a well-known Master Mentalist. He presented a routine that he has titled "Root of All Evil," based on a creative concept by Drew Bakentoss. This is a routine utilizing money, and everyone loves money. Doug always mystifies!

Our 8th performer was Grayson Smith, "The Amazin' Grayson." Grayson is the VA Hospital magician and performs there regularly. He performed "Blue Moon," which was taught to the Ring at the Nate Kranzo lecture. This routine utilizes 4 blue backed cards. He gets rid of 1 card since he only needs 3 cards. This is repeated several times with another card reappearing. The trick concludes with only red backed cards. Once again Grayson amazed us all.

Our 9th performer was Dr. Jon Stanford. He presented "The Dr. Jon Cube," which is a Rubik's type cube except it is all the same color. The cube breaks into 2 pieces of multi-colored formations before becoming 2 cubes, then reassembling into the cube from the start of the trick. He followed this routine with Clarence Miller's Impossible Penetration, aka Wooden Finger Chopper. He finished by giving the spectator a Mardi Gras Bead Puppy Dog.

Our final performer was Joe M. Turner. He is a very busy performer in the region. He presented a Visible Drawing Transposition. The spectator drew a picture and Joe did also. These were placed into frames with each holding their own picture, then they magically changed places. Visible magic at its best.

The evening was completed with Joe's Wheel of Fortune where several winners received magic related prizes. This was a great evening of magic where everyone became a winner. If you are ever in the Memphis area on the first Tuesday of the month, we would love to have you as our guest. *Dr. Jon Stanford*

RING 17, TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA – The Sid Lorraine Hat and Rabbit Club

Meets 1st Mon. (except July and August) For current meeting details and venuue, please visit website.
Web Site: www.ibmring17.org
DAVID PECK, President / E-mail:david@sochange.ca

For our first lecture of 2026, David Sutherland performed a rope routine (Sandsational Rope) using two different presentations simultaneously as an exercise for everyone to compare and contrast the difference between using stock lines and a script that was written by the performer. Rob Fishbaum and David Peck assisted.

We were then treated to a film by Daniel Zuckerbrot called "The Life and Strange Genius of Stewart James." Shot in the 90s, the film featured cameos by Margaret Atwood, David Ben and Alan Slaight.

We learned that Stewart's parents were distant and downright mean. Amongst other coping mechanisms, he spent a great deal of time with his three imaginary friends: Khardova, Rigonally, and Faxton. Magicians have this team to thank for such magical classics as Miraskill, Sefalaljia, Further Than That and the Robot Deck amongst many, many other tricks. Stewart once asked the triumvirate if they could work on something other than magic tricks, such as a cure for illnesses. They said no.

For me, the most interesting fact was that Stewart was a friend of Pat Lyons and Pat knew Robert Bloch. Pat and Robert went to visit Stewart, but Robert was not allowed in Stewart's house. From the car, Robert noticed Stewart's mother dashing from window to window peeking out from behind the curtains. It was her seemingly manic and odd behaviour that became Robert's inspiration for Norman Bates's mother in a novel he was writing called Psycho.

Following the film, David Ben performed his version of the James trick 51 Faces North which he calls Window to the Soul and can be found in his book Tricks. Jude, a new member of our club, got to experience this trick firsthand.

Stewart James is credited with over 2,000 creations. The entire James series rivals the number of items found in the Tarbell Course but of course the Tarbell series was a compilation of tricks from different contributors, not just one person.

Personally, I wish Mr. James had created fewer items and lived a happier life.

David Sutherland

RING 19, MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA – Carl Jones Ring

Meets 2nd Mon. each month, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom and in person 2nd Sat. (location GameZenter, Roseville, MN)
ANDREW SELBITSCHKA, President / Web site: www,IBMRing19.com

The online meeting started with Will Earley sharing his continued work on the Ball and Cone routine. Will shared that as he was looking through his magic drawer, he came across a copy of Tops Magazine (September 1993) that deals with Indian Magic - the All Tricks issue. Will shared some of the tricks included in the issue including "Rupees Created From Dust". Rick Hinrichs shared a magic marker trick called Invisible Magic Wand.

The club discussed coin magic - Jennifer is reading Bobo's "Modern Coin Magic". Rick Hinrichs discussed the coin magic of Danny Goldsmith. Will Earley discussed using coasters instead of coins. "Fast" Eddie Olson is working on coin magic, as well. Dan Koopmans is reading "Magic with Cards" by Schindler and Garcia.