

*The*  
**PERFORMER**



*Little Rock Magic Ring 29*  
*Newsletter*

*August 2023*

Editor: Marty Haughn



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## LITTLE ROCK MAGIC RING 29

*It's all about the Magic...*

### THE DAYS ARE NUMBERED! **LAST DAY August 31, 2023**

The master of Estate Sales for magicians has started his last Estate Sale. It began July 22 and will continue for one month. Beginning July 25 all visits to see the collection will be by appointment only. Please call Jim Henson before coming out to ensure he will be available.

All sales are final and will be sold by CASH or CHECK only.

Saturday was a success selling a lot of small magic. There is still plenty of stage/parlor magic to be had that is in used once or new condition with each item priced well below retail.

There are plenty of hardbound and softbound books to be had at a remarkable price. The hardbound are bundled with the price of the bundle less than the cost of the most expensive book of the bundle. You need to come out and see what all the fuss is about. This stuff needs to be sold! Come on out and lets get you set up for an entire show or two!

- MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**
- MAKE AN APPOINTMENT!**
- TAKE A LOOK AROUND!**
- CHAT WITH JIM A WHILE!**
- BUY LOADS OF MAGIC!**
- GO HOME AND ENJOY!**

### MAGIC LIVE!

Magic Live is currently going on in Las Vegas. Ring 29 is being represented by several members, Blayk Puckett, Paul Carlon, Aaron Acosta, Jimmy Rhodes, Joey Williams and Richard Knoll. From the looks of a few photos received, they seem to be having a great time visiting old friends and meeting some great magicians. Paul commented in a recent text, "I have seen some great magic acts this year".



### Meeting Information

September 8, 2023  
TBD  
6:30 p.m.

### Upcoming Events

October Fundraiser Show  
December Ring 29  
Christmas Party TBD  
Annual January Show

*"Worry is constantly thinking about what could go wrong - Joy is constantly thinking about what could go right."*

- Barry Mitchell -



# President's Corner

*Dane Dover*

## Good Values (aka Cheapest for good quality)

What is a good value? My wife (Sarah) and I are about to leave for a Caribbean cruise. In my opinion it is the best value in vacationing. The truth is that if you went to fine dining for a week, you would almost pay what a cruise costs. You get a place to stay (although not spacious it serves the purpose), you get to see other parts of the world you would most likely not see (Cozumel - Mexico, Costa Maya - Mexico and Roatan - Honduras) on this particular cruise. You get to go to shows, pools, hot tubs, saunas, etc. They even have treadmills and weight rooms for those so inclined (I'm not). The point is that if you did all of this traveling and other stuff outside of a cruise it would be 2 to 3 times what a cruise costs.

So what is a good value in Magic?

1. Books - Most books contain multiple tricks you can add to a show that fits your style, performance parameters, etc. Dollar for dollar the best value in magic.

2. DVD's and (Streaming) - While a lot of DVDs and streaming devote themselves to a particular trick or subject there are some that are general in nature and are a great value Reel Magic magazine (which you can still purchase through Mr. Magic or sign up for streaming continues to be a good source of material). I recently stumbled across a version of "Out of this world" called "Out of this blah, blah, blah" that was shown by Jon Armstrong.

3. Magic Magazines - If you are a member of the IBM you get the "Linking Ring" every month.

4. Auctions - I recently purchased one of the estate mystery boxes, and was surprised to find a little gimmick that is not produced anymore but is a takeoff on a (magazine, paperback book) choice and revelation. You're likely to see it in the future.

5. However, I love magic props and the best value is still that trick that I have seen and appreciated and want to add to my repertoire. "Mother of all Book Tests" comes to mind (yes, it is a gimmicked book) is it cheap - No. Is it a good value - yes.

So, what is a good value in Magic? The prop, book, etc. that YOU have received a lot from. Once I read a Barrie Richardson book "Theater of the Mind" I had to have them all.

# Secretary Report

*Marty Haughn*

Little Rock Magic Ring 29 met once again at David's Burgers in North Little Rock presided by President Dane Dover. The business portion of the meeting began with Dane talking about how difficult it has been to find a suitable and permanent location for our monthly meetings. A request to everyone was made to keep an eye out for a possible location. In the mean-time, it appears we will be bouncing from location to location until one becomes available.

This was followed by having Secretary Marty Haughn inform the Ring about the upcoming Benefit Show in October. Details included, time, date, location and other details. There is still one performer position to fill with a few possibilities. Ticket sales will be accomplished via Eventbrite through the use of a custom QR Code. The QR Code will be on the website, Facebook and flyers. Paper tickets will also be sold through the membership.

As business was closed Vice President Joel Nicholson Handed out some undisclosed information on sheet of paper. The instructions were not to look at the information on other side. Once all sheets where handed out Joel began his "teach in" of sorts to his Oil and Water which was performed last month. Each step was noted and stated one at a time by each member. At each point in the instructions that required announcement of Red, Black, Red, Black, Red , Black Joel had everyone make the announcement as a group. All said, I think everyone now knows how to, maybe, do this Oil and Water.

One of two visitors from Ring 75 of Ft. Smith, Arkansas, Clyde Hayre began with a quote made by the late Bill Pitts. Bill Pitts was Ring Secretary at the time and reported in the Linking Ring that, *"The next performer was Clyde Hayre> He did twenty minutes of his latest ten minute card routine". This occurred sometime in the 70's.* At this point Clyde talked about being able to perform magic at a moments notice, say at a party or family gathering. The idea was to use an unprepared deck of cards from the host. It was at this point he removed all the spades from the "borrowed deck". He explains that he has nightmares of magic going wrong and actually takes notes from his nightmares. Clyde proceeds to have a card selected by Larry Bean and has Larry state whether or not the top card is dealt or switched. Eventually, Larry's card was exposed.

Although not a stranger to Ring meetings, member Dr. Chris Westfall attended after a long hiatus. It was great to see him back and se him perform. Dr. Chris was assisted by Janie Nicholson and Tammy Haughn with Historian Mike Curtis on guard duty of a small ring box. Dr. Chris had Janie draw a picture on a card then sign it. Every time the card was placed in the middle of the deck, it always miraculously was found at the top. This occurred several times and on the last go-round, Tammy was asked to push the card into the middle to ensure it was there. To her surprise, once done, she looked up to see the card in dr. Chris' mouth! It was only moments later when the ring box was inspected that the SIGNED CARD that was JUST in his mouth was now folded and in the ring box! Well now, that is what you call a come back to meetings routine! Thank you Dr. Chris!

Mr. Al Henager waltzed up to the front and asked Joel Nicholson to cut the cards from the bottom and look at it. The card was placed in the deck inverted. From here, Al stated that he had gone to Baylor University and asked a drunk to mix the cards. Al commenced to mix the cards like the drunk, slurring his words, by way of flipping a small stack over then another, then another and one more time. The card were thoroughly messed up. Well, when Al "sobered up", the cards were spread on the table only to find Joel's card the only one in the deck face up!

# Secretary Report

*Marty Haughn*

After his trick Al handed out some papers. One had information on the AMI, a magic club that is virtual. Al had recently joined and offered the opportunity to attending members to join. He also handed out a sample of a "One Sheet" which had his information and photo on it. He explained their use. Thanks Al.

Secretary Marty Haughn was next in line and presented an early Valentines Day trick. Asking Joel and Janie Nicholson to assist, Marty had been shuffling the cards then split the deck in half. Each half was handed to Joel and Janie to hold. Marty explained that like the funny cards found in magazines like Cosmopolitan one could do a compatibility test, and so he did. The first question asked was by way of the number, secretly count out the month Joel and Janie were married. A verification of each count was made to see if they matched, and did. Second question, by way of number, count out the month your first born child's birthday. When completed Janie's piles were collected then Joel's. Now side by side it was time to look at the top cards they ended up with. Unfortunately, they did not match. From an envelope, Marty removed a "magazine card", which identifies how well the compatibility test went. The three opportunities to be compatible, well, they failed. The cards matched nothing listed. As the final chance, Marty read the back of the card stating how compatible they were, turned the card around to show pictures of their cards.

President Dane Dover spoke of the theme for the evening and stated he too was going to break the rules and not use tarot cards. He began with talking how Tarot Cards were created before playing cards as we know them. Although not using Tarot Cards, he stated one could tell the Past, Present and Future using a deck of cards. Dane first asked Janie to cut into the deck and turn over to reveal her chosen card, the Queen of Diamonds representing the past and gave a sort of reading on the card. Joel was then asked to cut further down and reveal his card, the Jack of Hearts, representing the present. Again, another sort of reading. Finally, Janie was asked to scroll through the deck to the first face-down card which was to represent the future. Before turning the card over Dane gave a short reading on what he thought the card was to be, representing the future. The card was the Eight of Diamonds, just as he had predicted.

Dane closed with a short discussion about card decks and how they could be used, unconventionally, as a reveal card. For example, the Queen of Clubs and Queen of Spades both have what appears to be six spades on their sleeves. This could be used as the six of spades, or if you had a gaff card of the 12 of spades. The black Kings are no different as they sport five spades or ten spades how ever you choose to use them. If you look at the Bicycle 808's Joker you will see six spades and on the Jack of Hearts the four clubs or eight clubs. Looking at the face cards you can find other "revels" one could use.

That is all from Little Rock. Remember to Stay Safe and Stay Magical.

Marty

# Blast from the Past

*Mike Curtis*

This month we will go back 15 years to the Ring meeting of August, 2008. The President at that time was Chris Westfall and the Secretary was Jon Bucher. The Ring met monthly at UAMS hospital in Little Rock. "Always remember and never forget, "every long journey should begin and end with a trip to the bathroom." - Author unknown.

Our August meeting was a special happening, a lecture by one of the funniest magicians this writer has ever watched, Mr. Fielding West. Forty-one members got the word on the upcoming public show and subsequent meetings regarding that gig. Then they got the lecture. Aply introduced by Vice President Tyler Vodehnal, or "Tylenol," as we like to call him, Mr. West elucidated his take and experience of comedy magic. If you've ever watched him perform you know he walks his talk. We learned about the dove harness, dove production, care, and comedy magic with doves. Not into doves? How about bottle productions using the same dove harness? For the sleight-of-hand workers there was coin manipulation and a "Ring Flite" effect with retention vanish. Cigarettes were manipulated and there was a no-gimmick Cigarette Thru Coin. Mr. West's balloon stuff was entertaining and the balloon swallowing bit amazes and amuses the lay audience.

Of particular interest to this writer was Mr. West's comment on comedy: comedy is a story. It has a beginning, a middle, and an end. Amen. I have watched Fielding West perform in Las Vegas and his performance is funny, magical, and entertaining. I laughed my guts out! One of the members of Ring 29 is producing a documentary on the history of the Ring. If there is anyone reading this report that has a connection with our Ring or any information of anyone connected now, or in the past, with Ring 29 we would like to hear what you know. You can email your information to either of these addresses: [www.wilkinsonmagic.com](http://www.wilkinsonmagic.com) or [ring29report@yahogroup.com](mailto:ring29report@yahogroup.com). Do you and all your members know the history of your Ring? Don't let it get lost in time."

This particular meeting is probably easily remembered by those who attended because Mr. West's overpowering magical comedic presence captured everyone's attention. It was obvious from his lecture that he has a wealth of magical knowledge and practical stage experience. It was easy to see why he has been so successful in Las Vegas. It's always fun to have a lecture from a true magical pro. Let's look forward to that next lecturer we can book.

Until next time, remember, according to Robert Plant, "The past is a stepping stone, not a millstone."

# Report from IBM Convention

*Jim & Christy Henson*

Report from International Brotherhood of Magicians Convention –

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania July 11-15

Lectures: Multiple lecturers including Joshua Jay, Andi Gladwin, and Jim Steinmeyer who was honored for this work with magic books and tricks.

Close-up Show: Jeff McBride, Joshua Jay, Mark DeSouza and others.

Lucy Darling AKA Carisa Hendrix was the emcee for the Saturday evening show and was a lecturer.

Adele (93 years old), who performed with Harry Blackstone Sr. as the “Elusive Moth” from 1947-1950, was present at various events and hung out in the Dealer’s Room meeting magicians.

Lance Burton and Paul Gertner were visible throughout the convention. Lance Burton also hosted the Teen Seminar prior to the convention.

Some Ring 29 members were honored for their years in the IBM: Dr. Chris Westfall 35 years; Paul Carlon 25 years; Christy Henson Vodehnal 25 years.

The convention had over 400 attendees including some from Canada, Mexico, South Africa, England, South Korea, and Germany.

The 2024 convention will take place in Tacoma, Washington. The 2025 convention has yet to be determined but is leaning toward the Dallas/ Fort Worth area.

# August Performers





# August Performers



# Schedule of Events

2023

Date	Meeting Location	Theme	Lecturer	Host/Emcee
January 14, 2023	7:00 p.m. Jacksonville Community Center	Annual Christmas Show	N/A	Marty Haughn
February	Markham Executive Building 10201 W. Markham	Workshop	N/A	Dane Dover
March	Henson Home #2	Open	N/A	Joel Nicholson
April	Stagecoach Clubhouse	Lecture	Tom Burgoon	Jim Henson
May	David's Burgers 3510 Landers Road, NLR	Open	N/A	Dane Dover
June	Larry's Pizza 801 S. Bowman Road, LR	Officer Installation	N/A	Larry Bean
July	TBA	Photographic Magic	N/A	Dane Dover
August 3	David's Burgers NLR 3510 Landers Road	Magic with Tarot Cards <i>No Readings Allowed</i>	N/A	Marty Haughn
September 7	Henson Home #2	Paper, Rope or Rings	N/A	Dane Dover
October 5	TBA	Scariest Magic You Know!	N/A	Marty Haughn
November 2	TBA	Perform, Teach, Share	N/A	Joel Nicholson
December 8	Ring 29 Christmas Party Stagecoach Clubhouse	Best of the Best	N/A	Dane Dover

\* The clubhouse address: 100 Stagecoach Village, Little Rock, Arkansas.

These are our normal meeting gatherings. Any additional activity throughout the month will be listed on the website beginning in August.

*IBM Little Rock Magic Ring 29  
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All members of Ring 29 must first be a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians. I.B.M. Applications can be obtained from [http://www.magician.org/membership\\_application.pdf](http://www.magician.org/membership_application.pdf).

*Contact Mr. Magic or any Ring 29 Officer for information on joining the IBM or Ring 29.*

#### **Mailing Lists**

In addition to this newsletter Members can receive last minute email information on meetings, events, and lectures. If you wish to be added to our email list, please contact *Treasurer Col. James Kinsey*.

**[www.littlerockmagic.net](http://www.littlerockmagic.net) or [www.littlerockmagic.org](http://www.littlerockmagic.org)**

Our website has been filled with a wealth of information to assist our members and potential members. New features are being added daily. Check out the Ring 29 Highlights video, the Magicians for Hire page, or the Ring 29 Event Calendar.

#### **Using Ring 29 Email Group**

To be added to our email group, contact James Kinsey or Marty Haughn

We now use GOOGLE GROUPS for our email service.

Ring 29 is proud to endorse and support Little Rock's world class Magic Vendor, "Mr Magic"  
Mr. Magic is owned and operated by retired Fire Chief Jim Henson and is a primary contact for Ring 29.

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**Mr. Magic (Jim Henson)**

**501-580-2860**