

# Gulf Coast Magicians Guild

## Hocus in Focus Newsletter – June 2020

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The *Gulf Coast Magicians Guild* meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at **5:30 PM until 8:00 PM** at the **Tryon Branch Library, located at: 1200 Langley Ave, Pensacola, Florida.**

**GCMG Website:**

[thegulfcoastmagiciansguild.com](http://thegulfcoastmagiciansguild.com)

**GCMG Facebook Page**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/thegulfcoastmagiciansguild>

**Please send Newsletter submissions to Bruce**

**Walstad at:** [brucewalstad@gulftel.com](mailto:brucewalstad@gulftel.com)

**Webmaster and Facebook Administrator:**

**Javier Arrillaga**

[magicjavi3@gmail.com](mailto:magicjavi3@gmail.com)

**Club Officers**

- President: Bruce Walstad
- Vice President: Beau Broomall
- Secretary: Bill Metsch
- Treasurer: Perry Vath

**Theme for our July “ZOOM” Meeting**

The theme for our July **ZOOM** meeting will be, *impromptu magic*. As we all know as when people learn we are magicians, we usually hear, “Do a trick.” So, for our July meeting we can share our favorite impromptu magic. Hope you can all attend.

**MISS A MEETING, MISS A LOT**

**2020 Public Show**

Sadly, we believe it would not be in the best interests of the club to do a show this Fall. We sincerely doubt we could attract an audience, much less in a safe manner for those in the audience and our members.

Additionally, these shows do cost the club upfront money in printing costs and refreshments to resell. So, we will wait and see how things look in the Spring and perhaps we can present one then.

**Club Library**

**Good News!** The GCMG was able to purchase another 24 (used) books from **Dan Bradbury**. Once again, Dan gave us a great price of \$4.00 each. Among them are many of the classic in magic. Zach has been entering them (as time permits) into the database which is attached to the club website.

Once we start meeting in person again, the books will be available to check out.

The members of the GCMG would like to thank Zach for all his work in maintaining our library.

**July Meeting Via Zoom**

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM**. You will receive the link to join the meeting from Javier.

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### Broken Wand for Isaac Brady

Our club has suffered a great loss, Isaac Brady passed away on April 25, 2020 at the age of

Isaac was one of the most remarkable individuals in our club. His interests in life were vast. He loved fishing, traveling, cooking, gardening, storytelling, basket weaving, teaching and of course magic.

Isaac always had that infectious smile that made everyone else smile.

Isaac had a wonderful imagination. When he participated in our Creative Magic Contests, he came up some of the most creative magic effects ever, putting the rest of us to shame at times.

Isaac was always there for our club. He volunteered each and every time the club the club needed assistance. For each of our public shows, Isaac did walk around magic in the audience before the show, for many years he served as our club librarian, he sold raffle tickets at each of our meetings, he and always brought in some sort of wonderful food for each of our club meetings.

We know Isaac held several degrees and/or associate degrees and for many years worked with special needs children who were hospitalized.

Since Isaac's passing, we have learned he was in the United States Marine Corp as a corporal and served in Korea.

We have been attempting to contact his wife and daughter and once we do, we will invite them to his ***Broken Wand Ceremony***.

Isaac was laid to rest at Barrancas National Cemetery at the Pensacola Naval Air Station 1 Cemetery Road, Pensacola, Florida 32508, Section 55 - Site 1095 - Rest in Peace Isaac

### Donations Needed

Do you have a book or DVD or two you no longer need or want? Donate it to the CGMG library. Zach will be happy to accept your donations.

### Monthly Raffles

Starting next month (July) we will hold an on-line raffle. Here is how it will work. Tickets will be same price, \$1.00 each or 5 for \$5.00.

To purchase tickets members would send money via PayPal to Perry or Bruce. Instead of raffle tickets, we will just write the members name on papers.

Then during the meeting, we will draw names. We can then either mail the winning prize(s) to the winning members or hold until we meet in person.

### Speaking of Raffle Prizes

We just purchased \$100.00 worth of raffle prizes from D. Robbins. We thank Javier for using his wholesale status to make the purchase.

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### Creative Magic Contests

We have been gathering some cool and fun items for upcoming Creative Magic Contests (once we start meeting in person again). We will also have the contest with the saltshaker and popcorn bag at some point in time.

### In Person Meetings

As of this point in time, we have had no further information from the library regarding when we can meet there again. We are hopeful for a September meeting.

### Show Posters

If you need (free) posters for your magic show, check out *Poster My Wall*. They have several templates there for posters for magic shows.

<https://www.postermywall.com>

### Vista Print

*Vista Print* has been running some good sales (up to 50% off at times) on business cards, posters, banners, and other advertising items. It is worth signing up to their mailing list to get notices of their sales.

### Magic on eBay

Sadly, it seems there is an above normal amount of magic being sold on eBay. It is disturbing to see our brother magicians having to sell their magic to make ends meet. Mixed emotions over this. Do you help them out by buying their magic? Or, are we taking advantage of a fellow magician by buying their magic?

### Awards Banquet

We would still like to host our Awards Banquet in November. We need members in the Pensacola area to try and find us a restaurant, that we could have it at. If you can suggest a particular restaurant, let Bruce or Beau know and they will contact them.

### Summer Picnic

We are considering hosting a picnic this summer. If we do this, it would be in August. As we did in the past, we can have it at Bruce Walstad's home (near Foley). We will be sending out an email to all members with the details and asking if they would attend. This will depend on what is going on with the virus.

### Psychic Dots

*Submitted by Tyler Reid*

**Effect:** Audience follows along in a game with 5 dots. Mr. Magician eliminates dots till he can correctly predict where everyone has freely chosen. Dots can be drawn on a whiteboard or could be done with any 5 objects i.e.: candy, cards, coins etc...

**Method:** It's Mathematical and will land on the second spot every time. with the 5 dots in a row all you have to do is follow the formula. We'll use A-E for an example:

**A B C D E**

"Everyone in your mind start at A"

Explain that every time I say MOVE then move one space to the left or right. Notice

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that being on spot A you can only move to spot B because there is nothing on the other side of it. This is important because you don't want anyone to jump from A to E.

"So, go ahead and do that in your mind, MOVE to B"

Explain now if we play you have choices and therefore, I can't possibly know how you move from here. From B you are gonna have them move 4 times. Mathematically you cannot land on E so you eliminate it

**A B C D**

"Move 1 more time", Mathematically eliminates D

**A B C**

From here you just have to ask them to move an odd amount of times. I always do 3 to keep it simple. They can only choose B or Not B at this point so as long as it's an odd number they will always be on B.

**B**

Side notes: Just to make sure I'm following the formula, I like to play along in my own mind and if I fall on B I'm pretty sure they will. I learned this from Ben Train and he calls it Candy from Strangers in which he uses skittles candies. I know it's older than that but I couldn't find any history on it. Have fun with it and **ENJOY!**

***Thank you Tyler, for sharing this!***

### **The Magic Classroom**

If you are not familiar with the ***Magic Classroom***, it is worth checking it out.

<https://magicclassroom.ning.com/>

Hard to even begin telling you about all the information on it. The site is run by Jim Stott. So, sign up and check it out. It is free!

### **Minutes from the June 2020 Meeting**

***Submitted by Bill Metsch***

The GCMG held its second Corona Zoom Meeting with 12 members online; the meeting was interesting to say the least. Javier the admin for the zoom meeting from Orlando, The meeting started off with light conversation giving time to let any late comers join in. the meeting was called to order, we welcomed our out of state members Tyler Reid whom gave us a rundown on the happenings in Las Vegas where he resides now.

Old business: annual picnic, awards show, lectures and other club happenings put on hold till the pandemic is over as of now.

New Business long time member Isaac Brady passed away, we have lost another friend and magician, we will hold a broken wand ceremony as soon as we can hold a live meeting. Longtime member and GCMG Vice-President Beau Broomall had a stroke and says he is recovering nicely.

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Perry Vath gave us the treasury report, Zach Ready gave us the update on the library and all the new books purchase or donated and how the list of books were being listed and how to find them on the clubs website.

Bruce Walstad has found us some new props for our creative magic contest, and a vote was held to see about an online raffle, yup that will happen next month.

We then held a deep discussion on Children's magic, the ins and outs, what members do and don't perform for kids, the age groups that are the best to perform for, kid's topics colorful, bright, music, dress up, jokes, attention spans, and silly seem to be the kicker. A lot of good info and stories were shared. Members shared who influenced their kids magic, David Ginn was mentioned many times.

The Magic started off by Lexi and her finger ring trick, very smooth. Javier Arrillaga did a ball to rabbit, Bruce Walstad did supreme magic's Rainbow house, Zack Ready showed off some coin magic that he has learned from Danny Goldsmith lessons. Tyler Reid did a mind reading illusion where there were four dots were marked with A-B-C-D and with a few moves he erased all but the one everyone was thinking of. Ron Hudspeth did an awesome ESP card effect were after shuffling and mixing them up randomly and placing them in two piles that were picked by a member when flipped over they matched.

Then Zack Ready finished it off by performing the crazy man's handcuffs with coins next month is impromptu magic.

