



The Servante

Official Newsletter of the Bruce Chadwick SAM Assembly 138 Alliance of Illusionists

Volume 2020 - Number 7 - July 2020

Next Monthly Assembly Meeting Thursday July 16 2020 - 7:00 pm
Illusion Warehouse, 3917 McCart Ave, Fort Worth, Texas
Three blocks north of Seminary Drive/Across from Rosemont 6th Grade

WHEN THINGS GO WRONG

PANIC BUTTON TIME?
WHEN THINGS GO WRONG



Any professional entertainer will tell you that things will occasionally go wrong. Things break, fingers slip, performers get too sure of themselves, and covid outbreaks happen! This month's Monthly Assembly Meeting of the Alliance of Illusionists will feature a discussion led by Alan Paoletti on what to do and how to handle the inevitable.

The July Monthly Assembly Meeting of the Alliance of Illusionists will be held at the Illusion Warehouse, 7:00 pm, Thursday July 16, 3917 McCart Avenue, Fort Worth. President Bighorse has also arranged the meeting online with Zoom so that members not comfortable attending the meeting in person may still do so virtually.

HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

Last month Texas Governor Greg Abbott announced Phase 3 to "Open Texas." With this declaration, the Illusion Warehouse Party Room is now open to half its occupancy certificate plus staff. This means that like the June meeting, attendance for the July meeting may not exceed 25 persons. Seating is available on a first-come basis and seats in excess of 25 will be removed from the room. Once the 25 person occupancy is filled, members and guests who arrive at the meeting must be turned away. Seats will be arranged so that there is six foot social distancing. People who are ill should stay home.

MASKS ARE REQUIRED

As required by county judge Glen Whitley, effective June 26 and scheduled to expire August 3, 2020 unless extended or terminated early by the Tarrant county judge or the Commissioners Court, masks must be worn. He states, "all employees and visitors to the entity's business premises wear face coverings when in an area or performing an activity which will necessarily involve close contact or proximity to co-workers or the public. Face coverings may include homemade masks, scarfs (he probably means scarves), bandanas, or a handkerchief."



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

President Cindy Bighorse has called for an Executive Committee Meeting to be held at 6:00 pm, the hour before the 7:00 pm Monthly Assembly Meeting. All officers are requested to be in attendance. All members in good standing (2020 dues-paid-up members) may also attend. Visitors may not attend Executive Committee Meetings. Note that Executive Committee Meetings are not available via Zoom.

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 2020 MONTHLY ASSEMBLY MEETING

Fourteen members and three Zoom magicians (thanks to Jeff Lanes) were in attendance for the Thursday evening June 18 Monthly Assembly Meeting of SAM 138 Alliance of Illusionists at the Fort Worth Illusion Warehouse party room and magic shop. In the absence of President Bighorse, Vice-President Jack McCoy directed the meeting.

Jack first reported on discussion currently being entertained by the Executive Committee about the possibility of combining national SAM dues with Assembly 138 dues in an effort to bolster national SAM membership. It is possible that the Assembly might use money produced from periodic public shows to pay half of each member's local Assembly and national dues.



Secretary Bruce Chadwick showed his collection of Foo Can effects from his magic museum room. Bruce talked about the history of the effect and showed different variations that manufacturers have produced over the years. Next on the agenda was Member at Large Al Fox who led a discussion on "Connecting with your Audience." As a seasoned performer, Al started off by showing a clip of Harry Blackstone Junior performing his famous vanishing birdcage and dancing handkerchief routines.

Using the video as a model, Al referenced many important ingredients that work together to help a performer "win over" his audience. Al emphasized the importance of speaking loud enough for the audience to hear, using people's names, making eye contact, smiling, talking to audiences as real people, and avoiding the "superiority attitude" that some performers seem to have as their demeanor.

Fox reminded the club that confidence comes with experience, the importance of making emotional connections, getting an audience to like you early in the show, using music that people like, not wasting time, not "tooting one's own horn," and being sensitive to sociological and contemporary trends.

After Fox's incredible presentation, Historian and 2020 TAOM President Joey Byers took the stage to report on the latest in our 2020 convention hosting endeavors. In all the meeting was a great success, and after several months of inability for the Assembly to meet in person, the occasion was a definite reprieve from covid hysteria.

HOWARD'S FUN SHOP



Howard Campbell was a professional magician. He was born on September 18, 1907 in Pulaski, Tennessee. At the age of 12, his family moved to Chattanooga where he saw Blackstone. He enrolled in the Tarbell Course of Magic, and after receiving his diploma at 19, he teamed up with Paul Smith and presented their act mostly in schools.

Howard then developed a single act and he worked from coast to coast. He covered all states except California and Florida. With a full evening show, he was sponsored by Lyceums, schools and clubs, and was billed as the 'Mysterious Howard, the Humorist-Magician.'

Campbell arrived in Houston about 1940. He and his wife opened Howard's Fun Shop in February 1942. The shop was located at 812 McKinney Avenue in downtown Houston (some sources say 908 1/2 Travis). The magic shop was "Southwest's most complete novelty store" with over 4,000 items in stock. Howard's Fun Shop was a central hangout for both Houstonian and out-of-town visiting magicians. Many magicians got their start in magic due to the influence of this famous Texas icon. Unfortunately Howard Campbell passed in Houston on April 1, 1966.

MINUTES OF THE JUNE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

President Cindy Bighorse called to order the June 2020 Executive Committee Meeting of the SAM Assembly 138 Alliance of Illusionists on Thursday June 18, 2020 at approximately 6:15 pm. All officers were physically in attendance including Vice-President Jack McCoy, Secretary Bruce Chadwick, Treasurer Mark Bynum, Historian Joey Byers and Member at Large Al Fox, and Sergeant at Arms Joe Rotio. Zooming in from Atlanta was President Cindy Bighorse. Also in attendance online were Jimmie and Lisa Fulce.

The minutes of the May Executive Committee Meeting were approved as printed in the June 2020 edition of the SERVANTE. Treasurer Mark Bynum reported that the club has received no income since the last meeting and has had only one expenditure, an amount of \$10.65 for Mail Chimp. Bynum also reported that the February check for \$125 sent to long-time club member Larry Brown for hosting the club's website was never cashed and that Larry has informed the club that he wants to make the hosting a donation for this fiscal year. The balance in the club's Operating Account (checking account) is currently \$1289.08.

Vice-President Jack McCoy and Sergeant at Arms Joe Rotio of the presidential appointed Membership Committee reported no changes in AOI membership since our last meeting.

Cindy Bighorse reported that she was unsuccessful in trying to complete a Zoom registration for the club, apparently due to some type of inconsistency of mailing address on the club's bank debit card.

President Bighorse reported that the main core activity for the July meeting would be a discussion led by Rick Heinz and Alan Paoletti regarding "When things go wrong." Each presenter will present for 30 minutes. (Note: Since the Executive Committee Meeting, Rick Heinz has declined his offer to be a presenter).

AOI Historian and also President of the Texas Association of Magicians Joey Byers gave a report about the upcoming convention in September on Labor Day Weekend. Byers stated that the convention "is still a go."

Last on the agenda was a discussion led by Secretary Chadwick who recently worked with national SAM Secretary Manon Rodriguez to determine how many SAM Assembly 138 members are also members of the national SAM organization. They determined that only sixteen of SAM 138 members are also national SAM members. On behalf of the national SAM organization, Rodriguez has cordially reminded Assembly 138 that according to national SAM Bylaws, adult members are supposed to also be dues-paid-up members of the national SAM organization.

Chadwick explained that in the past, many AOI members have avoided the expense of joining the national SAM organization by joining SAM 138 as Associate members. However with the Assembly's recent Bylaws change, the "Associate Member" designation is only for spouses and magician's assistants (which was the "spirit" of the previous Associate membership designation in the old Bylaws).

Chadwick recommended that it might be time for the Assembly to figure out a way to motivate all AOI adult members join the national SAM membership, and perhaps even help members pay their national SAM dues.

Chadwick suggested that perhaps the Assembly could increase yearly AOI dues to an amount to cover both Assembly dues as well as national SAM dues, with members paying half of the total dues and the other half being paid by the club from fundraising activities. The caveat of this proposal is that the Assembly would have to systematically plan and host effective fundraising activities each year to help pay national SAM dues as well as all other regular AOI expenses.

Secretary Chadwick will write a proposal for discussion and consideration at a future Executive Committee Meeting (see this month's SERVANTE page, DISCUSSION TO REDUCE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY AND NATIONAL SAM DUES).

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at about 6:51 pm.



Greetings Fellow Magicians

It is summer time. The heat is oppressive and it's time to heat up the kitchen almost as hot as the outdoors. The garden is coming in; neighbors complain they have too much food from their gardens and fruit trees. It's canning season! I've been waiting for this moment all winter – and responding to those cries of "I have food to give away, please take it off my hands!"

So how do canning and magic correlate? I wondered about that myself, but they are similar. Take the most basic of ingredients: tomatoes, peppers, onions, peaches or cucumbers. By themselves, they are nothing special. The proper combination of Ingredients and mixing order results with a recipe that leaves family and friends wanting more.

The same scenario applies to cups, balls, silks, coins, or cards. Using the right sleights, patter, and combination of objects, suddenly something common becomes spectacular. We are no longer dealing with an ordinary item – or tomato for that fact.



Our own Ava Byers can take a stick and a string and produce a routine that leaves you begging for more. But it's not the stick, it's Ava's passion that we see. What we don't see are her thought processes, the hours of practice, the revisions that cause sleepless nights all in the name of perfection. It doesn't stop there. Ava has to consider lights, costumes, music, choreography, and more. No doubt once performed, Ava continues to find ways to improve. A tweak here, a tweak there and she's making her best better.

That same desire works for anything in life. Approach all you do with vigor and the knowledge that you have a gift of giving joy. Make it a point to touch someone, make a difference in someone's life.

I hear tomatoes and peppers calling my name. And yes, I did find a way to improve the salsa that I usually make. Doubtful that I will share this year. It's that good.

Cindy Bighorse, President
Bruce Chadwick SAM Assembly 138
Alliance of Illusionists Inc.



AOI Member Spotlight

BERNIE DOLENZ

FEATURED MEMBER
ALLIANCE OF ILLUSIONISTS

Dr. Bernard Joseph Dolenz was born on July 10, 1933 in Coffeyville, Kansas, a small town on the border with Oklahoma. He is the father of five children including our very own Brenda Dolenz-Helmer. Bernie attended medical school in Galveston, Texas and earned his medical doctorate in psychiatry and neurology. Early in his medical practice, Dolenz was regarded as a fine psychiatrist.



In the 1960s, Dolenz established the Fort Worth Neuropsychiatric Hospital. He also practiced at St. Joseph's Hospital in Fort Worth until 1978. Then in 1980 he enrolled in Houston's South Texas Law School. Graduating in 1983, Dolenz moved to Dallas and began his law practice.

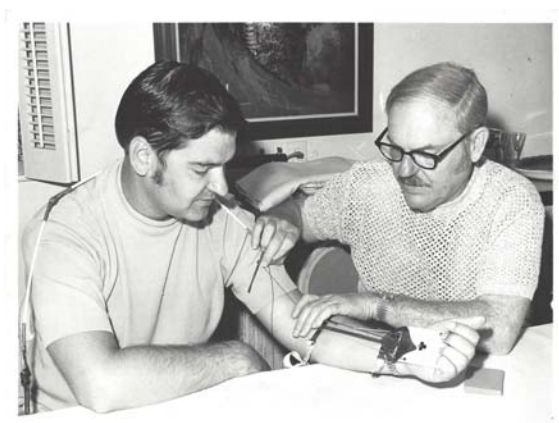
He developed an ardent interest in magic as a child. From about age 13 or 14, Bernie always seemed to have coin or a safety pin in his pocket.

His particular magic interest has always been close-up and card magic. He has also been an ardent supporter and attendee of the Texas Association of Magicians conventions for the better part of 50 years.

Retired now and rarely able to leave his retirement facility due to the covid hysteria, Bernie's close-cropped silver hair image is still iconic in the world of magic. As he celebrates his 87th birthday, Bernie Dolenz's fascination with magic and his childlike awe about the art continues in this, the autumn of his life.



On behalf of the entire SAM Assembly 138 Alliance of Illusionists, HAPPY BIRTHDAY BERNIE DOLENZ!



Bernie Dolenz and the late Sid Radner



Onstage at the TAOM

TAOM 2020 NEWS

2020: Perfect Vision for TAOM

AS TEXAS STRUGGLES TO RE-OPEN

Family and friends of the Texas Association of Magicians,

Well, in spite of our best efforts and most optimistic hopes, our beloved 75th Annual TAOM convention became a casualty of the Covid-19 virus. We reluctantly gave in amidst tightening state regulations and moving standards. We began months ago by complying with socially distant seating where every seat was six feet from every other seat. Then we realized that we could fit more people into the ballrooms by using what has come to be called "familial seating" - where families, or groups who registered together can safely sit together. Either way, we realized that we could not fit enough people in the ballroom. Additionally, we agreed to move all the close-up shows, lectures, and the close-up contest to the big stage and use cameras, projectors, and big screens. The previously-designated close-up breakout rooms became dealer rooms with two or three dealers per room - social distance compliant style.



We worked with our hotel to establish distancing using the six-foot-separator "Wait Here" signs and elevator maximums. Among ourselves, we hashed out conference room maximums for the dealer space...how many people can be at a dealer table or in a dealer room at once? The hotel had implemented Plexiglas dividers over the customer service counters. They agreed to provide a breakfast buffet served by masked employees, as well as a variety of box lunch choices.

After a final meeting with the hotel during the last full week of June, we thought we had it all addressed. Then Governor Greg Abbott announced his plans to tighten the re-opening criteria regarding public gatherings. Dealers began to cancel. Our out-of-country talent complained of having to deal with a 2-week quarantine procedure coming across. Once we added in the Covid precautions we had to make and the reduced registration maximums, and it suddenly became impossible to conduct a reasonable gathering of any sort.

From the standpoint of the President of the Texas Association of Magicians, what could be more disappointing - right? The convention is to be the president's finest hour; his one shining moment; his chance to hold court at one of the biggest magic parties in the country. The culmination of over two years of hard work, negotiating, and planning all come to fruition at once, and you, the president, are overseeing it all. This is the defining moment for the president - right?

NOPE. Not for this president.

The defining moment for this president was to act to ensure our association's members, magicians, and family can all stay safe. I never signed on to be the host of a big party or the ring leader to a celebration...just to guide the ship to a safe destination. I signed on to do a job serving and leading to my best ability. The 2020 TAOM will not go down as the time we failed or were not tough enough to hold our convention. We had already done all the hard work, all that was left was to kick back, reap the rewards, and enjoy the convention. No, the 2020 TAOM will go down as the time we were tough enough to make the correct decision, in spite of how difficult and heart-breaking that decision was to make, and implement.

Am I bummed that we could not realize our efforts with a culminating convention? YES. But, it does not define us. We proudly and humbly hand over the mantle to Bertil Fredstrom and the Austin team, and wish them the best for 2021.

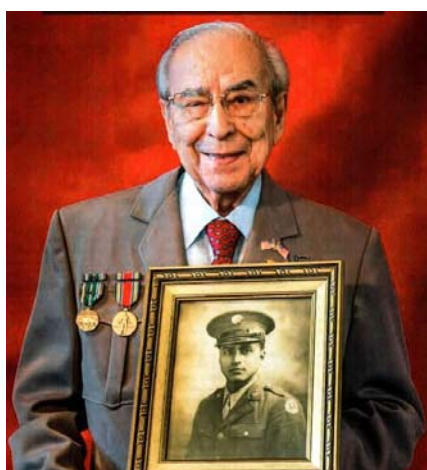
So, in contrast to being disappointed about our non-convention, we celebrate Texas Magic. How fortunate are we to have the Texas Association of Magicians? I contend that no other state has a regional convention that attracts the attention, talent, and respect that the TAOM does. There are years that the TAOM rivalled (and occasionally outdrew) the big-boy conventions of SAM and IBM. I grew up in a place that did not have such a convention; such an outlet; such an organization. What an opportunity the TAOM is for our youth, our adults, and our magicians. In the stead of the 2020 convention, we will certainly will offer a virtual event evening show. It will be no substitute for the in-person TAOM experience that we all know and love. However, it will serve as a place-holder, and a chance to say, "Hello Texas." If nothing else, it will be a slot in time to remember that life is all about choices. During this time, I choose not to focus on the disappointment that the convention was cancelled. I choose to shelter and heal at home, practice my magic, perfect my craft, and to evaluate myself and my values. I choose to ensure that I am treating my brother as I want to be treated. I encourage you all to do a similar cleanse.

I hope to see all of you soon at the Austin TAOM convention, in 2021, when we can share all of our scary and crazy stories in person. Until next month, take care, stay safe, and as always, thank you for making Texas magic great! - Joey Byers, Your 2020 TAOM President

(Please tune to the TAOM 2020 Facebook page or www.taom.org/2020 for information about the September 5 virtual convention evening show.)

RAMON GALINDO - 1921-2020

Ramon Gracia Galindo, 99 years old, passed away peacefully in his sleep on July 2, 2020, at his home in Austin, Texas where he resided for 68 years with his wife, Pauline Santos Galindo, until her death in 2014. Ramon was born in San Juan, Mexico on May 29, 1921, to Tomas and Josefa Galindo. He was the fourth of six children. His family moved to Austin in 1922 and in later years they became successful in opening their business "El Fenix Tortillas" which made tortilla chips and tortillas.



As a teenager, Ramon learned to sew and alter his shirts to fit better. Thus, his love for tailoring clothes began. He studied everything possible about the trade of tailoring clothes. He read books, learned to draft patterns and became a Master Tailor in his own right. For 17 years, he was the lead tailor at Merritt Schaefer and Brown. He then opened Ace Custom Tailors in downtown Austin and during his career had the prestigious opportunity to tailor clothes for people such as: Senator Lyndon B. Johnson, Governor John Connally, Stevie Ray Vaughn and Jimmy Vaughn, and Bob Bullock to name a few. In addition, he created special jackets with hidden pockets for magicians all over the world.

Ramon's 75 year interest in magic began as a child when his father played a trick on his mother which he found fascinating. He was awed that his mother believed the illusion she had seen. His mentor was the great Herman Yerger, a druggist in Austin who was the founder of the Texas Association of Magicians. Ramon's magic performances included producing cards, coins, thimbles, linking rings, doves, parakeets and a Chinese Golden Pheasant. He and his wife traveled to six continents to attend and perform at magic conventions with his amazing parakeet act.

DISCUSSION TO REDUCE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY AND NATIONAL SAM DUES

AOI Secretary Bruce Chadwick was recently contacted by national SAM Secretary Manon Rodriguez. Manon is required to report to the SAM National Council the number of national SAM members in each Assembly.

The investigation revealed only sixteen national SAM members in the Alliance of Illusionists. Unfortunately this is only six members above the ten member minimum the Society of American Magicians recommends for a healthy Assembly.

Rodriguez then reminded Assembly 138 that according to national SAM Bylaws, Assembly members are supposed to also be dues-paid-up members of the national SAM organization.

Under the old SAM Assembly 138 Bylaws, many AOI members avoided the expense of joining the national SAM organization by joining SAM 138 as Associate members. However with the Assembly's recent Bylaws change, the Associate member designation originally intended only for spouses and magician's assistants has been clarified.

Perhaps it is time for SAM Assembly 138 to:

- Motivate AOI members to join the national SAM organization
- Help members pay their national SAM dues

Currently Active and Junior members SAM Assembly 138 members are supposed to pay either:

- \$99 per year, which includes \$20 for annual AOI dues and \$79 for national SAM dues (receiving both the printed and mailed M-U-M magazine and the online version)
- \$75 per year, which includes \$20 for annual AOI dues and \$55 for national SAM dues (receiving only the online version of M-U-M magazine)

To help reduce member financial burden and bolster national SAM membership, SAM Assembly 138 could change its annual dues amounts to combine each member's annual Assembly 138 dues and annual national SAM dues. Members would pay half of their current liability to SAM Assembly 138, and the Assembly would pay each SAM member's national dues directly to the Society of American Magicians.

A possible new dues structure could become:

\$49.50 for Active and Junior members receiving a printed and mailed copy of M-U-M magazine.

\$37.50 for Active and Junior members receiving a paperless copy of M-U-M magazine.

\$25 for Associate SAM Assembly 138 members (\$5 increase and no national SAM membership or M-U-M).

The caveat of this proposal is that the Assembly would have to systematically plan and host effective fundraising activities each year to help pay each member's national SAM dues and all other regular AOI expenses.

Please note that this information is for discussion only. The Assembly will have to vote on any proposals made by the Executive Committee.



JACK
♠ ♣ ♠ ♣



E. MCCOY
A A O P A
T R I T Y
H D N I !
S S C
S

Power Grid— Last month's entry was an enhancement of the following, which is basically my study and building of the principle that's involved. After feedback it seems 'The Rings of Pattern' is a bit daunting of a task to learn. So, I present here a cleaned up copy of my original mapping, which actually has some very strong convincers built in, is much easier to understand and can perplex even the sharpest minds.

History— As mentioned last month, credit due goes to Shigeo Takagi & Ton Onosaka whom I was first introduced to this expanded matrix principle (6 Dice Routine, a marketed effect). Their effect and math is different than mine but the principle is the same.

Effect & Routine— 6 different colored rings are shown and the spectator is asked to take any 5 of their choosing. The remaining ring is put away. A card is placed in the table. It's been pre-folded in almost half, the only visible portion being 5 empty squares. The magician instructs the spectator to arrange the 5 rings in the empty squares, one per space. The color arrangement is up to them, absolutely free choices. The magician opens his wallet and removes a slip of paper from it which is placed on the table. The card with rings is unfolded and it is seen that on it are 5 columns, one running down from each space the rings are located. Inside the columns are various numbers in different colors. The rings are slid down each column and onto the number which matches in their particular color. The spectator uses the calculator app on their phone and adds the 5 ringed values together, which they write the total on the top of the slip of paper. The magician reminds them any number combination could have been chosen and the spectator had a complete free choice of which 5 colors they used and which columns they travelled down. Using the same colors, the magician shifts the rings to various different columns. The spectator adds the values and it's seen a different total is arrived at. This can be repeated again and a different total is achieved. The spectator is reminded therefore the number they wrote on the slip was per chance. They turn the slip over and it's seen their random total has been pre-written on it!

If you'd like, before reading further, consider how this can be possible. Remember the rings, when put in different arrangements thus landing on different numbers, create different totals yet believe it or not the spectator's total free and random number is forced! No, there's not 30 slips of paper in the wallet for every possible combination. The method is far simpler than that. In fact very little math is required at all.

Secret— If you managed to suffer through 'Rings of Pattern', you might have an idea where this one is heading. This however is slightly different in that it can create different totals with the same 5 colors. When the spectator chooses the 5 colors, the remaining unused color ring clues the magician to the probable total the 5 colors will generate. They are as follows:

Blue —272 Orange —293 Red —277 Green —258 Purple —286 Black —245

I used the word 'probable' because of the following exceptions. The red number '36' in the top left corner (1st column) and the orange number '48' next to it (2nd column) represent the following:

Red 36 — +7 Orange 48 — +5

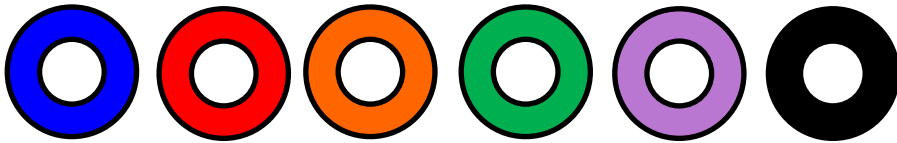
If the spectator per chance places the red ring in the 1st column or the orange in the 2nd column, the force total will be increased by the mentioned amounts. If both red and orange are put in both columns the force total will be increased by '12'. The odds of the spectator doing any of these variables is very low and almost always one of the 6 force totals will be utilized. In the usual situation, after the spectator adds their random arrangement together, to show different totals all you have to do is slide the red ring onto the 1st column, the orange ring onto the 2nd column, or both in their columns to generate different totals. In the chance the spectator does initially put the red or orange rings in those aforementioned columns, a blank piece of paper will be required for you to write the total on it, afterward placing it onto the table. This creates a slightly weaker effect but in all likelihood the arrangement will utilize one of the 6 pre-written prediction slips, each kept in separate area of the wallet. In those cases you simply remove the slip that matches the force total. You can also casually flash the wallet's inside portions, dodging the other slips to suggest only having one slip. It will be up to you to memorize the locations of each color slip. I put one in the section with my driver's license, one with my insurance cards, one with my photos, one on the other pocket side, one with my cash, and one with my credit cards. After removing the slip, I just flash the cash section, keeping its slip hidden between bills.

THE RINGS ARE PLACED

36	48	63	44	79
13	91	77	58	47
20	59	42	85	66
61	78	90	37	38
48	64	49	53	52
34	50	58	72	31

FOLD
.....→

FOLD
←.....



UNUSED COLOR	OTHER 5 RINGS TOTAL
BLUE	272
ORANGE	293
RED	277
GREEN	258
PURPLE	286
BLACK	245

IF RED RING IS IN LEFT COLUMN	ADD 7 TO TOTAL
IF ORANGE RING IS IN 2ND FROM LEFT COLUMN	ADD 5 TO TOTAL

Crib charts for reference



Place Mats— On a personal scale, this is one of my more favorite ideas which I had a group laughing in astonishment. True, they were quite drunk but so what? My goal was achieved. I was also quite proud I figured out how to set the deck up with random shuffles but which I will spare you, due to its massiveness and since it isn't pertinent. It was more a personal challenge so I didn't have to memorize the long stacking procedure, by doing the simplified (as much as possible) math sequence the deck ends automatically setup. The other challenge was finding 2 cards whose values and suits can share one deck and look decent on the reduced 7 X 3 grid.

History— In the March, 1953 issue of 'Magic Wand', there is a cool, offbeat card revelation by Toni Koynini called 'Karpet'. In that routine, a card is selected and returned to the pack, which is then dealt out into seven rows of seven cards. After concentrating, the magician claims the selection to be red, and removes the red cards from the dealt stock. To the spectators' amazement, the remaining black cards form the figure '8' and the letter 'H', symbolic of the 8 of Hearts, the spectator's selection! What a cool premise. Sometimes the spectators wouldn't realize this at first and when it was brought to their attention, it often created great surprise and laughter. In 1986, Phil Goldstein described a clever variation of Toni's trick called 'Throw Rug' which can be found in his amazing manuscript 'Amperthand' (one of his 5-manuscript 'Lisp' series). His version creates a 4 and H and uses a cool setting up procedure that's done in front of the spectators, hidden within overhand shuffles. With my brain continuing on its miserable plight of over thinking, I first thought of the possibility of instead of just one card, what if the deck had the capability of displaying 2 selections. That would allow for a repeat performance or could be performed to two spectators at the same time. You'll need to stack the deck beforehand in accordance to the following. The mentioned shuffle / setup sequence is described in my book 'Impossibilities' & 'Impossibilities, the Collected Works' if you dare. This looks great on top of a pool table which make excellent impromptu close-up pads because you'll need some space for it.

Setup— Arrange the deck from the top down: **king of hearts – jack of clubs – R-B-R-B-R-B-R-R-R-B-B-R-R-R-R-B-R-B-R-B-R-R-R-B-R-B-B-B-R-R-B-R-B-R-B-B-R-R-B-B-R-R-B-B-B-B-remaining deck portion (the R's being red suits, the B's black suits)**. Now, uncross your eyes and take an aspirin or something.

1. The key to this and any other card effect involving a prediction or matching revelation is the necessity of the spectator believing he / she honestly and freely chose the selection(s). If not, the miracle is reduced to a cutesy little happening, not the brain blaster you're striving for. So, in your best fashion, force the top 2 cards (KH & JC) on 2 spectators. If it's just for one person, force the top card (KH) and double undercut the next card (JC) to the deck's bottom before the following dealing process. After the 1st revelation cut the Jack back to the top, put the discards on the bottom and you're ready to go another time, this time with the Jack of Clubs. Make sure after the force(s) the deck's stack isn't disturbed. The best force for this is a riffle force, that is: Cut the deck, catching a pinky break between the halves before they merge flush. With the left thumb (assuming the left hand is holding the deck) riffle down the front left corner and ask the spectator to say "Stop". When they do, with the empty hand grasp the top half at the break and complete cut the deck there. The deck is back to it's original state though they believe they chose where it was cut. Thumb the top card off to the table for them to look at. Tell them to keep it face down on the table where you can't see it. If more people are around I highly recommend telling them to show it to the others so they can be part in the strangeness that's to come. If for 2 people simply deal the JC in front of the other person as well and ask them to show the people around them, leaving it face down on the table as well. There are many tutorials online pertaining to the riffle force and the double under-cut.
2. Deal single cards off the deck, starting with the person that has the King, into a 7 X 3 matrix, starting at your near right and ending at the upper left as shown by the illustration to the right . Deal the cards face up and neatly. Once finished, move to the person with the Jack and repeat the sequence in front of them.
3. Look at the table grid of face up cards, the face down King selection, then the spectator. Rub your chin and tell them you sense they've chosen a **red** card. Repeat with the other person, telling them you sense they chose a **black** card. Both will affirm your claim. With the first person carefully remove the black cards and the other person the red cards. The remaining cards on the table will be making a big 'K' and 'H' & a big 'J' and 'C' (oriented correctly to them, after all the magic's for them, not you) Look back at the table cards and wait for them or someone else to notice it. If not, draw their attention to it as you say *"Oh look, I think they're trying to tell me something! You must have chosen the King of Hearts and you the Jack of Clubs!"* The 'K' will have to require a little imagination as the shape is rather blocky but they'll get the idea.



More— In regards to the 'Setup': Keep in mind the arrangement is for both cards. If you choose for just one, the setup can be reduced by half. Not considering the King and Jack, the 1st 21 cards is for the K & H, the 2nd 21 cards is for the J & C. If you're curious why my table build moves from near right to far left, I feel the dealing is more aesthetically pleasing to the spectator moving that direction instead of towards you. Phil Goldstein also designed his moving the same direction.

2020 OFFICERS

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DFW AREA MAGIC HAPPENINGS

FORT WORTH SAM ASSEMBLY 138 ALLIANCE OF ILLUSIONISTS

Meets on the third Thursday of each month, 7:00 pm at the Illusion Warehouse magic shop located at 3917 McCart Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas 76110. Contact communications@allianceofillusionists.com or go to <http://sam138.com/alliance/> or Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/162025544420781/>



FORT WORTH MAGICIANS CLUB INC AND REN CLARK IBM RING 15

The two clubs meet concurrently on the first Thursday of each month, 7:00 pm at 4055 International Plaza, Fort Worth. See their Facebook group for other details.

MID-CITIES MAGIC CIRCLE

Meets monthly. See the Mid-Cities Magic Circle Facebook group.

DALLAS MAGIC CLUB, SAM ASSEMBLY 13 AND IBM RING 174

The Addison Treehouse, 14681 Midway Rd. Addison, Texas 75001, www.DallasMagic.org.



IMPROV COMEDY CLUBS IN ADDISON AND ARLINGTON

Both comedy clubs periodically host weekend comedy magic shows. For more details go to either www.ImprovArlington.com or www.ImprovAddison.com.

MAGIC IN THE LIVING ROOM

Periodic magic shows every 1st Tuesday at 7:00 pm at The Line Public House, 940 E Beltline in Richardson. See www.MagicLivingRoom.com for more information.

