



I.B.M. Ring 29

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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

SEPTEMBER 2002

September has regular meeting the 5th; picnic the 14th; lecture

September will bring three (3) meetings for Ring 29 and we urge all members and guests to attend all three. Here they are:

(1) The **regular monthly meeting** will be held **Thursday, September 5** at the regular place (Baptist Medical Center) and at the regular time (7 pm).

The theme for the month will be "My Favorite Trick, or A New Trick I'm Working on Which Needs Your Help."

NEXT MEETINGS:

- (1) **Thurs., Sept. 5, 7 pm**
Regular meeting, BMC
- (2) **Sat., Sept. 14, 6:30 pm**
Annual Ring Picnic
- (3) **Tues., Sept. 17**
Berry Lecture (tentative)

BITS & PIECES

● **WE ARE SAD** to report the death of **Grant (George R.) Ludder**, 70, Aug. 26, Hot Springs Village. He never really fully recovered from recent heart surgery, although he did come to some meetings after it. Grant really loved magic. A memorial service was held August 29.

● **LAST MONTH** 35 members attended the regular August meeting. The subject was "The Ethics of Magic." Bill Fulton did a great job preparing for the meeting. It was educational to hear from experienced and knowledgeable members.

● **BILL FULTON** is presenting a "Fortune Telling Course 101" in Cammack Village, Oct. 9, 16, 23 and 30. Cost is only \$89. If you are interested register at 666-0759 or go online at: www.extendedlearning.org

For more information contact Bill at 413-1614. This course is offered through the Arkansas Extended Learning Center.

● **CHRISTY HENSON** will be serving a church mission in The Prague beginning in October. She had a bicycle accident last week, but recovered enough to go to New Orleans with her parents for a last road trip before leaving for overseas.

You will be in our prayers, Christy. Thanks for all you have done for the Ring and for your witness in Czechoslovakia.

Everyone bring one or the other of these and it will be a fun, educational evening.

(2) The **Annual Ring 29 Family Picnic** is set for **Saturday, September 14th** at the home of **Jim, Brenda and Christy Henson**. The picnic **starts at 6:30** and will include all the typical picnic goodies, plus some good magic. Here are **special instructions**:

• You must **call Mr. Magic** to see **what you are to bring**, and to tell **how many are coming**. The club will furnish the meat and members furnish other goodies. Furnished will be hotdogs, turkeydogs, turkey sandwich meat, and even marshmallows.

• A **map how to get to the Henson's house** is included with this newsletter. If you want to go to Mr. Magic and follow Jim home, be at the store by 6 pm. Home # is 455-1773.

• If you **want to perform**, call Mr. Magic and tell what you'd like to perform.

• **BYOC**: **Bring your own chair(s)**, for you and your guests.

(3) A **very special magic lecture** by the one and only **Dick Berry** will be tentatively held **Tuesday, September 16** at a location to be announced. As we go to press it is not definite and the details are being worked out. That means you need to **call Mr. Magic at 455-6242** to find out when and where. Just do it!

Magic Weekend

"**MAGIC WEEKEND**" is Sept. 21-22 at the Museum of Discovery. Bill Fulton has arranged this special event again. He thinks he has enough performers, but you may contact him at fulton@aristotle.net. Performers he has so far will meet at **2 pm Sunday, Sept. 1** at the museum to discuss the schedule, etc. Be sure to come by on Saturday and/or Sunday and cheer on the magicians. Bring your family. This is a great opportunity for both the museum and our ring, to promote magic and for individual magicians to get great exposure.

No dues, no newsletter!

If you received this newsletter, then **you paid your 2002-03 dues**. The Board thanks all members who support the Ring by paying dues, paying them on time, coming to meetings, registering for the convention, volunteering to help when asked, etc. Our dues are the primary financial support the club has.

If you know anyone who did not pay dues, please talk them into it.

Convention is still on but **you** need to register! **Now!**

The 1st Annual Ring 29 magic convention -- "Magic in the Natural State" -- is still on for Oct. 19-20 at the Hot Springs Convention Center, **BUT we need more members to step forward and REGISTER!**

The quality and quantity of speakers is **directly dependent** on the money from registrations. We can't sign more performers until we have more money. It's as simple as that! The registration cost is only \$75 for the **entire immediate family** (member, spouse and kids). A one-day fee will be available at \$40.

Highlights include lectures, close-

up, shows, a public show, private shows, competitions and a magic auction on the concluding day.

Some performers signed so far include Bill & Ruth Pitts, Dave Emerson, Diamond Jim Tyler; Steve Bender and Tom Yurisits. Others to come.

Registration forms are available at Mr. Magic. Over 25 members have already signed up and we hope to have 75 or more attend. This is **your** club's major project. We need EVERY member to register NOW and help support what we hope will be an annual show. **Won't YOU do YOUR part, NOW??** Send your registration in today!

COMING EVENTS:

Please mark your calendars for these dates, to avoid conflicts.

- Sept. 5 Regular meeting: favorite trick
- Sept. 14 Annual Ring Picnic: Hensons
- Sept. 17 Dick Berry Lecture (maybe)
- Sept. 21 **Magic Days**,
-22 Museum of Discovery
- Oct. 3 Regular meeting: comedy
- Oct. 12 Renaissance Fair, Highland UMC
- Oct. 19 **Ring 29 Convention**, Hot
-20 Springs Convention Center
- Nov. 7 Regular meeting: school magic
- Dec. 5 Board planning meeting

● **ACCORDING TO A** brochure on Hannibal, Missouri ("America's Hometown"), master magician **Darin Carolus** entertains at "Mississippi Magic." For more information, call the box office at (573) 406-0902. Has anyone ever seen him?

● **THE FOLLOWING** are some of the magic shows in Arkansas newspapers in recent months. Dennis gets clips from the Arkansas Newspaper Clipping Service, using "magic" as the keyword to search.

• **Sebastian** gave a full 90-minute show in Booneville August 24, sponsored by the local Lion's Club to raise money for eyeglasses for children.

• **Jim Goza II** entertained Osceola Rotarians in April. He was the program chairman.

• **Juggles the Magic Clown** performed at the Camden Public Library in June as part of their summer reading program. Juggles also performed at the Music Mountain Theater in July, sponsored by the Mid-America Lions Club.

• **Steve Snediker** performed in Siloam Springs July 4 as part of the Family Aquatic Center's celebration.

• **Jim Princeton**, along with **Marlo and Hocus Pocus**, gave magic performances in Forrest City in July, sponsored by the police department.

• **Kelvin Richardson** performed at the Rogers Public Library in June as part of its summer reading pro-

Christy and Jim Henson's visit to Abbott's in Michigan

by Christy Henson

I have heard about the Abbott's Magic Get Together in Colon, Michigan ever since I got started in magic. Finally this year I was able to experience it. This month dad and I spent 2 days in the Magic Capital of the World.

On arriving in Colon, Bob Escher -- Immediate Past President of IBM -- took us around the town of 1100 people. We visited Abbott's Magic Shop, drove down Blackstone Avenue, and even ate at the Magi Café. The mascot for the Colon School District is the Magi. We also ran into Dave Madden while asking for directions at a Laundromat. Madden was on Laugh-In, The Partridge Family, and Alice.

There were seven dealers including Abbott's, Fukai, and Duane Laflin. We saw three lectures during the short time we were there. Chris Capehart demonstrated his street magic as well as an incredible Linking Ring Routine. Duane Laflin (a performer at the 1999 convention in L.R.) lectured on using magic as object lessons for Gospel Routines. We also saw Jeff Hobson's lecture on selling yourself (publicity). Be sure to ask us about the midget at Hobson's lecture. I will just say that it was so funny that even Hobson was in tears and cut his own lecture short.

At the evening public show, Hobson performed his famous Egg Bag routine. Chris Capehart did a great routine with Fraidy Cat Rabbit. Other performers included Joe Holiday, Bill Watson, and Devlin.

There was also a close-up show where Tom Craven performed a Ring and String Routine and Al the Only did some humorous Card effects. I had the honor of assisting eighty-year-old Billy McComb in a card trick. Also I lost a bet with Fukai from Japan when I was assisting him during the close-up show. When 2 glasses of water were filled, covered with a napkin, and turned upside down, only my glass spilled water so I had the choice of paying him \$20 or giving him a kiss. I was broke so I chose the latter.

Some of the highlights were hanging out with Marshall Brodien and the editor of Magic Magazine, John Moehring. Also we went to the cemetery where 22 magicians are buried including Harry Blackstone Senior, Blackstone Junior, Don Alan, and Karrell Fox. A six-year-old boy won the junior stage competition. He performed a cute routine with appearing canes and even produced a little girl at the end.

We were not there for the first night's performance but Jack Greenberg (former president of the I.B.M. and friend of Ring 29) told us about an incredible rabbit act. When the curtain opened the first night, a rabbit hopped to center stage where a microphone was sitting on top of a box. It climbed atop the box and introduced the evening's performers. It then climbed off the box and hopped off stage. We heard it was the best part of the entire week of magic.

The Abbott's Get Together is different from a convention. It is extremely laid back and most people go to socialize with the big names. We had fun though and enjoyed our experience at Abbott's.

Christy Henson

gram.

• **Jamel the Magician** performed at the Clark County Library in June.

• **Melvin the Magician** performed at the Prescott Housing Authority Community Room July 26.

• **Felix Snipes** from Atlanta gave programs at the Dermott Baptist Church August 2-4.

• **Rocky & Lori Clements** presented their "Smoke & Mirrors" show in Jonesboro July 24.

Trip to Quebec misses Canada Magician Championships

by Dennis Schick

From August 6-10 Jan and I were in Quebec City, Canada for a convention. While we were there the city celebrated its annual *Les Fetes de la Nouvelle-France* ("The Festival of New France").

The joy of it all was the music and food and street performers throughout the downtown area (where we were staying at La Chateau Fratenac, the most photographed hotel in the world).

Right in front of our hotel was a stage on which there was a series of jugglers, comedians, acrobats and -- yes -- magicians. The good news was I saw three different magicians over three days. The bad news was they talked mostly in French. But magic is a universal language.

But the worst part was, after we got back, I was going through a bunch of tourist guides and right there it was: the exact time we were in Quebec, within 30 minutes of our hotel, was the **Canadian Magician Championships!** Bummer!

Next time, I will ask questions, look in the Yellow Pages, call ahead, go on the Internet -- whatever, to at least ask if any special magic event is happening where I will be.

P.S. We're going to be in Portland and on the Oregon Coast the second week in September; and then in Or-

lando the last weekend of the month.

If anyone knows of any magic event or place I should check out at any of those areas, please call me.

Bits & Pieces continued

● **BILL WEBB** (Smiley) had his 80th birthday celebration at the Presbyterian Church in Hot Springs on August 24th. Jim says Bill invited all his friends and both of them showed up.

Seriously, folks, the church was packed with his friends and family who gathered to wish him many healthy and happy years ahead, as Smiley the Clown.

● **JAMES KINSEY** is still ailing at home and is having lots of tests to find out what is wrong. Please keep him in your prayers, and we hope for a speedy recovery!

● **WE UNDERSTAND** Dan and Bill have been performing a "strip act" together for parties. That's all we know about it except that Liz (Bill's wife) seems to have the details. Now if we can only bribe her to tell the rest of us.

● **MARK YOUR CALENDARS** to attend the Renaissance Fair at Highland United Methodist Church Sat., Oct. 12. **Bill Fulton** will be fortune telling and **Dan Hecke** will perform magic as a wizard. Go on out and support these Ring 29 members.

Convention Schedule:

Here is the latest schedule for the Ring 29 magic convention, "Magic in the Natural State:"

● SATURDAY, OCT. 19:

8 am Registration, pick up packets
8:15 Lecture (to come)
10 am Break
10:15 Lecture or dealer demo
12 Lunch
1 pm Lecture: Tom Yuristits
2:45 Break
3 pm Lecture: Diamond Jim Tyler
4:45 Break
5:30 Banquet (if provided)
8 pm Public Stage Show
12 mid "Tales of the Wizard."

● SUNDAY, OCT. 20:

8 am Close-up Competition
10 am Stage Competition
12 Lunch
1 pm Show and awards
Local performers
4 pm Lecture (to come)
5 pm Magic Auction (Only people registered can attend.
Badges will be checked.)
Close At the end of the auction.
(Dealers will announce the times they will be open).

That's a whale of a lot of magic for a modest cost. And that cost is for your whole family! Please arrange your schedule to support and attend this first Ring 29 Convention.

Kudzu



Doug Marlette

RING 29 ANNUAL PICNIC

HOME: 455-1773; MAGIC STORE: 455-6242

FROM I-430:

1. Take Colonel Glenn exit off I-430.
2. Go West to Lawson Road (look for Joe's Grocery)
3. Turn left on Lawson and go approximately 3 miles to Crystal Valley Road (Crystal Hill Baptist Church).
4. Turn left on Crystal Valley Road to second paved road on left (Red Bud)
5. Turn left on Red Bud. It curves around.
6. Then turn left again, on Chicopee Trail.
7. Look for the house past a mobile home, on the left. Look for a lavender Volkswagen bug in front of house.

The address is 15608 Chicopee Trail (see map). Call 455-1773.

FROM MR. MAGIC STORE:

1. Drive West one mile to Col. Carl Miller Road. Turn right.
2. Go to Crystal Valley Road, 1 mile. Turn left.
3. Go to Plantation Acres Drive, one mile, and turn right.
4. Now go to the dead end and turn left.
5. The Henson House is the 7th one on the right. There will be balloons on the mail box. Park on the street.

**LOST? Call 455-1773 (home)
or 455-6242 (Magic Store)**

