

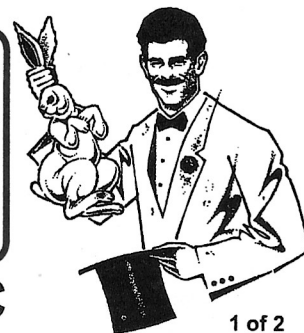
I.B.M. Ring 29

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AUGUST 2004

MAGIC MUSINGS

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



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August 5 meeting to feature "Coin Magic" at Baptist MC

Next **Thursday, August 5**, the regular monthly meeting of Ring 29 will feature "**Coin Magic**." Four of our own members who are adept with coins, will talk about and demonstrate coin magic: **Jim Henson, Dr. Chris Westfall, Joey Williams, and Sid Salamans.**

Come learn some neat tips about coin magic, and go home a better magician. Don't miss this chance.

The meeting will begin at 7 pm in the Sheffield Auditorium at Baptist Medical Center, our usual place.

Plan on bringing your own best coin tricks and performing one or more and then explaining them to the audience.

BRIEFS

✓ **Dues are now PAST due!** They will be \$15 until this coming Saturday, July 31. Beginning August 1 dues will be \$20. Make checks out to I.B.M. Ring 29 and send to James Kinsey or to Mr. Magic.

✓ **THE INVISIBLE LODGE KONKLAWE** August 13-14, will bring some of the best-known celebrities in the world of magic to Fort Smith: Carl Ballentine, John Calvert, Mark Wilson and Nani Darnell, and Lee Grabel, as well as others. Registration forms can be picked up at Mr. Magic.

✓ The magic show in Eureka Springs has closed. **Robert Kalina** is in Branson looking for a theater or show to join.

✓ **CHRISTY HENSON** just returned from a two-week mission trip to Micronesia. See her report on page two.

✓ **BOB OWEN** has been ill and had surgery July 12. He is home now and doing fine, but still needs your prayers. Please send greetings to him at 7 Meadowbreak Drive, Little Rock 72205

✓ **THE GRANDSON** of "Jerome Schimitar" is giving a special 45-minute performance at 10:30 each night, following Maxwell's show at the Theater of Magic in Hot Springs. Cost is \$6.50.

3rd Annual IBM Ring 29 Magic Convention will be Sept. 24-26 in Hot Springs

The 3rd Annual IBM Ring 29 Magic Convention will be held September 24-26 at the Velda Rose Hotel in Hot Springs.

There will be a close-up contest as well as a stage contest. Cash prizes will be awarded to contest winners.

Performers and lecturers will be **Bill Palmer, Steve Bender, and Danny Archer.**

A pre-convention reception will be held Friday evening.

There will be a public show on Saturday night and a Magic Idol competition Sunday afternoon. The hotel cost will be \$75 per room, and will include a buffet.

The registration fee for the convention (one person or family) is \$70 before September 1. \$80 after Sept. 1.

If you are an I.B.M. member, you will receive a \$5 discount on the registration fee. An "all you can eat" buffet for one person is included in the registration fee. The cost for the buffet will be \$15 for each extra person.

Registration forms can be picked up at Mr. Magic.

Got magic news? Call Mr. Magic or send to newsletter editor Dennis Schick at dennischick@aristotle.net

Installation "Party" to be July 29

The annual I.B.M. Ring 29 Installation Banquet will be an Installation **PARTY** this year. It will be held **Thursday July 29** at 6:30 pm.

Jim and Brenda Henson have invited Ring 29 to their (Hen)house, about 5 minutes from the magic shop.

Please RSVP (that means call to say you're coming) to Mr. Magic by **Wednesday July 28**. Cost is only \$5 per person to help pay for food.

Ring 29 Annual Picnic is set for September 12 at Pinnacle Mountain

The Ring Picnic will be at Pinnacle Mountain Park on September 12 from 11:30 to 4 pm in the main pavilion at the foot of the mountain -- the same location as last year and the only pavilion in the park.

We have made special arrangements with the park for us to do a public show at 2 pm. The performance will pay for the \$55 usage fee. So bring yourself, your family, and your magic to perform for the park visitors or we have to pay the park.

Dennis retires July 30

After 25 years as Executive Director of the Arkansas Press Association, Dennis Schick is retiring effective July 30. His wife and assistant, Jan, is also retiring then. They plan a trip to the East Coast: Annapolis, New York City and Michigan for two weeks.

A Report on the I.B.M. Cleveland Convention

By Christy Henson

The annual I.B.M. Convention was held June 29th- July 3rd in Cleveland, Ohio. Attendees from Ring 29 were Jim and Brenda Henson and me. I ran into Larry Bean from Fort Smith Ring 75 at one of the evening shows. Past IBM president Bill Pitts and Ruth from Fort Smith did not make it this year.

Cleveland was the perfect place for the convention. We stayed in a restored 19th century 5-star hotel connected to a huge three story shopping mall called Tower City. We were only ten blocks from the Palace Theater which was the site for the four evening shows.

Performers in the past on this stage included Harry Houdini; Harry Blackstones, Sr. and Jr.; Howard Thurston as well as many other magicians. Several blocks the opposite direction from the hotel was the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, the Natural Science Museum, the Cleveland Browns Football Stadium, and Lake Erie.

The three of us Hensons arrived on Monday the 28th. In 2003, I was asked by the I.B.M. Convention chairman to join the convention committee beginning this year in Cleveland. Along with 10 other committee members, I helped to organize different aspects of the convention. My official title as Convention Assistant led me to assisting other committee members when they needed help so I experienced the convention in a new way this year.

The four evening shows were excellent. The first night performers were **Mystina**, who did a great comedy routine and also a dance routine; and **Jim Passe**, who stopped in Cleveland while driving to the west coast blindfolded raising money for paralysis. Other performers were **Aldo Columbini**, **Jessica Reed**, and **John Carney**.

The second evening was an incredible show with **Jeff and Abbi McBride** performing their entire show with **Eugene Burger**.

The third evening was the stage competition with **The Spencers** performing during the judging. The Gold Medal was

not awarded this year for stage.

The fourth evening was the International show with **Murray Hatfield** from Canada, **Ali Bongo** and **Alan Shaxon** from Great Britain, **Yuji Yamamota** from Japan, **Fackelli** from Germany, and **Krill** from Ukraine. This evening show was considered by many to be the best of the convention.

Lecturers during the week included **John Carney**, **Karl Norman**, **Eugene Burger**, **Gay Blackstone**, **Ali Bongo**, **Jeff McBride**, and several others.

Twenty-seven people competed in the close-up competition, but the Gold Cups also were not awarded this year.

There was a Magic Idol Competition and a Bonk Game show with Kerry Pollock.

Some personal stories of my own include the up close and personal lecture with **Karl Norman** where I assisted him on stage during his hour lecture. I also won \$20 (accidentally) in the dealers room when one of the dealers actually lost (messed up) the sure-win bet. (I gave the money back).

Jim and I each were asked to M.C. one of the close-up shows (Jim on Thursday and me on Saturday). The performers included FISM winner **Jason Latimer**, **Aldo Columbini**, Britain's **Henry Evans**, Gold Cup winner **Chase Curtis**, **Dan Garrett**, and **Karl Norman**. The greatest part for me was not the introducing of these six but the group of spectators in my close-up room. Of the 40 spectators, there were: **Tony and Mary Wilson** (from New Zealand- newly installed International President of the I.B.M.), **Paul Gertner**, and **Jeff and Abbie McBride**.

One of our past members of Ring 29, **Frank Caple**, who lives in Benton, received his Order of Merlin Excalibur meaning he has been a member of the I.B.M. for 50 years.

Ron London, a good friend of Ring 29, did an excellent job with the hospital shows. He sat in front of us during the evening shows. We all had excellent seats sitting in the seventh row cen-

ter. **Gay Blackstone** sat a few seats over from us and the **McBride's** sat in the row behind us.

The Cleveland Convention was one of the best I have ever attended. We had a great time and saw lots of excellent magic. My dad says it was THE best magic convention he has ever attended.

Next year the IBM convention will be held in Reno-Tahoe, Nevada on June 26th- July 1st. We are already making plans for a great convention. Jim will be one of four hosts since Reno does not have a IBM Ring to host it. The 2206 convention will go to Miami and then it will return to Reno in 2007.

RING 29

2004-05 OFFICERS

President: Don Baer
Vice-President: Christy Henson
Secretary: Chris Westfall
Treasurer: James Kinsey
Sargent at Arms: Gerry Bailey

JUST BACK FROM MICRONESIA on Monday, (and still groggy from the time change), **Christy Henson** sent this report on Wednesday:

"Very few people in Pohnpei have ever seen a magic trick performed before them. I did several Gospel routines while teaching the children's class. They were not sure what to think.

I called everything a trick or illusion rather than magic because some do believe in the dark arts which they term with the word "magic". I also performed a bit for the American group I went with. It was a verry busy yet rewarding trip to Micronesia and I hope to return someday."

COMING EVENTS:

July 31: **\$15 Dues deadline**
Aug. 5: **Coin lecture regular meeting**
Aug. 13-14: 1st Invisible Lodge
Konklave, Fort Smith
Aug. 31: Early registration deadline for
Ring 29 Hot Springs convention
September 12: Annual Ring 29 picnic
Sept. 24-26: Ring 29 Convention III,
Hot Springs