

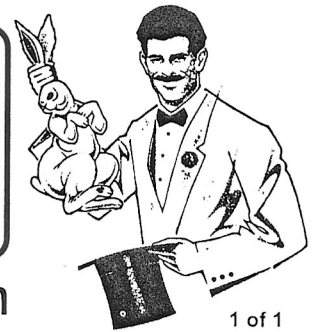
I.B.M. Ring 29

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OCTOBER 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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Oct. 7 meeting to feature "Spooky Magic" for Halloween

Next Thursday, September 7, is the first Thursday of the month. That means the regular monthly meeting of Ring 29.

The theme of the month is "Spooky Magic," just in time for Halloween. We want EVERYONE who comes to bring at least one trick to share which can be related to this holiday. We have many creative magicians in our club, and look forward to seeing what all of you come up with. Come and let's get spooked.

BRIEFS

▶ MARK YOUR CALENDARS for several coming events. The next regular meeting will be November 4. The Annual Christmas Party is usually the second Saturday in January. Watch for more details.

"Boo at the Zoo" is later this month. If you are not performing, at least go out to support those who are. Call Bill Fulton for more details.

• LARRY REDENBACH, a local magician, died last month. Please keep his family in your prayers.

• DAMON AND ELIZABETH will begin their new shows this weekend in their own theater -- The Wizard's Playhouse -- in Albuquerque. They live in Sante Fe and Dennis and Jan Schick visited them September 12, taking them to dinner and then touring their new house. Several Ring members will be going out to see their show during the Fall.

• ERNIE & WILMA recently returned from Alaska where Ernie performed magic on their cruise ship.

• BOB OWEN is doing better. We sure have missed him at our meetings and in the magic shop. Keep him in your prayers.

• MR. MAGIC is now closed on Mondays. Please come hang out (and buy something) Tuesday through Saturday.

Speaking of Mr. Magic, Jim is selling many videotapes for fantastic discounts. He says DVDs are selling better than videos so he wants to move many of the videos out. Drop by the store and pad your home magic library at unbelievable prices!

3rd Ring Convention was artistic success; financial failure

The 3rd Annual IBM Ring 29 Magic Convention was held September 24-26 at the Velda Rose Hotel in Hot Springs. It was a tremendous artistic success, but early reports suggest that it was a financial failure.

Barely two dozen Ring members registered and attended the full convention. Twice that many were needed to break even. The Ring board of directors will analyze the results and will decide what to recommend.

Saturday began with a spirited lecture from Steve Bender, the founder and brains behind Ickle Pickle, from St. Louis. He has performed for many years as both a clown and a magician. His performing skills showed during his lecture, as he demonstrated trick after trick, most of his own creation. He had so many tricks to show that he lectured a second time Sunday morning. He wore his trademarked full-green outfit, handed our pickle dollars and green sponge noses to those who bought his lecture notes, and had several tables of items to sell.

Texan Bill Palmer lectured next. He specializes in performing as one or more characters (Merlin, Wizard, etc.) in Renaissance Fairs throughout the country. He explained many tips about performing at Renaissance Fairs, as well as did the usual demonstrating and explaining of a variety of tricks (as well as selling some).

Danny Archer from Colorado lectured Saturday afternoon. This was the third time he tried to come to Little Rock. The first time two years ago was canceled because he had a heart attack. The second time a snow storm stopped him when he was on his way. So we were all pleased he finally made it. He did a great job.

As a long-time performing magician, he was smooth and entertaining, both during his lecture and the public show. Of course he had many tricks to sell, too.

At the buffet banquet, Bill Palmer appeared as Merlin, going from table to table performing amazing feats of magic.

The Saturday night public show attracted over 100 guests. It was as good a magic

show as you will ever see. Scott Davis was the emcee. The advertising, word-of-mouth and on-street promotion paid off.

Danny Archer took on the character of "Geno Mozzarella" for one of his performances, and brought down the house with his dead-pan humor and New Jersey accent.

Bill Palmer performed as one of his favorite characters and especially appealed to younger people in the audience.

Maxwell Blade shared a portion of his regular Hot Springs show Saturday evening and wowed the audience with both his major illusions and his skillful techniques.

There were contests during the convention, too. Disappointingly, there were no participants in the Junior Division and they missed out on some nice cash prizes:

For the adult stage competition, Jon and Susan Bucher won first for their fanciful golf routine. Richard Knoll and Joey Williams won second for their act, featuring appearing and disappearing canes, silks and doves.

The close-up adult competition was won by Chris Kline with his cups and balls routine. Derrick Rose won second with a stabbing card routine.

A "Magic Idol" competition was held Sunday afternoon, and all reports say it was absolutely hilarious. Seven people took the stage, who were critiqued by mean Simon (Mike Curtis). Randy the Dawg (Jon Bucher) and Lady Paula (Wilma Staggs). Bill Pitts won the title of "2004 Magic Idol."

A deep bow to members of the convention committee for all their hard work. It was a great effort which deserved your support.

Let us know your news.

We only have a one-page newsletter this month because more of you did not send us any news. We know many of you are doing magic stuff. Please tell us:

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