

March 2015

# Nashville Magic Club, IBM Ring 37 NEWSLETTER



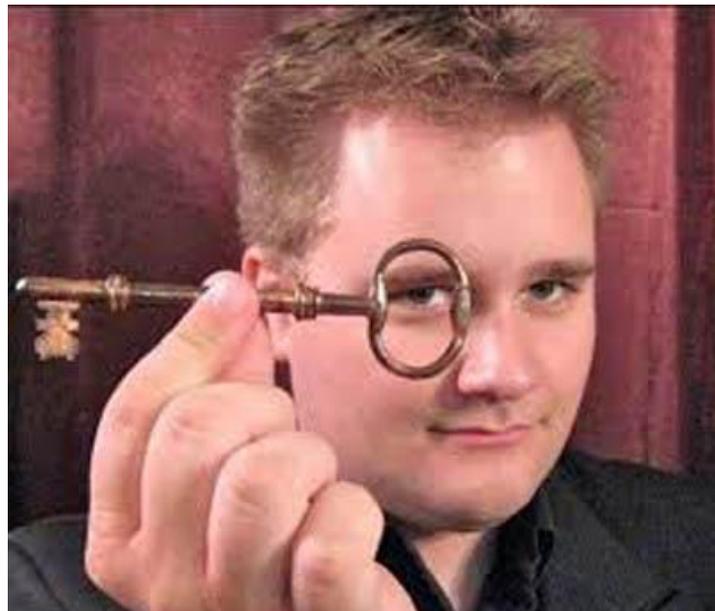
## Your 2015 Officers

- Jason Michaels,  
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- Dr. Gary Flegal,  
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- Bart Camarata,  
Sergeant at Arms
- Kevin King,  
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- Jason Moseley,  
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## TWO Lectures and a Meeting in March!



The month of March is full of magic in Tennessee! The Winter Carnival of Magic was a major success and we still have two lectures and a club meeting to look forward to this month.

Eric Jones will lecture for the NMC Friday,

March 20<sup>th</sup> at our normal meeting place, Andrew Price UMC. Four days later, Tuesday the 24<sup>th</sup> Joe Diamond will be here sharing his lecture. Two days after that, Thursday March 26<sup>th</sup> is our normal meeting night. We hope you'll be at all of these great events!

## Bargatze's Musings – Trust



*“When I do it in my show I can get away with things most magicians probably couldn’t. And they are right, the way I play with the kid boards on abuse, some people say.”*

This is what happens if you don’t get your article in on time. Jason isn’t the nice guy he seems to be if things don’t go his way. I’m telling you this to let you know that this month’s article was written with my nose. I will do my best not to let this happen again or hopefully someone else will stand up and say, "Hey Jason, I always wanted to write articles for the newsletter!"

While a lot of our club members were off at the Winter Carnival Magic watching Gary Flegal take first place in the stage competition, (Way to go Gary!) I was stuck in a blizzard in Kentucky somewhere trying to get home to catch a flight to a different magic convention in Connecticut. Thirty-one hours after I left Fort Wayne, IN I made it home and made the flight to more

snow and more cold. Being the smart man that I am, I left my coat at the airport in the x-ray machine, so when I say it was cold, I mean it was really cold.

While I was there I lectured on my trick "I Hate Kids". It wasn’t the first time I’ve done that, but it was the first time I sold out. So, what was the difference between this lecture and others? Well, in the past I had always performed my routine when demonstrating the trick. When I do it in my show I can get away with things most magicians probably couldn’t. And they are right, the way I play with the kid boards on abuse, some people say.

This time I did my friend Levent’s routine, with his permission. Not only did the trick sell out, I also got several orders from people for when I got home. With all of those people buying the trick, now I don’t have any left.

Shawn Farquhar, another good friend who put the trick out on the market for me, has always sold well when he performs the trick. In fact, now that Shawn and I are both doing the trick in our lectures we have sold over 1000 of them.

In both Levent’s and Shawn’s routines they are nice to the kid, hoping the kid wins. In the end, the kid loses but they seem a little sad about it in performance. So, what did I learn from all this (other than the fact that I should lecture on Shawn’s and Levent’s routines instead of mine)? I saw that most magicians don’t want to think. They want a routine that makes them think, "Wow, I can just copy all of that and it will play well."

The way I see it is that we have the right to do the trick the way we paid for it. If I put the money down, I get the routine as well as the props. However, if you

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## Upcoming Meetings, Shows, Lectures and Conventions

**Eric Jones Lecture at Nashville Magic Club** – Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 7 pm at Andrew Price UMC (the same place we meet every month).

NMC members are \$5 and non-members are \$20.

**Joe Diamond Lecture at Nashville Magic Club** – Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at Andrew Price UMC.

\$10 for everyone.

**Nashville Magic Club, March Meeting** – Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015 beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Andrew Price United Methodist Church, 2846 Lebanon Pike, Nashville, TN.

**The Magic All Stars at The Magic Lounge** – March 28<sup>th</sup> from 8 pm until ??? at Bongo After Hours Theatre, 2007 Belmont Avenue, Nashville, TN.

The Magic All Stars floor show will begin at 8 pm and the theatre will transform into The Magic Lounge where performers will share interactive close-up magic with guests immediately following the show at approximately 9:30 pm.

[www.facebook.com/magicallstars](http://www.facebook.com/magicallstars)

[www.bongoafterhours.com](http://www.bongoafterhours.com) for tickets.

**Razzle Dazzle Magic Show XXIV** – Middle TN Magic Club, May 1 & 2 at 7:02 p.m. at The Murfreesboro Center for the Arts

[www.ibmring252.com](http://www.ibmring252.com)



## March's Meeting Theme is...Money Magic

It's almost tax time – bring out your favorite coin or folding money magic.

In Concert: Jason Michaels  
Mini Lecture: Tom Gibson  
Teach a Trick: Mike Berger

## Help Us Reach More Magic Enthusiasts

If you are receiving this newsletter, you qualify as a magic enthusiast. I know I certainly am.

I want this newsletter to get out to as many people who enjoy the art and craft of magic as possible.

We need your help! Make sure we have your correct email address, mailing address, etc. Right now, the newsletter is strictly electronic, but who knows, maybe one day we'll even send out a hard copy newsletter as well.

You can also help the cause by forwarding these newsletters to anyone you know that might be interested in magic. That's right, anyone!

We all have to get started somehow. It's my hope that these little newsletters may help spark the interest, then fan the flame of this great art that we enjoy sharing with each other.

Don't hesitate! Forward this newsletter to some of your friends, then make

sure you invite them out to the next club meeting.

We want to make as many new friends as possible and spread the fun!

-JM

## Classified Ads Tricks for Sale

Do you have magic to sell something to your fellow club members?

Email

[president@nashvillemagicclub.com](mailto:president@nashvillemagicclub.com)  
the details of what you want to sell and your stuff might appear in this spot.

## From the East by Tom Vorjohan



Thank you to all our Nashville and Murfreesboro friends who braved the road conditions and made it to the Winter Carnival of Magic. We did lose out on quite a few attendees who simply decided they could not make the trek based on the weather man's forecast, but happily all of the vendors and all of the performers made it.

Congratulations to Gary Flegal for his first-place win in the stage contest! For those who don't know, the WCM trophies are one of my personal sources of pride as we started having them laser etched with the actual winners' names – so the stage contest ended Friday afternoon a little after 4:00, and Gary received his personalized trophy at 9:45 Saturday morning with his name on it. I just think that's classy.

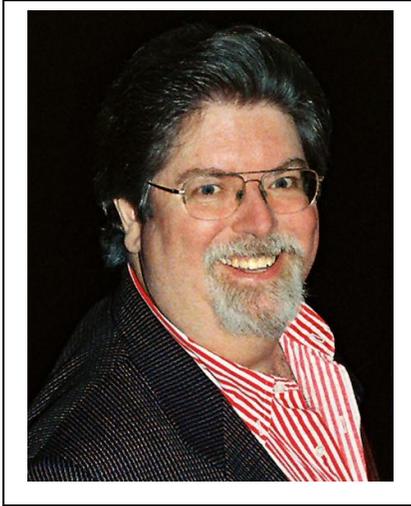
Speaking of classy, the folks at Fee/Hedrick Entertainment treated us like royalty this year at the WCM. David Fee is a long-time member of Ring 58, and he loves magic. Years ago, back when we were still in Gatlinburg, David would bring several boxes of donuts for the attendees on Saturday morning. Well, now that we are nestled in his town, he takes a much more generous part in our convention: design help and printing of the programs, special show times and prices for his shows for our attendees, and this year was the debut of Darren Romeo's show along with a banquet.

I don't think some of our attendees quite understood the unique opportunity to see Darren's first show. I heard all sorts of oddball comments because Romeo's show was less than perfect and it went long...but because of the weather, the crew had less than a week of actual rehearsal. I looked at some people who had the audacity to critique this venture like they totally missed the special opportunity of seeing a professional pulling a show together and presenting it for about 400 magicians for the first time. I can't wait to let his crew iron out some wrinkles and get the chance to tighten it up every day, and then I'll go see it again! That will be real magic...guaranteed.

But far and away, I took incredible pride sitting in the audience for both stage shows and our close-up show. Three of the acts on Saturday's show had never been to the Winter Carnival. Joel Ward kicked things off with his doves, Eugene Burger did classic Burger stuff including his Spirit Slates, and then we had juggler Niels Duinker get the audience on their feet...followed by one of the most energy-filled illusion acts I've ever seen with John Shryock and his wife, Mari Lynn, who ended with another standing ovation! What a great show, and a fabulous ending for our 41<sup>st</sup> Winter Carnival.

Hope you all will make it next March!

## Down in the Boro - by Alan Fisher



As I write this we are only days away from the biggest week in magic Tennessee has every year (see last month's column for the details if you have no idea what I'm babbling about). But once we all get back from *Winter Carnival* (you are going, right?) it will be time for Ring 252 to get down to the business of our annual spring show.

This year the "**Razzle Dazzle Magic Show XXIV**" will be held Friday & Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>. As always, it will be at the Center for the Arts in Murfreesboro and we hope many of you can attend one of the performances.

This time around I'll once again be in the tech booth or "crow's nest" in a supporting role to the performers. I'll design the light plot we'll use and then run sound for the show. Doesn't seem all that glamorous (and it isn't, especially in that cramped space) but it's some of the most crucial components of any performance.

You can practice your routine and perfect your moves until they're flawless but if no one can see or hear you, what's the point of having an audience and doing all that rehearsing.

This applies to anyone doing magic. Even a wise street performer knows you can't set-up in a dark alley or next to a noisy construction site. So if sound and lights are so important, then you'd better make sure anytime you're in a stage show or competition that you can effectively let the crew know exactly what you need.

Next month we'll talk lights. For now, let's look at music and cue sheets.

You need to check with the producer/director in advance to see what audio file format the booth can use. When that's not possible, be ready with multiple options.

Have your music on a music CD as well as digitally on disk and thumb drive. Have back-up copies of everything in case they have trouble with your primary. Make sure everything is labeled with your name (I also put my picture on the CD and the CD case).

The crew will also need a detailed Cue Sheet letting them know when you need each thing to happen (be it music, lighting, curtains, etc.). The instructions need to be very clear and easy to follow. If you want something to happen right after you say something, then it not only needs to be explained that way on the cue sheet but you need to say that exact thing. The sound guy is not going to play Track 2 until you say exactly what your cue sheet says you're going to say. Not close to it, not paraphrased, but the exact line. He can't do his job unless you do yours.

And you can't count on the tech people knowing magic. Don't just put "fade Track 3 after d'Lites". Put "I will produce a series of small red lights at my fingertips, placing each in a paper bag. When finished, I will set the bag aside and take a small bow. Please fade Track 3 at that moment".

That's it for now. We hope to see you in the 'boro soon for one of our meetings (first Tuesday of each month – our April meeting will be on 4/7), any of our shows (like *RDXXIV*), or any of our other events. We love visitors.

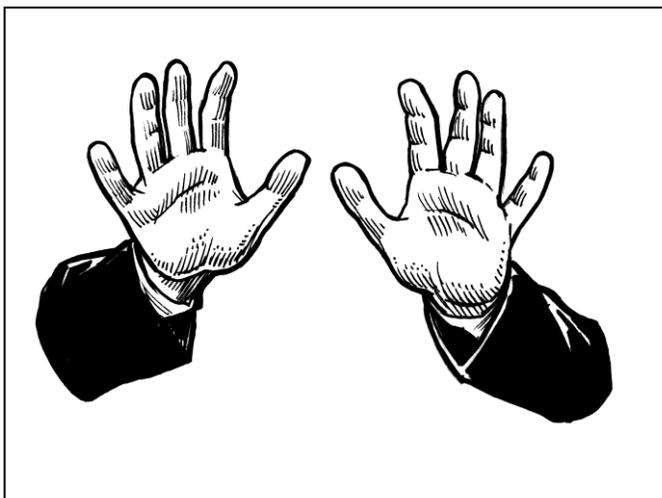
Remember, the magic red carpet is always rolled out for you at I. B. M. Ring 252!

# **BAMBOOZLERS – FINGER COUNTING**

## **By Diamond Jim Tyler**

**BET:** Make a wager that your friend cannot give you the answer to two simple questions. Hold up both hands and ask, “How many fingers am I holding up?” Most will reply, “10.” Continue by saying, “Then how many fingers on 10 hands?”

**SECRET:** This is all in the presentation. If they have too long to think about it, then they will come up with the correct answer. Hold up both hands and spread your fingers and say, “Counting my thumbs as fingers, how many am I holding up?” The correct answer is 10 which most will reply. If they give you a number that is way off then call them a taxi! Follow up by saying, “Then if this is 10 fingers, how many fingers are on 10 hands?” Most will multiply their previous answer by 10 and reply “100.” The correct answer is 50. Remember, you said 10 hands, not 10 pairs of hands. Pretend to answer your cell phone and say, “*Hey your village just called. They are missing their idiot!*”



**Bamboozlers- The Book of Bankable Bar Betchas, Brain Beggars, Belly Busters & Bewitchery: Volume Three** by Diamond Jim Tyler is available directly from Diamond Jim Tyler’s website – <http://diamond-jim.com>

Expect the same classy style pocket-sized book. It contains 75 effects with over 100 illustrations and is bound in green faux leather, with silver gilt edges, silver foiled stamping and has a ribbon marker. The foreword of the book is by Mac King. The book is sold for \$19.95.

## **Bargatze, continued.**

are a magician that doesn’t go any further than that, you will always be the magician that goes to conventions and buys the tricks and never the magician that conventions want to hire to teach others about your tricks.

Both Levent and Shawn made the trick their own and they did a great job with it. Coming up with a character will make the routine much easier for you. It all starts with the character. When we do a show and our audience watches us perform other magician’s magic and routines what are they watching? To true magic fans it will seem like, “Wow that was funny, just like David Williamson, or Max Maven, or Del Ray.” In the end our audiences will wonder who they are watching. I think we have to match our character with the tricks that we do.

I personally love mental magic (well some mental magic), but I also know that my character could not do most of the mental tricks that are out there. Maybe he could, but why would he want to. My character wouldn’t really be interested in predicting the headlines of tomorrow’s newspaper or the lotto numbers. He would never put tape around his head and blind himself, then tell people what they already know. Only an idiot would do that. Ok...so maybe my character is an idiot, I hope you didn’t miss the point. Or did I even have a point? This is about my 12th article. Why should I try to start making points now!