



# Society of Memphis Magicians



International Brotherhood of Magicians Ring 16  
May 2017 [www.ring16.org](http://www.ring16.org)

## A Few Words from the President

*Jeff Day - President*

Here we are approaching the fifth month of the year and I feel like we've just only begun this new year. Below are a couple of things I thought might interest you all.

The following introduction is from a book by George E. Sheldon, called "**The Amateur Magician**" (The Northwestern Press, Minneapolis, 1940)



### The Art of Magic

"The art of magic has undergone considerable changes these past few years. The day is almost over when magicians, generally, make any serious attempt to fool the public. They now regard themselves as entertainers, pure and simple. Their tricks are devised with this in mind.

To enable the amateur to keep in step with this changed conception of magic, this mbook has been devised with several new features in mind. First of all, the trick is presented in its entirety. Then follows the accompanying "patter" or monologue which the magician uses in performing each trick. Then, insofar as possible, each trick has been carefully intergrated with the monologue that accompanies it

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## Notes from the VP

*Bill Canaday - Vice-President*

I had to work Easter weekend, however, thanks to all of you for helping out at the Botanic Gardens' Annual Easter Egg Hunt. As always, we can count on you for all help and assistance. Next, Scott Wells, who helps book some of our lectures, had his computer crash. He let me know that he is getting all of his info, contacts, etc. back up and running. He will hopefully have more updates on possible lectures for us soon. We do have very succesful mentalist Ken Dyne on the way for June. We may also have a chance to host another great mentalist, Devin Knight. It has been about 6 years or so since we had him, and this is a brand new lecture, and this may be his last lecture tour. Hopefully we can have him this fall; more on this in the coming days, or at our meeting next week. Hope all of you had a great Passover, and Easter. All for now; see you at our May meeting.

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## Ring 16 May Meeting

**Tuesday May 2 - 7pm**  
**Memphis Botanic Garden**  
**Theme:**  
**Mentalism &**  
**Mother's Day Magic**

## President (Continued)

so that the embryo magician may rehearse each part together and thus achieve a smoother result. Lastly, instead of presenting a vast number of tricks, fewer have been chosen, and all of them arranged so that they may be presented as a series of four complete acts, or separately, as the case may be.

Then, too, the tricks in this volume have been selected with two points in mind. First of all, they are easy to do, and second, they require no difficult or expensive apparatus, both often beyond the amateur's means or inclination.

With these thoughts in mind, the amateur, picking up this book for the first time, should through consistent practice be able to give an acceptable show."

An acceptable show. Of course, we should all attempt to achieve more than an "acceptable" show. But, remember, if the audience is there to see you, they love magic, and whatever you show them, will be enough to thrill and cause them to want more.

While I was having lunch the other day with Kathy at a local restaurant, I saw a couple with their young daughter. They were a young couple, and the little girl was close to 2 years old. I watched as the young father stripped off he paper from the straw, bunching it up into a tight little ball. He then dipped his straw into the glass of water and took up some of the liquid into it. The curly headed tot watched with wide-eyed curiosity about what his daddy was doing. He held the straw over the paper and let fall a couple of drops onto it. Suddenly, the paper became a writhing caterpillar! The girl squealed and jumped begging for her daddy to make it crawl again. I could tell that he was not a professional magician, and that he probably learned this little straw trick when he was a youngster. We know why this trick works, but this little girl saw real magic. I saw it also, in the little girl's reaction. Never forget the tricks you all learned from years ago. Just because you don't do this trick anymore doesn't mean they lose their magic.

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## April Business Meeting

*John Sorrell*

- \* Jeff mentioned several April magician's birthdays including Chung Ling Soo, Paul Daniels, Joseph Dunniger, Mark Wilson, David Blaine and others.
- \* Lectures - Ken Dyne Sunday June 4, Germantown Presbyterian Church, Warren Hall 1 or 2 pm TBD.
- \* Martin Seiler gave treasurer's report: \$5275.33.
- \* Grayson Smith - Working at VA hospital, Tree Reading at Fine Wine events at Botanic Gardens and Alice in Wonderland.
- \* Jeff Day working Dyersburg, TN library.
- \* Grayson Smith - Botanic Garden Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday April 15, 1-4pm.
- \* Magic Jams at GPC every other Monday night.
- \* Jeff Day and Tim Grant working this Saturday at FedEx forum at a private event between concerts.
- \* Ian Munk moving to Rock Island, IL

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# April Open Magic

Photos by Larry DuFrene & John Sorrell

