

March



At the Downtown Anaheim Community Center

Wednesday, March 13th, 2024

250 E Center St, Anaheim, CA 92805

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

Officers:

President.....**Jason Allen Burke**
Vice President/Librarian.....**Harrison Kaplan**
Secretary.....**Jaron Lee**
Treasurer/Webmaster.....**Phil Ureno**
Sergeant at Arms/Raffle**Western**
Newsletter.....**Robert Widmer**
Member-at-Large.....**Julian Devero**
Member-at-Large.....**Brad Erickson**

ANNOUNCEMENT

If you would like to compete in the OCMC Close-up contest in April, please contact OCMC President Jason Burke and let him know. You can email Jason at:

jbirdmagic@verizon.net

March Lecture featuring Michael O'Brien

Michael's lecture will be a "box full of nostalgia" The theme is taking magic you already know and customizing it to match your personality.

It will be an exercise in creativity, followed by a lecture on a handful of ideas he has created highlighting this concept. He will finish the lecture with his Fool Us performance of Matthew Garrett's Ninja+.

In addition to learning new magic, you will enhance what you are already performing, enabling you to create deeper connections with your audience.

January Lecture featuring Brettso The Great.

Here is the link to the video of Brettso's January lecture on Show Flow.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ACTTIBG394U&t=20s>



February Show & Tell

Alan, Robert, Ed, George, Brad, and Jaron all got a chance to present magical effects.



Jason got the meeting started by discussing club bylaws; afterwards, a meet & greet was followed by time for a Show & Tell.





Alan prints an entire deck of cards from thoughts alone.

Joy assists Alan with a novel coin effect.



George uses forensics to locate Alan's card.





Robert makes 4 cards
vanish, then suddenly
reappear.





Ed's prediction matches a card randomly selected by George.



Brad uses the power of suggestion to coax a spectator into selecting a card to match Brad's prediction.





Jaron triumphs through a series of card effects.

March Lecture



2024 OCMC Schedule



March 13	Lecture: Michael O'Brien
April 10	Close-up Competition
May 8	Workshop / Show & Tell
June 12	Close-up Show
July 10	Michael Mezmer (Tentative)
August 14	Stage Competition Show 5:30-9:30 (Assembly Room)
September 11	Open Workshop
October 9	Jam Session / Show & Tell
November 13	Dress Rehearsal
December 11	Holiday Potluck



It's time to pay dues for 2024

You can pay dues on the OCMC Club website:



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.

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

This is the 12th 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

Deadlines, Rewards and Rituals

How much practice do you put into your magic? Do you work on it daily, weekly, less? Is it something you look forward to doing, or is it a chore you find excuses to get out of?

In a blog post in 2019, Seth Godin wrote about using deadlines and rewards to accomplish certain tasks. He wrote that deadlines make it so that we complete our taxes (usually on-time) or turn in a work or school assignment. He wrote, “They’re an external lever for the work we have to do.”

In magic, we might have a deadline for an audition, performance, or competition. That deadline gives us a date-certain that we must be ready for – or we risk failing. The deadline works – as we approach the important date, we start practicing more and more – often doing the equivalent of cramming for an exam. It isn’t best, but it does motivate us.

Godin then wrote that we don't need to have an external lever for the things we want to do, and he gave eating dessert as an example. Eating dessert is something that we get to do after we've finished our meal. We look forward to it. It is like a reward.

In magic we can also approach practice as something we get to do. I've written about positive and negative motivations in a previous column. They both work, but last month I was reminded of something else that can help us get motivated to accomplish tasks – making a ritual out of it.

I used a ritual to reduce my coffee intake several years ago. Sounds like the opposite of what we're talking about here – but I was drinking coffee morning, noon, and night. I turned coffee drinking into a ritual – roasting my own beans, grinding them, using an espresso machine to make a perfect cup of coffee, and then savoring each cup. Instead of just pouring coffee down my throat – I made each cup special so that I looked forward to the entire process. I didn't just drink a ton of coffee any longer, but I savored two cups of coffee each day.

We can ritualize our practice. One way to do this is to set up a place that is only for magic. Have no distractions in that space. Make it so that you look forward to entering that space. Only go into that special place when working on your magic. Or, start every practice session with a mind ready for magic. Watch a video of a great magic performance, listen to music that inspires you, read a chapter in a book on performance, think about the great responses to your performances. Do something that gives you the mental space to be ready to practice in a positive way.

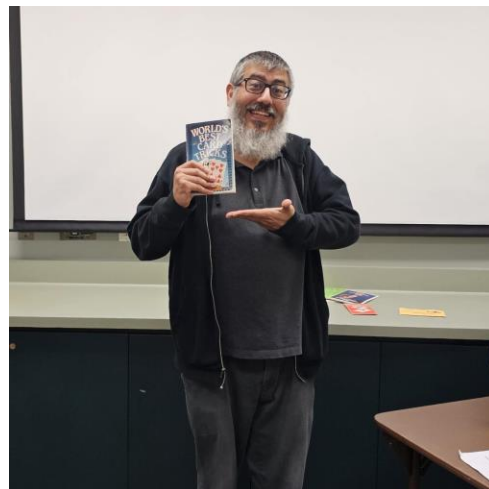
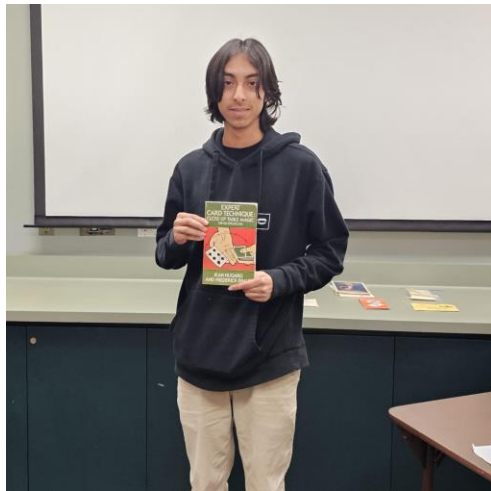
By ritualizing and making special, our practice, we turn it into something we desire – like dessert. We may still get deadlines that help us focus what we are practicing, but whether there is a deadline or not – we will be sure that we always make time for that special ritual of practicing our magic.

Try this once and see how it goes. Then try it again. Think about your practice as a positive ritual, as something you get to do, as dessert.



February 2024 Raffle

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



Other Events in the Area:

For more Ring96 info, visit their website @ www.Ring96.com

