



Society of Memphis Magicians



International Brotherhood of Magicians Ring 16
December 2016 www.ring16.org

Presidential Ponderings

Bill Canaday - President

Fellow Ring 16 Members: It is hard to believe, however, we are nearing the end of another year for Ring 16. It has been another great year, including lectures, Magic Jam Sessions that Jeff Day put together, new members, including younger ones, and returning members, some who have not been able to make it to some of our events in awhile. My sincere thanks to Grayson and the Botanic Garden, who have provided us a continued great place for our meetings, fellow officers Jeff Day, John Sorrell, Martin Seiler, and to Larry Dufrene, for his photos and photo albums for us, and for Mike Speros, for his continued input on lecturers who want to come here. Thanks to Richard Hiller, and Grayson, for looking up information we need at our meetings. Each and every one of our members and guests contribute a lot to continue to make sure our Ring is top notch! I hope you all had a safe and great Thanksgiviing, and we are looking forward to seeing you at Coletta's next week for our Annual Holiday/Christmas Party! Be safe, and Happy Holidays!

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Ring 16 December Meeting

Monday December 5 - 6pm
Coletta's Bartlett
2850 Appling Rd, 38133
Order from Menu

Entertainment:
Performance by Officers
and 2016 SMMURFFF Winner

Magic Gift Swap

Notes from the VP

Jeff Day - Vice-President

WHAT IS MAGIC ?

A sunrise? A baby cry? Music? I'm sure it's all relative. What is magical to me is probably not as magical to you. I do know, however, that magic is not just in the eye or ear of the beholder. Magic does exist in this world. Whether you believe or not, MAGIC will always turn a pessimist into an optimist, even if it's only for a few minutes. For us magicians, it's that "something" that inspires us to pursue a goal of a successful performance, and to relay the impossible to an audience, that was a moment before skeptical, but now an audience of believers.

Archie Frederick Collins was an inventor and avid experimenter in the late 19th century. He actually was one of the patent holders of the inductions wireless telephone. Yes, that's right .. wireless telephone! This was back in 1898 when Collins started researching the idea. It was not until 1909 when the patent was issued. I am bold to say that Collins created something magical. There were several reasons that it didn't catch on, but he went on to invent something else that DID have a purpose at that time. It was a device to transmit Morse code without the use of wires. It was something more practical for that time, but Collins was way ahead of his time.

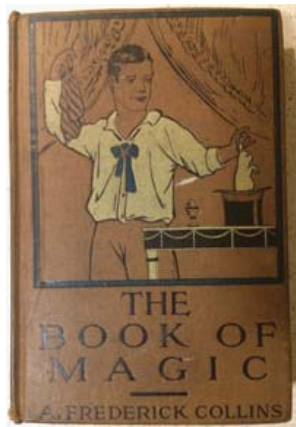


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Notes from the VP (continued)

Collins was a prolific author, writing such books as, “The Boys & Girls Books of Outdoor Games”, “The Amateur Chemist”, “The Boy Scientist”, & “The Book of Magic”. Collins was an interesting man who often times pushed the boundaries, which ultimately landed him in prison for one year due to mail fraud. He wasn’t perfect by any means, but he was persistently trying to do something useful. The trick, I think, is to be persistent, but I suppose you need to stay within the lines.

The following excerpt is from “The Book of Magic”, and it says a great deal to all magicians.



“The Book of Magic”

‘Being A Simple Description of Some Good Tricks and How To Do Them, With Patter’

D. Appleton & Company
New York - London
1919

“The tricks in this book are the kind which are used at the present time by professional magicians – indeed many of them were the stock and trade of a well-known conjurer who did them nightly for a period of ten years before brilliant assemblages and his wide experience has been written into this book.

One more word. Of course, practice tends to make perfect, and if you will practice any trick on sleight for thirty minutes every day for a month you will be surprised to find how well you will be able to do it.

But there is no need for me to tell you to practice, for if you like magic and it likes you it will not be long before you can give a show which will, as Keller used to say, baffle the senses, astound the mind, and mystify the human brain.”

– A. Frederick Collins 1916

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November Business Meeting

John Sorrell

- * Lectures: Nathan Kranzo, Fri. Feb 17
Shawn McMasters - Tuesday, Feb 7th - will take vote.
Tom Frank - Jeff will poll.
- * Monday Night Magic Jams - Might stop soon for holiday break. Next Oct 10/24.
- * Penguin Memphis Expo - Saturday, Nov 12.
- * Grayson made motion to have cards/postcards printed for Ring publicity at Expo.
Motion passed. Bill will explore and spend up to \$50.
- * Holiday Banquet - Coletta’s, Monday, Dec 5th - 6pm.
- * Nominating Committee 2017 Slate of Officers:
President - Jeff Day
Vice President - Bill Canaday
Treasurer - Martin Seiler
Secretary - John Sorrell
- * Jeff Day has show Sunday - American Yeast Company.
- * Martin Seiler gave treasurer’s report.
- * Ian Munk performed his initiation and was voted into Ring 16. Welcome, Ian.

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2016 SMMURFFF

Jeff Day

Photo by Grayson Smith



Penguin Magic Expo

Photos by Grayson Smith

