



## June 2020 Oakland Magic Circle Newsletter

Official Website: [www.OaklandMagicCircle.com](http://www.OaklandMagicCircle.com)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/42889493580/>

Zoom Virtual Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84068100108>

### [This Month's Contents](#)

- *OMC Virtual June Meeting- page 1*
- *Who is Meir Yedid? – page 3*
- *Meir Answers Five Questions- page 4*
- *The OMC Library Report- – page 6*
- *From the Archives Quiz – page 6*
- *Magical Resource of the Month – Magic Orthodoxy-page 8*
- *Disney Magic – page 9*
- *Magic in the Bay Area in March – page 11*
- *Magic Shops in Northern California - page 12*

### **JUNE OMC MEETING IS VIRTUAL ONLINE- Tuesday, June 2**

The May Virtual meeting was a terrific success with 45 people joining our special guests Scott Wells, Jaime Salinas, Kayla Drescher and Patrick Martin offering valuable wisdom with entertaining magic. Several members had questions to ask and magic to share.

### **The Schedule on Tuesday, June 2**

**6:30pm** (PST)- **Social time**– join us to visit with other magicians.

**7:00**– Meeting called to order and **“Good of the Order”** announcements of interest.

**7:15- Mark Tarses' "Casino Shuffle" Teach-In.** *Have a deck of cards with you.*



**7:30– Phil Ackerly** was a First Place Winner at OMS' 2019 Stage Magic Competition. He will honor us with a performance of one of his favorite routines and a short lecture on virtual show essentials. Read all about his exciting career and his Answers to our [Five Questions in the March 2020 newsletter](#). Phil talks about losing his day job and going full time performing magic on [The Successful PerformerCast](#). He is performing [Virtual Shows on Saturdays](#), June 6 and 13 at 7pm.



**8:00 – Meir Yedid full lecture** (approximately 80 minutes) plus Q&A.



Meir has created more than a thousand original *Sleight Of Hand* routines and techniques with cards, coins, bills, business cards and many other objects. Many of these routines are suitable for both stand-up and close-up.

Although Meir's lectures are different each time you see them they all include his humorous presentations and fun to watch magic. This lecture will feature many previously unpublished routines and techniques with cards and coins that vary in difficulty from self-working to intermediate. These routines are not ones created for the lecture but are the routines that Meir uses during live shows for magicians and laypeople.

**10:00 – Meeting officially adjourned but members and guests are welcome to stay, sharing magic and conversation.**

**JOIN OUR ZOOM MEETING** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86408375596>

Meeting ID: 864 0837 5596

### WHO IS MEIR YEDID?

Meir Yedid has given a totally new interpretation to the phrase "sleight of hand." Disregarding the conventional accessories of the close-up magician, Meir's nimble hands provide the setting and backdrop for a self-contained magic show.



His little finger telescopes backward and forward; each finger disappears in turn; his thumb travels up his arm. At one stage, he removes his little finger and replaces it with a spare.

Using the simple finger tricks we've all attempted in childhood, Meir added advanced digital skills and misdirection to convey a sequence of genuine illusions as original as anything in magic. This routine, "Finger Fantasies," garnered Meir worldwide acclaim leading to appearances and lectures in Asia, Australia, Europe, South America and the United States. He has written more than 10 books on conjuring, [won many awards and appeared on dozens of television shows](#).

In 1986, a car accident severed a third of his right hand, the hand used for the routine. After nine micro-surgeries and a year and a half of extensive therapy, Meir continues to amaze audiences with a refined sense of magical dexterity and buoyant resiliency.

Currently Meir resides in Fair Lawn, N.J., and operates [Meir Yedid Magic](#), offering the magic community the highest quality, innovative magic, literature and videos from many of magic's leading creators. He consults with toy manufacturers, performs for corporate clients in a private setting or in trade show venues, devises original magic and has been an innovator in creating and implementing a strong magic presence on the web.

In 1997 Meir was voted as The Magician of the Year by the Society of American Magicians in New York City, in 2003 he was the Guest Of Honor at the prestigious 4F Convention and in 2016 he was given the Milbourne Christopher Foundation Close-Up Magic Award for his lifetime achievements in the art.

Check out his [many websites](#) and sign up for his weekly newsletters.

[Meir Yedid videos](#)

[Recent videos, podcasts and news](#)

On [Scott Wells' The Magic Word](#), March 19, 2020

With [Franz Harary on Quarantine Talk](#), April 17, 2002

*The Oakland Magic Circle June 2020 Newsletter*

## MEIR YEDID ANSWERS OUR FIVE QUESTIONS

1. Please tell us the first magic trick(s) you were proud to perform and about how old were you?

---[Cut and restored string](#). I believe it was invented by [UF Grant](#). I was around seven years old.

2. And the first important magic book(s) and why?

---[Stars Of Magic](#). Because the material felt like it was professional quality and advanced, not something you would find in the library.



3. If you were going to a desert island for six months to do a deep dive into your magic what three effects would you take with you to perfect? And what three books would you bring along?

---I would not take effects. I would take a deck of cards, a few coins, and my hands. What else would you need? The books would be Stars Of Magic, [Greater Magic](#) and Steve Forte's [Gambling Sleight Of Hand](#). (Meir has a [short interview](#) with Steve.)

4. You are planning a dinner party followed by your magic show. Among the guests can be any five people from history (living or dead, magician or not). Who

would you invite?

---I have no preference as long as they are smart, honest, polite and enthusiastic, which are not the basic characteristics of many historical figures.

5. What are words of wisdom or advice you can offer for aspiring prestidigitators?

---Do not give up. There is always a way...



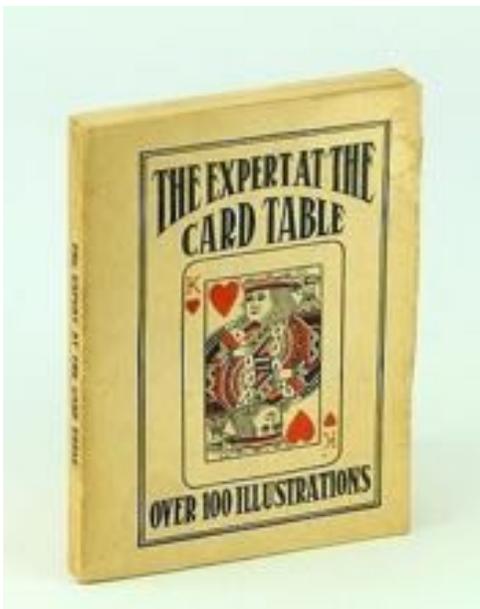
#### THE OMC LIBRARY REPORT

There is nothing new to report as we can't access the library. Watch for continued inventory updates. You might look up information about books and videos that intrigue you to make a list of things to check out when we are back.

#### AND JUNE QUESTION

#### FROM THE ARCHIVES MAY QUIZ ANSWER

In what publication is the *Charlier pass* misdescribed as “*Charlies pass*”?



**The answer:** S.W. Erdnase, [\*The Expert at the Card Table\*](#), a book with which card enthusiasts are generally familiar. This is the most glaring and also the most widely known of errors in the book.

It appears in the fourth paragraph on Page 128 of the first edition and can be found on page 148 of the *Ortiz Annotated Erdnase*. The full sentence reads

*Single Handed Shift* – This is known to conjurers as The “Charlies Pass”, and we presume was invented by the famous magician of that name.



Apart from being an error, the mistake has prompted speculation about whose error it was? Erdnase? The typesetter, possibly a misreading the author's handwritten text? If Erdnase, why would the author make such a mistake and what might the fact that he did say about him? Was his knowledge of magic lacking? If so, the theory that someone else with greater knowledge wrote the conjuring section of the book is supported. And what does it mean that he refers to Charlier as "the famous magician of that name?"

A [video demonstrating some of the moves](#) in the book.  
[And another one](#) by Jason Ladanye.

### **This month's questions**

Much can be said about the OMC's history but you don't want to hear about that. No, it's all about the here and now; nothing else matters. So, in keeping with your perspective, what follows is about the here and now.

**Current OMC members – The people you hang around with, fight over cookies with, try to get a better seat than, at Bjornson Hall. More here and more now than that you can't get. You recognize them when you see them. Possibly you know their names. But what do you *really* know about them?**

Consider the following.

1. What current OMC member began his magic career by taking personal lessons from Martin Lewis?
2. What current OMC member can write the word "Guittard" without having to check the spelling?
3. What current OMC member performed a Chavez based routine in an OMC contest that was judged by Channing Pollock?
4. What current OMC member performed his act for a time on a showboat?

5. What current OMC member before starting a career in magic ran away from home with a circus?
6. What current OMC member has at least a dozen dribble glasses and probably a lot more, each of a different variety?
7. What current OMC member who you'd never think of as doing it once performed the Abbott portable sawing illusion for the members of another magic club?
8. What current OMC member performed for an extended period at Carter's Magic Cellar, his act featuring Disecto, the Milk in Light Bulb and a string of Weller sausages?
9. What two current OMC members are past International Presidents of the International Brotherhood of Magicians?
10. What current OMC member was responsible for the expert restoration of a very large number of pieces that became part of the Dr. Robert Albo collection, then the largest privately held magic collection in existence?

Send your answer to John Owens [conjuriana@gmail.com](mailto:conjuriana@gmail.com)

## MAGIC RESOURCE OF THE MONTH

### Magic Reviews by Magic Orthodoxy



**There are lots of magic reviews. Excellent reviews can be found in many publications, in print and online. And numerous video reviewers have appeared recently. Some just unbox the effect. Others perform a trick, often not too well, and review it.**

**The one I most often return to is *Magic Orthodoxy*. Started in 2013 there is a wealth of information on the [Magic Orthodoxy blog](#) and the [YouTube channel](#).**



David, the reviewer is a skilled and knowledgeable magician who thoroughly considers each effect, giving us the pros and cons. Then he suggests questions to ask in deciding if the trick is right for you. He is enthusiastic, has a sense of humor and is always fun to watch. It is FREE and there are five reviews a week covering virtually every type of magic.

David has just started a new Membership Program that costs \$1.99 a month for exciting bonus content.

The Magic Orthodoxy Facebook page has current updates and giveaways and the Twitter feed also has news.

For a terrific interview with David check out Playing Cards.

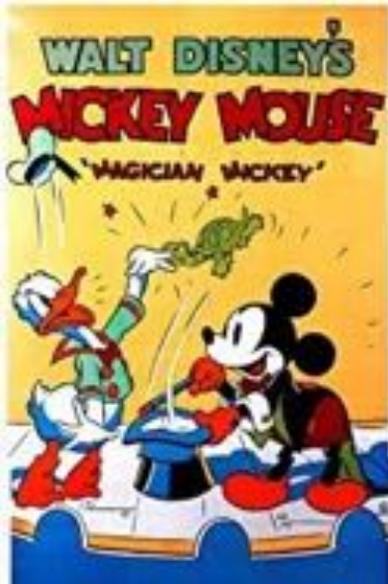
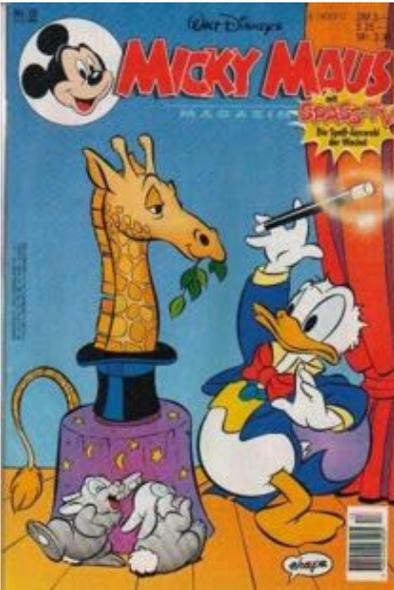
## DISNEY MAGIC

There have been many magical characters in the world of Disney. The Disney parks are magical places and they have magic shops. We came across this Disney Magic TV special with Harry Blackstone and The Pendragons that [you can watch](#).

The cartoon *Magician Mickey* has long been a favorite. [Watch it here](#). And we can't forget "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" from *Fantasia*. It is still a [wonder to enjoy](#) (after a short commercial).

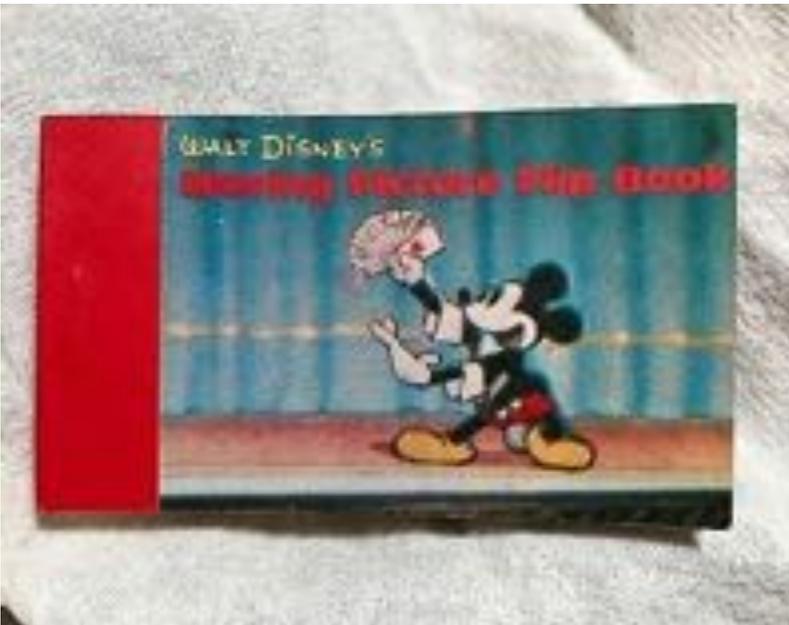
That got us wandering the Internet.





[Meet Magician Mickey at the Magic Kingdom.](#)

How about seeing the [30 minute musical magic show](#) at Disneyland Paris?



[Watch the Flip Book.](#)



MAGIC IN THE BAY AREA

***With no live shows currently scheduled we are postponing listings of such appearances until***

*they become a flesh and blood reality rather than virtual (covered above).*

*We will send those on our mailing list notice of upcoming shows and lectures, Virtual and in person.*

*When you have an upcoming show or know of one in the Bay Area please Email us the information to be listed. Include title and performer, date, time, location, a short blurb, website link, & a publicity photo or graphic. All submissions must be sent in by the third Tuesday of the month for the following issue. Email Gary Meyer, Newsletter Editor, at [garymeyerdf@gmail.com](mailto:garymeyerdf@gmail.com)*

## NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DEALERS

[BYRON WALKER BOOKS](#) - OMC member and long-time book dealer has about 4000 books in stock covering magic, mentalism, gambling and bunco, juggling, and ventriloquism. He always stocks the newest titles and has the rarest of volumes. This is a mail-order business based in San Leandro. Byron will bring books to the OMC meetings upon request but for now is doing mail order, had good prices and a deep inventory of both old and the newest books. He accepts PayPal. Call him at (510) 276-1854 or email [byron.walker@comcast.net](mailto:byron.walker@comcast.net) .

[MISDIRECTIONS MAGIC SHOP](#) - 1236-9th Avenue (near Golden Gate Park), San Francisco. (415) 566-2180 Locally owned and operated by Joe Pon with a terrific supply of your magic needs, lectures, private lessons and a place for magicians to gather. Ask about The Magic Club and get discounts off purchases and lectures plus regular notices about new effects and upcoming events. Joe is currently offering 25% off everything in stock at the shop. The physical store is closed but they do mail order. [Watch "Is this the last real magic shop?"](#)

[HOUDINI'S MAGIC SHOP](#) - Beach Street & The Embarcadero, Pier 39, San Francisco The local branch of a national chain located in resort hotels and amusement parks oriented to tourists but The Oakland Magic Circle April 2020 Newsletter 27 always worth a visit if in the area.

[BOARDWALK MAGIC](#) -400 Beach Street, Santa Cruz. Joshua Logan's labor of love has an excellent selection and demonstrators who are serious about their craft. Surprisingly good selection for a tourist location and they will happily special order.

[ZUCCHINI'S TRICK 'N THINGS](#) - Monterey Canning Company, 711 Cannery Row # H, Monterey. Oriented to tourists with mass market magic, jokes

*and games but the demonstrators are having fun and love a visit from other magicians. Worth a visit if you are at the Monterey Aquarium.*

*[GRAND ILLUSIONS](#) - 7704 Fair Oaks Blvd, Carmichael This family run business started by Steve Johnson and his parents in 1988 carries magic, costumes, puppets, makeup, special effects, juggling gear, novelties and more. They are having a "going out of business sale with plenty of bargains.*

*[EVANGELINE'S COSTUME MANSION](#) - 113 K Street, Sacramento A fun shop of over 4800 square feet of basic magic tricks and a huge selection of novelty items, jokes, wigs and just plain fun. Upstairs are two floors filled with accessories and every imaginable costume.*

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*The greater Sacramento area has become a home for magic companies but you can't buy retail from [Murphy's Magic](#). Look at their offerings online and ask your favorite dealer to order for you. [Penguin Magic](#) and [L&L Publishing](#) are also based there and [Ellusionist](#) is based in Petaluma, but they do not have storefronts and are mail order warehouses only. They all offer informative newsletters and occasional free stuff.*