

I.B.M. Ring 29

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MAY 2002

MAGIC MUSINGS

International Brotherhood of Magicians, Ring #29
8912 Stagecoach Road, #7, Little Rock, ARkansas 72209 ● (501) 455-6242
Meets 1st Thursday of every month, Baptist Medical Center



May 2 is regular meeting: lecture by Bill Palmer

The regular monthly meeting for Ring 29 for May isn't really regular at all. It will be at the regular place (Baptist Medical Center), in Room 20, at the regular time (7 pm). BUT, it will be a **lecture**, by **Bill Palmer**. See page 4 for details.

This is a special lecture, as you see, which includes several different types of magic. What ever level you are as a magician, Bill will take you to a higher level. You can't miss this one if you want to improve your magic skills and presentation.

Cost is only \$8 for members and \$12 for non-members. All tickets will be sold at the door. If you are not a Ring 29 member, please be prepared to pay the higher fee. A benefit of being a club member is these special, lower fees.

NEXT MEETING:

- **Thursday, May 2, 7 pm**
Baptist Medical Center
Bill Palmer lecture

BITS & PIECES

● **LAST MONTH** the Ring 29 meeting theme was "**The Business of Restaurant and Close-up Magic.**" Panel members gave dozens of tips and tricks of the trade on everything from what to charge to how to handle hecklers. You missed a good one but three dozen folks didn't. Panelists were **Damon, Derrick Rose, Wells Autry** and **Tony Eady**. Thanks, guys, for a good job.

● **J.C. HENSON**, Jim's dad, who works in Mr. Magic off and on and has met most Ring 29 members, fainted Tuesday morning and was rushed to emergency. The tests were not conclusive Thursday. Please keep him and his family in your prayers. Let's overwhelm him with lots of get well cards. Send them c/o Mr. Magic, 8912 Stagecoach Road, #7, Little Rock 72209.

● **MARY ANN CAMPBELL** writes: "During January and February, I traveled to Scottsdale, Omaha, Wichita, and Branson to present "Money Magic" for the regional conferences of members of Farmland Industries. Those farm couples seemed to enjoy the magic."

● **THE RING 29 MAGIC COOK-BOOK** by our own Penni Springer, is still available for purchase from Penni or from Mr. Magic. She has reduced the price to \$5 each. What nice presents they make.

● **IF YOU ARE A** magic collector, the Magic Collectors Weekend is set for May 16-18 in Fort Worth. Call Jim for more information.

● **DID ANYONE GO SEE** Penn & Teller or David Copperfield in Springfield, last month? If so, please give us a brief

write-up. We like to keep our members informed about shows in the area.

● **ANYONE INTERESTED** in attending this year's IBM Convention in San Diego July 2-6 can get all the information from Jim at Mr. Magic. Who from our Ring is going? Please let Jim know.

● **PAUL CARLON** will be teaching a Magic & Illusion class at Pulaski Academy, for grades 4-6, on June 24-28, from 9:30 to 10:30 am. If you know of someone who might be interested in taking this class, call Paul at 315-9040.

● **REED MEANS**, son of club member Bob, received the rank of Eagle Scout at age 13, which is very rare. Reed also works with the Junior Magicians Program. Congratulations to Reed and his parents for the hard work which went into this accomplishment.

● **BOB SHEETS** will be lecturing in Memphis in May. If you are interested in

Ring 29 is looking for performers for Magic Weekend Sept. 21-22

Once again, Ring 29 will be showcased Sept. 21-22 at the Museum of Discovery during Magic Weekend. It was a big hit last year and many of our magicians got in some great performing experience and we were able to present magic to hundreds of people.

If **you** would like to perform during that weekend, call **Bill Fulton** at **663-9380** to set up a pre-meeting in July on site. It's a triple opportunity: for our magicians, for our club and for magic.

Nominations announced for 2002-03 elections

As is the Ring 29 custom, nominations are announced this month for the election next month, for 2002-03. There will be a ballot in the June newsletter, to be returned by mail or in person to Mr. Magic **by 6 pm, June 6**. Ballots will be counted at 6:15 and results will be E-mailed instantly following the counting. The counting will be public and anyone interested in observing it should be at the store by 6 pm.

Following are the recommendations of the Nominating Committee:

President	Dan Hecke
Vice president	Bill Fulton
Secretary	Christy Henson
Treasurer	James Kinsey
Sgt. at Arms	Jon Bucher

Anyone else who would like to run for office should contact Damon, Bob Owens or Mike Curtis no later than May 19, to be included on the ballot. If you have questions, contact any of them.

details, call Jim Henson at Mr. Magic.

● **THE JOHN CALVERT LECTURE** is scheduled for June 11, a Tuesday. The location will be announced. If you make only one lecture this year, this is the one you don't want to miss. See page four for more information.

● **THE INSTALLATION BANQUET** for 2002-2003 officers will be held at 6 pm, **Tues., June 18** at Brown's Country Kitchen in Benton, the same location as last year. Individuals will pay for their own buffet.

The installation will be by International IBM President **Bob Escher**. The Broken Wand Ceremony will be conducted by **Bob Owen** and **Wells Autrey**. Other details of the program will be announced next month.

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend this inspiring and enjoyable evening.

Check out Ring 29's new Web site. Log on to:
www.littlerockmagic.org

RECENT MEETINGS

◆ IBM RING 29:

The emphasis was restaurant magic at the April 4 meeting of IBM Ring 29. About three dozen people attended, and picked up all sorts of tips and hints from the pros. There was good audience participation, too, both from questions asked and from tips from others with restaurant experience, such as **Scott Davis**. **Bill Fulton** was moderator for the four-person panel (see page one).

Overall, it was an informative and entertaining meeting, and suggests such meetings on other topics for future meetings (birthday parties, scripting a performance, promoting yourself, etc.).

◆ JUNIOR MAGICIANS:

The Junior Magicians Program will hold its regular meeting this Sunday, April 28 at 2 pm at Mr. Magic. Randal will hold tryouts for members to allow some of them to perform at his show at Music Mountain Jamboree in Hot Springs this Summer. It will be a neat opportunity for young magicians to watch peers perform. Also, Randall will lecture for a few minutes on stage performing. And as a pro, he should know.

If you know of a youngster who is interested in magic and would like to be a part of the junior program, please give his or her name, address and telephone number to Jim Henson at Mr. Magic.

◆ CLOWN ASSOCIATION:

The every-other-month meeting of the local chapter of the World Clown Association was held April 14 at Mr. Magic. Nine clowns came in costume, to have a group photo taken for an article being written by **Marty Boone** for *Clowning Around* magazine. What a bunch of nuts!

Some people came just to hang out, but all came in costume. What a great time! Plan to attend the next meeting and be a part of these crazy folks.

Be an official member of Ring 29. Pay your dues.

Dues will be due officially June 30. The cost is only \$15 if paid before August 1; \$20 thereafter. Paying your dues on time helps the board decide what lectures the club can afford. This year the dues are a bit higher because of the expected expense of putting on a convention.

COMING EVENTS:

The following is an update for the rest of 2002. Please mark your calendars to avoid conflicts. Other dates will be added as events are finalized.

- May 2 Bill Palmer Lecture, BMC
- June 6 No regular meeting
- June 11 John Calvert Lecture
- June 18 Installation Banquet, Brown's
- June 22 Doc Dixon Lecture, Hot Springs
- July 11 Regular meeting: close-up
- Aug. 1 Regular meeting: ethics
- Sept. 14 Annual Ring Picnic
- Sept. 17 Dick Berry Lecture
- Sept. 21 Magic Days,
-22 Museum of Discovery
- Oct. 3 Regular meeting: comedy
- Oct. 19 Ring 29 Convention, Hot
-20 Springs Convention Center
- Nov. 7 Regular meeting: school magic
- Dec. 5 Board planning meeting

Ring 29 Hot Springs magic Convention is shaping up!

The first Ring 29 magic convention, set for Oct. 19-20 in Hot Springs, is starting to shape up, as basic arrangements are being finalized. Meeting rooms for the sessions have been rented in the Convention Center and hotel rooms have been booked in The Austin Hotel, next door. Here are details:

✓ **Cost, both days: (Everyone must pay a registration fee!)**

Pre-registration:

- \$50 before June 15
- \$60 June 15 - Sept. 1
- \$75 Sept. 2 - Oct. 19

✓ **Cost, single day: \$40**

(Prices include individual and immediate family -- spouse and children)

- **Public show** Saturday night: \$12.

A tentative schedule has been approved:

Saturday, October 19:

- 8 am-4 pm Lectures and close-up
- 5 pm Banquet. (\$20 extra)
- 8 pm Public show
- Midnight Tales of the Wizard Show

Sunday, October 20:

- 8 am Competitions
- 11:30-1 pm Balloon lecture
- 2 pm Show and awards
- 4 pm Convention ends

Win a nice prize! Suggest the winning name for the convention!

Here's a chance to go down in history, and win a nice prize to boot! Suggest the winning name for Ring 29's Magic Convention in Hot Springs in October, and win a nice prize. The deadline for your nomination to be at Mr. Magic is

Magic in the Ozarks

By C. Dennis Schick

CAVALCADE OF MAGIC

March 22-23, Eureka Springs

Since Jan and I were going to be in Northwest Arkansas March 17-19 for the Governor's Conference on Tourism, we decided to stay the rest of the week. Wednesday and Thursday we visited our member newspapers throughout the Northwest.

The convention was held at the brand new Inn of the Ozarks, which burned down last year. In fact, on Friday evening, convention director **Bill Pitts** (past IBM president) and current IBM president **Bob Escher** performed an impromptu "cut and restored" ribbon cutting for Governor Huckabee and a large crowd for the official grand opening.

Lectures, sessions and vendor visits were the focus Friday afternoon and Saturday, with public shows both nights. We had great representation from Ring 29. Performers included **Don Thompson, Damon, Rebecca Roberts, Jimmy Rhodes, Jr., and Dennis Schick**. Also attending from our Ring were **Bob Owen** and **Richard Knoll**.

The convention was loose and informal, and lots of good magic was discussed and performed. Many people come back year after year due in large part to the friendships they have with Bill and Ruth Pitts, and other magicians and their families.

It was especially an honor to have at the convention current IBM president **Bob Escher** of Louisville, KY, as a special guest. He has known Bill Pitts over the years, of course, but has developed many other friendships in Arkansas, especially while he came here for several procedures at UAMS in Little Rock.

During his appearance on the Saturday afternoon show, he performed an amazing torn-and-restored playing card illusion, using a rare apparatus which was a work of art. He demonstrated it after the show for those who came back stage to see the amazing device. Maybe he'll bring it back.

Congratulations to Bill and Ruth for conducting another successful and fun magic convention. Watch for the dates next April for the 2003 Cavalcade of Magic.

May 11. That's two weeks from Saturday. Give the name, your reasons behind the name, and whatever else you want to submit (sketch, etc.). Mail, E-mail, fax or deliver your entry in person. Be creative; be original. The more ideas the better!