magician and, together with his colorful personality, will be greatly missed.

## Counts of Conjuring

Program Director **Louis Meyer** announced that the new course of magic instruction will resume at the December meeting.

## New Members Welcomed

I.B.M. International President **Bob Patterson** and Ring 50 President **Larry Lipman** presented Membership Certificates to **Chuck Jones, Curtis Generous** and his wife, **Lou Ann Generous**.

## 50/50

The drawing for \$32 was won by **John Cloninger** who generously donated his winnings to the Club. Then it was time for the main event.

## New Members Perform

*(Special thanks to Bob Patterson, photos, and John Cloninger, text)*

President Lipman donned his Master of Ceremonies hat and invited the first new member to perform.

**Christophe Jelenski** took the stage and instantly transformed his street shirt into a Tuxedo. He then showed a number of cards with simple outlined human figures representing contestants in a talent show. A spectator chose one and Christophe proclaimed him the winner by changing the image into a

figure with a matching tuxedo! **Christophe** attends Northern Virginia Community College.



*Christophe Jelenski*

**Craig Fifer**, Director of Communications for the City of Alexandria was up next. Craig did an eye-popping torn-and-restored-card trick with four spectators and four signed pieces of cards. He was aided by **Tammy Miller, Reggie Rice** and **Bob Patterson**.



*Craig Fifer*

**Jacob Miller**, who is in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade and one of the Counts, first did a lovely blendo effect with a silk cylinder and followed up with a very funny routine using a hand-cranked "Washing machine" which, in succession, turned a dirty sock into a black sock, then into one which was shrunk to toddler size and finally managed to produce a pristine white sock. The box was

shown empty between each transformation.



*Jacob Miller*



*Jacob Miller*

**Curtis Generous** did an excellent torn and restored newspaper effect. He was followed by his wife, **Lou Ann**, who has developed an interest in magic. She showed a card and in the blink of an eye it changed to a different color. Curtis is a Computer Engineer and Lou Ann is a Director of Operations at a local Church.



*Curtis Generous*



*Lou Ann Generous*

**Chuck Jones** works at the U.S. Department of Veteran’s Affairs. Chuck had a spectator select three jumbo cards from a deck and place them in a box that had been inspected by an audience member. Chuck put on his “X-Ray” glasses and correctly identified the cards. Then after making a groaner of a joke about Abe and Ana, he proceeded to place an actual banana on his table. Chuck had a card selected and after much humorous by-play the card’s identity, the four of diamonds, was revealed *in the banana*. That is, the banana had been mysteriously sliced into four pieces without breaking the skin and one of the quarters contained a large diamond.



*Chuck Jones*

**Tony Nichols** is retired Air Force and is currently working for the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. He did magic as a kid but as an adult is now getting strongly back into it as a shared activity with his son **Matthew**. Tony explained he had recently gone to a Lego

convention and picked up a deck of Lego cards and he had **Matthew Biegun** choose a card from the deck. Tony then explained that at the convention he had also had a Lego brick engraved identifying the predicted card. When Matthew looked closely at the brick he read "YOUR CARD". Yes, we all laughed. Tony then turned the brick around and Matthew read "7 OF HEARTS", his selected card!! Yes, we now cheered and applauded.



*Tony Nichols*

**Matthew Nichols**, son of Tony, is 13 and one of the Counts. He showed a bag with one side colored black with white dots and the other side colored white with black dots. Matthew showed how the bag could change white and black silks to opposite colors and back again and finally into silks matching the outside covers. Finally, he turned the bag inside out and it became a goofy-looking dog names (what else) “spot”.



*Matthew Nichols*

**Jackson Norman** invited a guest, **Natalie Plavan**, to help follow two variations of the “flip-flop Shuffle”. Jackson called the maneuver “Flipping the Patty” (like flapjacks) in which cards were turn face to face, back to back, but ended up all facing in the same direction with a chosen card reversed in a spread. In the end, a Nine of Clubs chosen by Natalie did not appear this way but instead was found in Jackson’s wallet!



*Jackson Norman and Natalie Plavan*

**Bradon Ledford** is a Sophomore at Geo. Mason University. He has applied to The I.B.M. and wants to join Ring 50. **Jacob Miller** (the go-to-spectator of the night) assisted Bradon as he did a nice job with a chosen card-to-pocket routine which ended with a surprise vanish of the entire deck and a sole card left over that was Jacob’s selection.



*Brandon Ledford*

**Will Bottcher** is a 7<sup>th</sup> grader and a Conjuring Count. With spectator **Jacob Miller** he performed the “21 Card Trick” and ended by laying out five crosses of four each all of which Jacob eliminated except for his chosen card.



*Will Bottcher*

**Conn Ward**, our Irish magician, asked **Reggie Rice** to select a card and told **Christophe Jelenski** he would be able to read Reggie's mind to name the card. Conn asked Christophe if Reggie's card was red or black? Christophe said, "Black." "What suit? - "Clubs." Picture or no-picture?" - "No-picture." With each answer Reggie squirmed as he realized that Christophe was zeroing in on his card. Then Conn said “Okay, Christophe, what card is Reggie holding”. Christophe studied Reggie and then answered “The 5 of Clubs!” Conn grabbed Christophe’s arm to assume the iconic Rocky victory pose. Conn Ward is a former member who has returned to this area and will be seeking reinstatement in the Ring.



*Conn Ward with Reggie Rice and Christophe Jelenski*

**Ben Tran** is a student at NOVA community college who attended magic camp last summer. Ben has been doing magic for three years, and did an outstanding job of showing that when a magician’s act like they don't know what they're doing, that's when you watch out. Ben asked Jacob Miller to pick and replace a card in the deck. Ben took the deck and pulled out the "4 of hearts". Nope, not Jacobs card. Ben was confused. He had Jacob spell "four-of-hearts" while removing and placing a card on the table with each spelling. Nope, still not Jacob's card. Two more tries yielded four kings and then four aces, but still no selected card. A “hapless” Ben was left with 4 small decks scattered on the table. When all the packets were turned over every mini-deck was a Royal Flush!! **And** the rest of the deck was all jokers!!! Tran’s trick is called “Over the Top” by Cameron Francis.



*Ben Trans and Jacob Miller*

**Larry Lipman** brought all the performers to the stage where they took their bows amid loud applause. It was agreed on all sides that the influx of so talented new members bodes well for the future of Ring 50.



*Larry Lipman with all the performers*

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



### President Larry Lipman

Anyone who attended the Ring 50 meeting in November had to have left feeling excited and confident in our club’s future. A dozen new members performed that night, and I was tremendously impressed by the originality and talent on display. These folks created new routines or gave a new interpretation to old methods. And they spanned several decades in age. I’m convinced that we saw some of the club’s future leaders perform that night.

Around the country, organizations of all types have seen a steady decline in membership. At Ring 50, we’ve seen just the opposite as interest continues to grow and new members continue to join. I want to give a tip of the hat to our immediate past president, Louis Meyer, for stimulating much of that excitement through the Counts of Conjuring, which has not only brought students to our meetings, but often their parents as well.

Now I call on the new members to continue being involved, and I call on our longer-term members to pitch in and help us achieve our goals in the coming year. One way is to help us promote the upcoming Free Holiday Magic Show, which will be held at our Dec. 6 meeting.

Encourage friends, coworkers, etc., to attend. They can register in advance at <http://tinyurl.com/y81fgbau>.

And yes, there will be a Magi-Whirl next year and we'll need lots of volunteers. Here's another great way for our new and old members to be involved. We'll be announcing more details shortly. Magically yours,

Larry

**RING 50 MEETING  
LOCATION**

**Holiday Inn**

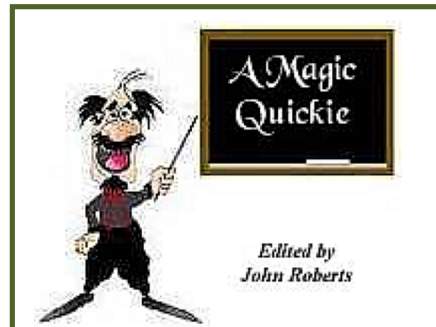
2460 Eisenhower Ave, Alexandria, VA.

6:00 Dinner  
7:30 Meeting

**Who is who in Ring 50**

**Linda Barrett** (In her words). "I accidentally wandered into a magic shop while on assignment on the Las Vegas strip and was instantly captivated by the flying business card trick. I had to learn it. Before magic, I had been operating a children's Victorian tea party business as the costumed character Meredith Sweetpea. It was an award-winning side gig for about 15 years. As a career, I served as director of marketing for local, national and international companies before starting my own business, All the Buzz, a full-service creative firm offering copywriting, website development, and public relations, now in its 21<sup>st</sup> year. I am also the Wine Editor and Real Estate Editor (yes, I have a real estate license) at *Viva Tysons* and *Viva Reston* magazines, as well as a travel and features writer for publications around the world. This doesn't leave too much time for

magic, but I enjoy it as a hobby and value all that I've learned and the friendships I've made through Ring 50. I moved to Fairfax from Richmond, VA five years ago."



Edited by John Roberts

*This is based on a force used by Aldo Colombini in a longer ESP trick called "White Wash" (Peter Duffie, Robin Robertson)*

**Force Nine**

Here is an interesting way to force the number "nine". You need the following double-faced number cards 1/5, 6/2, 4/8, 7/3. Arrange in 1,6,4,8 order faces showing. Display to audience, flip them over *in order* to show 5,2,8,3. Ask a spectator whether he would like to use the front or rear numbers. (free choice #1) Whichever he chooses, deal them alternately into two piles, ask him to choose a pile (free choice #2) and put the other one aside. Show two remaining numbers, ask him to choose one card to flip over to number on back (free choice #3). The two cards will always add up to the number nine. Be sure to stress all the free choices.

Ex: Deal face cards into two piles 1,4 and 6,7. Eliminate the 6,7 pile leaving the 1 & 4 cards. Flip over the 4 and show the eight which, with the 1, adds up to nine. If the 1 is flipped you get a 5+4=9. The same goes for the 6/7 pile. The rest is up to you. Use your magical wiles to get a chosen card 9<sup>th</sup> from the top of a deck and count down to it, etc. etc. The number cards don't have to be playing cards – make your own with number stickers or a Sharpie on heavy white stock. Put it in your tool box.

**Ring 50 New Members & Applications**



**Membership**

Have YOU brought a prospective member to the meeting? They must be interested in magic and be a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians.

Applications are available from the Treasurer.

New members are always welcome at Ring 50. You must be interested in magic (full time or part time performer, hobbyist, collector, etc.). You must join and be an active member of International Brotherhood of Magicians prior to belonging to Ring 50.

**Counts of Conjuring Meets December 6, 6:00pm**



The International Brotherhood of Magicians, National Capitol Ring 50, "Counts of Conjuring" meets first Wednesday of every month at the **Holiday Inn Alexandria-Carlyle, 2460 Eisenhower Ave, Alexandria, VA** at 6:00pm. The "Counts" is a way for youths to learn about magic and the performance of magic.

Louis the Magician teaches the *Discover Magic* course. This is an amazing course that not only will teach the youths magic but will also teach them important "life-skills". This class is normally taught in after-school programs and summer camps and costs \$275 per child but will be FREE for the Counts of Conjuring (only cost is \$35 for the actual magic tricks).

Each month the youths will learn one new magic trick and have a chance to perform it.

The Counts of Conjuring is for youths 8 to 17 years.

**December 6, 2017, 6:00pm**

### Magic Quickies Needed

Send **John Roberts** a short trick you would like to share with newsletter readers. There are no guidelines other than the entry should be brief, simple, doable and fun; the offbeat and quirky are encouraged. Send to John:

[Barjorobts@comcast.net](mailto:Barjorobts@comcast.net)

### Be Sure to Keep Your I.B.M. Membership Current

You must be an active member of I.B.M. to belong to Ring 50. If you haven't already, don't forget to keep your membership active in the International Brotherhood of Magicians to enjoy the benefits of membership. Send dues to: **International Brotherhood of Magicians, 13 Point West Blvd, St. Charles, Missouri, USA 63301.**

### Silent Auction at Ring 50

In August, we started a silent auction before each meeting between 7 and 7:30 p.m. As always, 10 percent of the sale price goes to the Ring. Each person having items to be auctioned in the **Silent Auction**, must complete an **IBM Ring 50 Silent Auction Bid Sheet** for each item describing the items and any reserve bid if necessary. Each seller should provide a full and accurate representation of the item, such as missing instructions, repairs, wear and tear, etc. Otherwise it shall be assumed that all items are complete and in working order and includes instructions.

The form is will be sent by email to all members and a few will be available at the Auction. At the end of the silent auction, turn in the tally sheet along with 10% to the Ring 50 Treasurer.

### Correction

For the want of a Dot a link was lost. In this case, a lowly period was left out of a URL link to YouTube in Arnie Fuoco's "CAN'T FAIL PSYCHIC STOP" trick that was part of The Ring 50 Anniversary Parade in The Linking Ring. This was important because the YouTube clip showed Johnny Carson performing this trick for Mike Wallace in a 1979 *Sixty Minutes* interview. Johnny's presentation helped illustrate the timing needed to make the trick work. The period was dropped somewhere along the editing process. The URL should read <https://youtu.be/BDLX2ajgWSI> A request has been made to The Linking Ring to run a correction in the next issue, but Ring 50 members are encouraged to click on the link now to enjoy Carson with Wallace and appreciate the subtlety contained in Arnie's contribution.

