



# Society of Memphis Magicians

International Brotherhood of Magicians Ring 16  
August 2019 [www.ring16magic.com](http://www.ring16magic.com)



## A Few Words from the President

*Jeffrey Day - President*

### *Herrmann vs Thurston*

*This month, on August 17, 2019, there will be a playing card throwing competition at Germantown Presbyterian Church. This will be only the 3rd time that this will be presented in the Memphis area. I am expecting a large attendance because it is something that most people haven't seen. (Participants: \$10.00 – Spectators: \$5.00)*

*Over a hundred years ago, the great magicians Alexander Herrmann and Howard Thurston were skilled as card throwers. They also had cards especially printed up that would be tossed out into the audience as souvenirs. When I say, "tossed out", I mean thrown out all the way from the theater stage to the upper balcony. Both Herrmann and Thurston had their own techniques of throwing a card, but both methods were extremely effective.*

*At the time, Howard Thurston was known as "The King of Cards". For instance, he would point to a woman in the balcony with a large hat and have her stand. He would then take a single playing card and, with a couple of steps, he would throw that card upwards toward the woman, landing the card onto her hat! Alexander Herrmann also was quite skilled in the art of card throwing. He would accomplish his feat by throwing a single card across the stage at a chosen spot on a wooden target. One story tells of Herrmann throwing a second card at the target, then miraculously "splitting the card in half" by another thrown card. These stories are legendary, and little wonder, given their already publicized magical talent.*

*So, come out on August 17th at 7:00pm and help carry on this historically magical event. Cheer on your favorite card thrower. Or better yet, participate in the competition. - Continued on Page 2*

## Notes from the VP

*Bill Canaday—Vice President*

Fellow Ring 16 Members: First, I know Jeff, Kathy, and Larry were well pleased with our Auction a few weeks ago. I was pleased also, as we had as always, a lot of great Magic, Mentalism, etc. that was available. As usual, the auction helps everyone, buyers and sellers. Great job, everyone! A special thanks to our auctioneer Mike Spiros, and to John Sorrell for keeping up with the bids, money, etc. Next, a special congratulations to our very own Jimmy Ichihana, who made his SECOND appearance on Fool Us with Penn and Teller. To be on this great show once is great, however, twice is even more impressive. Congratulations, Jimmy, and continued success! Don't forget that we have two great lectures soon; this weekend we have Jared Kopf, and on August 27th, we have Nathan Coe Marsh. I got in touch with Mr. Marsh, as he was lecturing and performing in Toronto; he told me that he is looking forward to lecturing for us. Jared and Nathan will both be beneficial to our Ring. Finally, I want to say to John Sorrell; first, Congratulations on your retirement from FedEx. Next, if you have not heard, John is moving to South Carolina. John has always been a major influence in our Ring. He has been so helpful in all of the years I have been involved with Ring 16, Especially when I have been an Officer. John has been not only helpful to me as a fellow Mentalist, he has been a great friend! John, thanks for everything, and please stay in touch! Our best always to you and yours! Bill Canaday ♦♣♥♠

### **RING 16 AUGUST MEETING**

**Tuesday August 6th - 7pm**

**Memphis Botanic Garden**

**Magic with playing cards .... and Mentalism !**

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*You will be asked to compete in EIGHT challenges. Playing cards will be provided. There WILL be prizes! Hope to see you there!!! ♦♣♥♠*



*Howard Thurston (1869-1936)*



*Alexander Herrmann (1844-1896)*

### July Business Meeting - Kathy Kalagias, Secretary

In June we lost our most recent member, Brian Staron. The memorial service for Brian Staron was held on Sunday, June 30, 2019 at 2pm at the West Dyersburg Church of Christ in Dyersburg, TN. Several of our Ring 16 members made the trip to Dyersburg to say goodbye to Brian and be there for his family. The family sincerely asked that we do not send flowers at this overwhelming time in their life, but rather make contributions to the M2Y conference board of directors so that they are able

to carry out Brian's wishes and continue to impact the lives of many. Ring 16 has decided to make a donation to M2Y in Brian's honor. Brian Staron was not only a great magician, but also a great friend. He will be greatly missed.

President Jeffrey Day quickly got through the business part of the meeting so that we could start the annual auction. Larry Dufrene presented his financial report. We discussed upcoming lectures such as Jared Kopf, Bill Wisch, and Nathan Coe Marsh. Several members made plans to attend magic conventions such as the IBM convention, and Magic Live. Larry Hass was in the Rhodes Magazine.

The amazing Grayson Smith surprised everyone that attended this meeting with a copper coin! Thank you Grayson!

Upcoming performances include...

Bentley Burns will be performing at Kennywood Park in West Mifflin, Pennsylvania.

Jeffrey Day will be performing at the Woodruff-Fontaine House in Memphis, TN.

For this monthly meeting of Ring16, we once again were extremely excited to hold our annual Magic Auction. Anyone who has magic items that have not been seen in months or years are put up on the auction block, where they are bid on and taken home by some lucky magician. The sales totaled \$678 with 10% of all proceeds given to Ring16. Some of the items that were brought to this year's magic auction were as follows: A large Harry Houdini framed poster, antique Hippity Hop Rabbits, Aldo Columbini Tricks, Ammar Veggies, metal Clatter Box, "Time To Tell" (mental clock), and much more! Everyone looks forward to this every July. We cannot wait until next July comes around! Although a computer malfunction occurred just as we started to settle the transactions, we were able to recover much of the information and get it figured out.

Our former Secretary John Sorrell is moving away. While we are excited for all his new adventures, we will miss him around here. Thank you, John, for all that you have done for Ring 16!

Looking forward to more magic at next month's meeting. If you are in the Memphis area during the first Tuesday of the month, we would love for you to join us. If you want, bring some magic and show us a trick or two. We love to have visitors! ♦♣♥♠



Upcoming Lectures:

Nathan Coe Marsh — August 27th

Bill Wisch— October 22nd

Dan Fleshman— November 4th

**JULY MAGIC PHOTOS**

*Larry DuFrene*



**Monday Night Magic Jams**

**August 5th, and August 19th**

**6:30 pm - 9pm**

**Germantown Presbyterian Church**

**2363 S. Germantown Road**

**Room 214**

