

# September



## OCMC September Lecture

**At the Downtown Anaheim Community Center  
Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**250 E Center St, Anaheim, CA 92805**

Doors open at 6:30 for Meet & Greet  
Meeting starts at **7:00**

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### **Officers:**

President.....**Brad Erickson**  
Vice President/Raffle.....**Jaron Lee**  
Secretary.....**Joy (Nishijima) Fujita**  
Treasurer/Webmaster.....**Phil Ureno**  
Sergeant at Arms/Librarian.....**Harrison Kaplan**  
Newsletter.....**Robert Widmer**  
Historian.....**Julian Devero**  
Member-at-Large.....**Jason Burke**

## September Lecture



Western will present a lecture on Daryl's Rope Magic.

Also, beginning this month, Harrison will share one effect at each meeting.



- \*No difficult sleights
- \*No gimmicks (perhaps something extra).
- \*Methods readily available & inexpensive to purchase
- \*Something for everybody

Harrison won't explain the effects; however, he'll let member know where to find the methods.



## August 9th Meeting

Our own Vice-President Jaron got our regular monthly meeting started off with an Ice-Breaker event allowing all attendees to get to know a little more about each other. Jaron followed the lively Ice-Breaker with a low-down of the night's agenda followed by an update of this month's stage competition. The evening ended with an opportunity to session for those wanted to work on various effects. Guest Giovanni Aviles won the door prize; a beautiful origami rose crafted by Joy. The club now has a code that can be scanned that takes a person directly to the OCMC website.



# August 30<sup>th</sup> Stage Competition

A pair of red stage curtains with gold-colored tie-backs, framing the central text.

## **OCMC Stage Competition**

Brad Erickson  
Ed Smith  
Brettso the Great  
Alan Hanson  
Julian Devero  
Robert Reysnoso  
Fernando Alvarez

Joy Fujita welcomed everyone at the door and got everyone situated for the show.

George Reis was our Master of Ceremonies for this evening and started out by introducing the four contest judges:

Cliff Gerstman

Ken Sands

George Reis

Jason Burke

Cliff explained the contest rules to everyone and then George introduced our first act for the evening, Brad Erickson a.k.a. Magic Brad.







**The Judges arrive**







Brad starts us off getting audience members to assist in creating the magic elevating the excitement in the room.





Ed gives the audience a history of the well-known 3-Card Monte swindle with a surprise ending that amazed everyone.







Brettso the Great amazes everyone with colorful silks and flowers popping out of nowhere!







Alan transports the audience into the wonderful fantasies of medieval times.







Julian stunned the audience with  
3 outstanding illusions







Robert demonstrates his diverse communication skills



Fernando's prediction is dead on.





## 7 Great Performances!



**Brad**

**Ed**



**Brettso the Great**



# Alan



# Julian



# Robert





**Fernando**

The Judges evaluate each performance



After careful deliberation, the judges reveal the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners.



1<sup>st</sup> place: Julian Devero



2<sup>nd</sup> place: Brettso the Great



3<sup>rd</sup> place: Robert Reynoso





**You can pay dues on the OCMC Club website:**

**[TheOCMC.com](http://TheOCMC.com)**

**Select the Join or Renew Membership tab.**

**You can also pay Phil directly at the next meeting.**

**Meanwhile, as Phil says, Keep Calm and Pay Your Dues!**

**Cash, Check, or Credit Cards accepted.**



## 2023 OCMC Schedule



September 13th	Workshop w/Western Palacios (Daryl's rope & ring magic)
October 11th	Rehearsal & Critique for November Show (Those scheduled to perform in November will perform their act and receive feedback to polish their acts.)
November 3rd	Magic Show <b>Friday</b> \$10 adults and \$5 children 12, 7:00 pm (Large Room))
November 8 <sup>th</sup>	Show and Tell and Magic Jam
December 13th	Holiday Potluck & Mini-Show
January 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2024	Mini-Lecture w/Brettso the Great (show flow)



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The OCMC newsletter will regularly feature articles on magic written by Member George Reis.

This is the 8th of a series of articles in which George will share his thoughts on learning magic. He would love your feedback, so please feel free to email him to share your thoughts and ideas.



On Learning Magic

George Reis

[reis@imagingforensics.com](mailto:reis@imagingforensics.com)

Should you practice mistakes?

Malcolm Gladwell made famous the idea that it takes 10,000 hours of practice to really master something. But others have pointed out that it takes, specifically, good practice. The definition of good practice has many interpretations, some of which I've discussed in previous articles, and some will be discussed in future articles. This indicates that we need to practice without making mistakes. Otherwise we might just be getting better at making mistakes.

On episode 774 of Scott Well's, *The Magic Word Podcast*, Scott interviewed Ian Kendell. Kendell is the author of *The Lost Luggage Show*. When asked about his book, Kendell said, "I honestly think that if you do shows, you need to prepare yesterday, today, now. Start now because when you need it and don't have it, it is too late. So, the whole emphasis of the book is how to prepare and have that safety net."



That's great advice in general, and especially for when we lose our luggage or our props somehow go missing. But it also applies more broadly.

Performers need to consider is how to recover when something does go wrong. Suppose you lose your pinky break, or what you thought was a double lift was only a single card. What if a prop breaks, or your volunteer doesn't follow your instructions?

Kendall continued, "You always say, prepare for the unexpected. So, you'll rehearse dropping a prop on stage. You'll rehearse a thread breaking when floating an object ..."

But do we? Or do we depend on figuring that out with flight-time? Or maybe we hope these won't happen.

Sooner or later we're going to experience these problems during a performance. The question is, will we be prepared to handle them, or will we have to try to figure it out with an audience of spectators looking at us?

Back to my opining question – should we practice mistakes?

We should practice our routines until we master them without mistakes. If we make mistakes, we should break those part down to the smallest segments and work through them without mistakes. We should be technically proficient, know our patter, and be able to perform almost without thinking.

Once we get to that point, then we should learn 'outs' for common problems. Then, practice those outs so that we can perform them as flawlessly as possible.

In addition to Kendell's book on lost props, there are other books that can be useful in preparing for the unexpected problems that come up. *Outs, Precautions and Challenges* by Charles H. Hopkins is one such book.

The bottom line in this is to be prepared to perform for when things go right and for when things go wrong. We won't be able to anticipate every possible problem, but we should anticipate many.



### **Other Events in the Area:**

Ring 96: Free All-Ages Magic Show!

Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM

North Community Center, 3333 Saint Cloud Drive, Seal Beach

For more Ring96 info, visit their website @ [www.Ring96.com](http://www.Ring96.com)



# August 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting Raffle

**Raffle**  
**Thanks to all who**  
**participated!**  
**All proceeds go to**  
**our club.**

