



Little Rock Ring 29 Newsletter
Little Rock, Arkansas

April 2019



The Performer



REWARD for the capture and punishment of
"CEDRIC, THE OTHER ENTERTAINER"
for
SELFIE SPAMMING

*Last seen April 26, 2019 at a magic lecture taking
photos of himself with other people's cell phones.
This individual is armed with rubber chickens and
dangerous. Approach with caution!*

UPCOMING EVENTS

MEETINGS & LECTURES

Meeting - May 2, 2019

Officer Installation - June 7, 2019

Dameon Lecture - July 5, 2019

Project Magic

www.projectmagic.org

by Mary Ann Campbell

Thanks to the generous participation of numerous members of Little Rock Ring 29, I had a full report to give when contacted by Julie De-Jean, co-founder of David Copperfield's Project Magic for an invitation only 2019 Conference. The conference included 14 magicians from 7 countries. It was held at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas on April 15 and 16, 2019. We made our presentations in the David Copperfield Theater. ...continued on page 13

Cavalcade of Magic 2019

<https://www.facebook.com/CavalcadeOfMagic>

by Marty Haughn

The lights are out and the curtain closed, another year has passed us by but not without filling our hearts and minds with magic, fellowship and friendly conversation. Ladies and gentlemen, if you were unable to make it to the Cavalcade this year, fear not, 2020 promises to carry on with more great shows and outstanding lectures. We all very much look forward to seeing you in 2020. ...continued on page 15



Cedric's Chickens

President's Corner

by Jo Jones, Ring 29 President

Hello Magician Friends!

We had a good April meeting, although attendance was down some. We had about 16, including a new member. Several magicians performed magic and Jim Henson gave away some memorabilia from the Little Rock IBM convention in 1999.

We had several members of Ring 29, who attended the Cavalcade of Magic in Eureka. Those who performed were Marty Haughn, Dane Dover, Mike Jones, and Jo Jones. Jimmy Rhodes and Larry Bean were emcees. Randall Eller was one of the lecturers. Mike Jones and Jim Henson had booths to sell magic. Others who attended from our Ring were Gerry Bailey and Judy, Joel and Janie Nicholson, Daniel Gladstone and Lori, Blayk Puckett, Paul Carlon, Ron Stevens, and Joey Williams. The highlight of the meeting was getting to visit with Bill Pitts!

Our next lecture will be Friday, April 26th at 7:00pm at Baptist, Classroom #1. Scott Alexander will be here to present the lecture. Scott was a contestant on America's Got Talent. He is receiving very good reviews about his lecture. Please make plans to attend this lecture and support Ring 29.

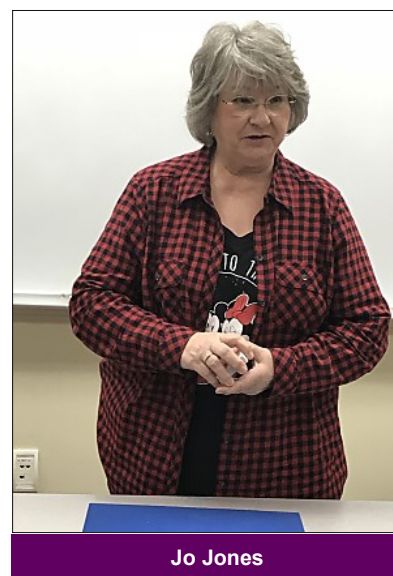
We have another lecture coming up on July 5th. Because our regular meeting falls on July 4th, we will not have that meeting since the lecture is the following day and the Fourth is a national holiday. Please add this to your calendar and read your monthly newsletter for additional information. James Kinsey also sends out reminders about lectures and special meetings.

FYI, we do not cancel meetings!!! Programs may change, but meetings are always held, except for the above situation. The May meeting will be the Close-Up Competition. Cedric Morley will be in charge of the competition since he won the last one. If you plan on competing please let James Kinsey know as soon as possible. Please remember that you must be a current paid up member of the IBM and Ring 29 to participate.

I hope to see most of you at the May meeting. Come out and support our magicians, who are competing.

Magically Yours,

Jo



Jo Jones



The magical James Kinsey with assistance from Shawn Miller (new member)

For the Record

by Marty Haughn, Ring 29...Gary's **Backup**...Secretary

Ring 29 members and guests met on Thursday, April 4th at 6:45 pm at Baptist Hospital in Little Rock, Arkansas. Our attendance was a little below normal and mostly attributed to the rain, I suppose. Either way, those not in attendance missed yet another great night of magic, conversation and fellowship.

The business portion of our meeting was nice and short with just a mention of our April 26th; July 5th; and fall lectures. Each will be held in our usual meeting room at Baptist, classroom #1. Also mentioned was the Cavalcade of Magic convention up in Eureka Springs, Arkansas. All that attended stated it was a great time not to have been missed.

One of the features of the Cavalcade was the "Who Wants to be a Millionaire", game show...magician's version. The key to winning is to know your magic and magic history. This year's winner, well sort, of was Jo Jones raking in a massive take of \$15. There was some controversy but all worked out for everyone.

Ring 29's Gerry Bailey was this years auctioneer for the Cavalcade. The auction was destined to be a long one...that is until Gerry got to business. Chopping down the expected time of about two plus hours into a short one hour...buyers were happy and by the end ready to get into bed. There were a lot of great items up for bid at some very reasonable prices. Gerry said he had a great time doing it.

A few other mentions from the cavalcade; The Monty Lecture on sponge balls and misdirection and Mike Jones speaking very highly about his performance of "The Fallen".

A new member was introduced tonight his name is Shawn Miller. Please be sure to introduce yourself to him at our next meeting. Speaking of next meeting, we will be holding the Close-Up Competition then so if you are going to compete, get your act together and be ready. Good luck to all who participate!



Gary Fambrough

...continued on page 4

Business was closed and the performances began.

First up was Marty Haughn who told his story of freaking out the head waiter on his cruise with magic. Not knowing the name he demonstrated what he did for the waiter by rolling two bills into a tight tube. The larger bill being on the bottom. Assisted by James Kinsey and Mike Jones, each held fingers on exposed corners of each bill. Then, with no hanky-panky, the bills were unrolled and miraculously swapped places! To top off his display Marty then explained to the Ring just how it was done and used as a carry-around.

Second came Jim Henson. He began explaining he had some giveaways and if you were interested to see him after the meeting. It was then Jim handed out some colorful stones, two to each person. He then proceeded to show everyone how to do the Bobo Switch. I am sure most everyone knew how it was done but could use the practice. It was an interesting display of just how to toss one stone while not disclosing the location of the other. Next on his list was a demonstration of "Silk Blendo". Jim explained that he uses one setup using red, white and blue silks to produce an American flag. After the demo, again we received a lesson. And finally, Jim had brought in a large Pom-Pom set. He did a great presentation of the trick. Well done Jim!

Next in the performance line was Carlos Yang whose energy cannot be surpassed by not even Superman! Carlos did a "High Speed" version of cups and balls. And yes, gravity still works. Regardless, Carlos, as always, put on a great show for us. I only wished I had half his energy! You know, if we could harness it somehow...

James Kinsey stepped up to show his skills with cards and transformation. He performed a card routine called "Diamonds are Forever. He asked our new member to assist. Diamonds are Forever uses two cards: A red ace, and a black two. James displayed the backs and faces of the cards, and then placed the two into Shawn's hand. It is then James peels the diamond off the red ace and magically bonds the red pip onto the middle of the black two. Outstanding! To Shawn's delight he got to keep the two cards as a souvenir.

We weren't short of performers tonight because up next was none other than the joker himself, Mike Jones. Again, with Shawn as the volunteer, Mike introduced him to a deck of special cards. These cards had photos of World War One veterans on one side and their specifics on the other. Shawn was also introduced to a box containing special items each soldier was issued. From these items Shawn was asked to select one of the soldiers cards and then remove the items listed on the back of the card. From this, Mike asked a few questions, contemplated what was said and then through several thought processes determined the name, rank, birthdate, regiment and when he was killed in action. Nice job Mike.

Not to be outshined, Cedric "The Other Entertainer" was up next talking chicken thievery. On display were some chickens and as Cedric unfolded the story of a farmers chickens coming up missing, the farmer, according to the story had set up a trap and eventually caught the thief, so he thought. Although the chickens were stolen a miracle happen before the farmers eyes, all chickens were accounted for! Now how does that happen?

To close out the performers Jo Jones came up with Andre Kole's "Three Ball Gospel Trick" where three balls were skewered on a metal rod. As Jo's story progressed she reached down and removed the middle ball without removing the two end ones. You know, Jo can be tricky like that.

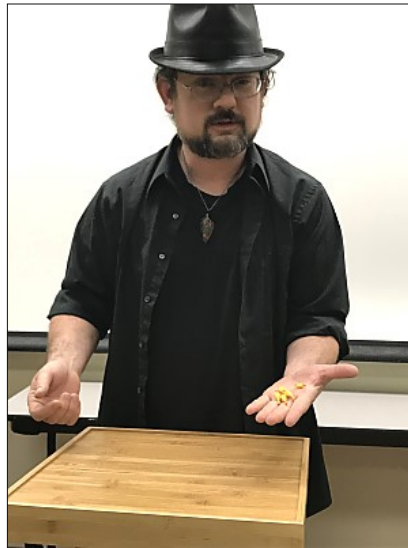
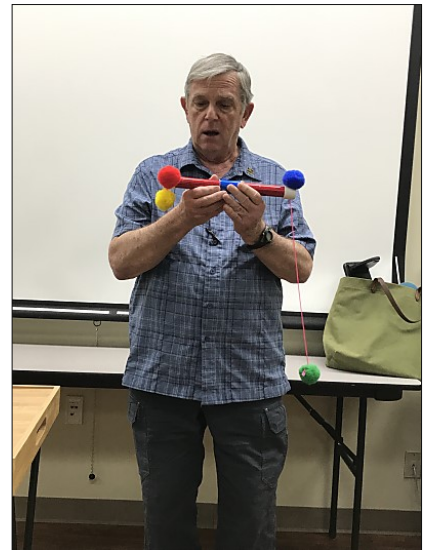
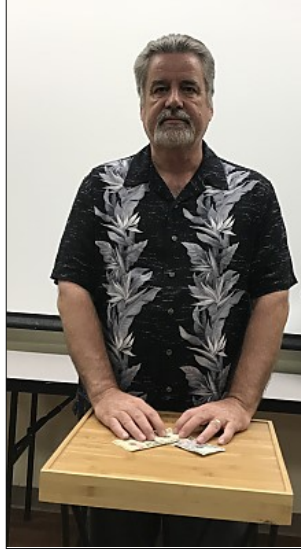
Well, that is it for this month. Remember our close up competition is next month so be ready with your best.

See you all next month!

Marty Haughn



APRIL PERFORMERS





In the Spotlight

by Marty Haughn

This month is a special treat for me as I get to interview a friend I made a few years ago at the Cavalcade of Magic. He is a multi-talented magician whose talents range from being an author, working in theater, creating magic DVDs and APPS as well as being a Guinness Book of World Record holder of THREE world records. More on that later. Monty is also the owner of Monty's Magic Theater in Depere, Wisconsin.

He is the author of "Magic and Misdirection" (eBook) and I know the eBook is still available through several sites, I got my copy through Amazon Kindle. It is my pleasure to introduce you to Monty Witt...er...uh, he prefers "Monty".

www.montysmagic.com

MH: Monty, thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to do this interview. My first question generally revolves around who you are but I would like to save that for later. So, question one; "How did you get started in magic, at what age, and who was your biggest influence?"

MW: I don't really know how I got started because for me it was a really slow and gradual process. I was trying to remember back as far as I remember, and it probably was Disneyland that got me started in magic. Many, many years ago as a little kid is buying a set of sponge cubes from Disneyland. They are three little cubes that are different colors and you do some sort of in-and-out of pocket kind of stuff with them and you end up with a final load of three cubes glued together. I think it is still sold today but I do not remember the name of it.

As far as who my biggest influence when I started magic a name that many of the people that are reading this may recognize but most will not is Jimmy Yoshida. Do you know that name?

MH: Yes I do. I met Jimmy while stationed in Hawaii.



MW: A lot of people do know him as he travelled all over the country because he was a magic dealer working conventions. He would mainly sell silks and things like that out of Japan. I met Jimmy very early on in my career and grew up with him there in Hawaii. It was kind of neat because I would travel with Jimmy some and work in his dealer booths. Jimmy was kind of my mentor at an early age. I don't know if you know it or not but because we were in Hawaii all the magicians and no matter who they are at some point in time they would come through Hawaii. Jimmy knew them all. Some would come to his house and do a little talk and meet and greet magicians and I got to know a lot of them that way. And so that was a huge influence for me as I grew up. I used to love one of Jimmy's sayings when he was demonstrating stuff. Most of his stuff came out of Japan. All the instructions were in Japanese. I used to really love his saying when people would say "But its in Japanese!" Jimmy would say, "That's ok, the pictures are in English!" Its kind of neat that we share that memory of Jimmy. I didn't know how many people would know him but he was definitely my biggest influence in my younger years. Even that he was primarily a dealer he was my mentor.

MH: You said you were at a young age then. About what age were you when you started with magic?

MW: The Disney experience was long before meeting Jimmy in my late teens. It was really just a gradual process of learning. During my late teens and maybe even early twenties is when I really started getting really active in magic after meeting Jimmy and was exposed to a lot more magic.

MH: When I ask my next question everyone seems to squirm a bit and has to think deep before answering. Tell us, who was your favorite magician growing up, who is it now and why?

MW: Yeah...um... well, fortunately you sent me some of the questions ahead of time so I could think over them a little bit and I am really glad you did with this one because I would have really squirmed on it. I thought about that a lot and I would say growing up my favorite magician...I like magicians that teach magic and help promote the industry. So in my thoughts it isn't who is the best performer although the ones I mention certainly are, but its mainly what they have done over the years to teach and promote magic. In the past that would have to be Mark Wilson. I don't think there are any ifs-and-or buts about that for me. I am sure his was the first book that I ever got on magic and I studied that from end-to-end. I'm sure that was even before I met Jimmy.

The next one might be a little bit of surprise for my favorite magician...my favorite magicians currently are Lance Burton and Jeff McBride. Obviously everyone knows them and they are superb performers but what I am really impressed about those two is what they do to promote magic and improve magic for the future. Also with what they are doing with youth magicians by teaching them more about magic and the proper ways of doing it. I don't know if you are aware of the seminars they put on before the I.B.M. conventions but they work with the young magicians a couple of days before.

MH: If you had to choose two magicians in the world, who would you name as the most influential in the world of magic today? Why are they considered the most influential in the mind of Monty?

MW: Totally different names for good and bad reasons. Currently I think the most influential magicians are Penn & Teller. Some of it for good reasons and some for bad reasons. The reason I think it is Penn & Teller is because at this given time, they probably have the greatest influence over the public's view of magic. They are shaping how the public looks at magic and that is the part I see both good and bad in. The good part is obviously exposure and they are brining a lot of attention to magic and getting a lot of people excited about it. The bad side of it I see...its kind of a trend that is happening in magic a lot. They are kind of changing the perception of magic to more of a puzzle instead of a magical experience and that bothers me a little bit...uh ...I'm sure they are aware of that too...i don't know if it bothers them or not. It's not just Penn & Teller but YouTube and others are changing magic to where it is that puzzle. It isn't something that provides that magical experience for me anymore but something to figure out. The whole concept of their show is "Can you figure it out?" The good side is that they do praise the magicians for their entertainment ability and things like that. I can't think of anyone else that is shaping the public view of magic than they are.

MH: Like many magicians we all have or had another life besides magic. If you weren't a magician what would you be doing today?

MW: That...is a really, really hard one for me to answer. I love creating things. I love things with a lot of challenge. I've been self-employed all my life. I love being at the top of the ladder of what ever I am doing. I'm not really sure what else I would do. I have done a few other things in the past. I was into photography for quite a while. I've been doing magic for so long it is hard to say what else I'd do because I love it so much. Probably would have something to do with theater or entertainment.

MH: It is time to open the door of “Monty” the magician. Most everyone knows your specialty but I would like to save that for a minute and ask you to tell us about Monty, where you are from originally and why darts as a decision maker?

MW: I’m going to get back to that “specialty” because what is my specialty? I didn’t know I had one. I’ve been a magician all my life. I like helping promote magic and things like that. Uh...the dart thing...I had always been in Hawaii from a little town called Waialua, a small little town on the north shore of Oahu, the same island as Honolulu and Waikiki is on. Throughout my years as a magician I traveled a lot as a performer, I’ve actually performed in every state except Alaska and Maine. So, I got to travel a lot and see a lot and had always loved the cold. A few years back, actually getting close to ten years now, I decided I wanted to move someplace cold the rest of my life and see what it was like. I put a map up on a wall, marked off the southern states because they were too warm, threw a dart and now I am Green Bay, Wisconsin.

I don’t plan on staying in Green Bay much longer. It is a little too slow around here and I really like big cities so I will be moving again and I guarantee you I will not be throwing another dart.

It’s kind of fun traveling from Hawaii to all these different states performing in cold cities like New York and Niagara but I love the cold and I love the snow. It never dawned on my how much work you have to do because you have to shovel that stuff! Traveling like that you only see it from hotel rooms and rental cars and it’s beautiful. Someone else is doing all the work!

During February here we were doing some shows down around Oshkosh or Appleton area and was figuring it out...on one particular day Green Bay was ONE HUNDRED degrees colder than Hawaii! We were minus thirty here and they were seventy degrees. I got to think on that particular day there is only one definition of what I did...and that is an idiot.

MH: Do you miss Hawaii?

MW: No, I don’t. And that is a little surprising. What I miss and I miss it a lot is that I miss the big city. Most of my time I lived down in Honolulu and Waikiki area, I miss that twenty-four hour scene. Green Bay where I am now the streets roll up a couple hours before dark. I do really miss that and if there is anything that I really do miss about Hawaii is I miss the twenty-four hour hustle and bustle. It isn’t the warm weather I miss.

MH: Well, I called it your specialty and I am sure you don’t think of it as your specialty, let’s talk a little about your world records. For those that don’t know, Monty holds a world record for something I didn’t know there was a world record for and that is *Sponge Balls*. Please tell us what got you started on the sponge balls and whatever gave you the idea of setting a world record with them.

MW: What got me started with Sponge Balls is uh...not all that interesting. For about fifteen years in Hawaii I owned a little magic kiosk in a major shopping area. You are probably familiar with it, the Aloha Tower Market Place.

MH: Yes, I am.

MW: This is where all the piers are and where the big ships come in. Since it was primarily tourists that come through there the bulk of what I would sell would be tourist type items like Sponge Balls, Svengali Decks, Scotch and Soda...you know, that kind of thing. I demoed Sponge Balls thousands and thousands of times in that fifteen years so I just got good at it. You do something that many times I don’t care what it is you are going to become good at it. That is what really got me started with the Sponge Balls. A lot of people think I specialize in Sponge Balls but that is not true. As a matter of fact, I did not become known for Sponge Balls until I moved away from Hawaii.

In Hawaii, people thought I specialized in roses. I would give away about five-thousand roses a year using magic one at a time. I even had a rose video out at the time on it, how to do magic with roses. So, I don’t really have a specialty. I do a huge variety of magic but do tend to include Sponge Balls in all my shows because of all the magic I’ve done, to this day, I have never found anything that gets a better reaction than Sponge Balls. It is a prop that is frequently overlooked and even avoided by some magicians because it is usually one of the first things that people learn. I guess they assume that everyone knows how they work and what they do. I never open my shows with it and is only a ten minute segment of my one hour shows but it is always there.

MH: So what gave you the idea of setting a world record with them?

MW: The Sponge Ball record was the first one I got and that is kind of interesting because I don't really know what got it started. It is kind of an unusual thing but Guinness actually came to me on that one I didn't go to them. They sent me a letter and said, 'Hey, can you submit something on this?' I guess someone had recommended it but I don't know who. Someone probably had seen it and decided this should become a world record. Guinness followed through on it and not me. It was kind of a form letter they sent and I just followed through with what needed to be filled out then set a record.

MH: Wow! Usually, people seek out Guinness for setting records.

MW: Yes, and I did for the others. AS a matter of fact, I should have one for the roses but I have never submitted to them but maybe someday I will. In Hawaii, I had a special deal with a florist over there and I would go in and pick up about twenty-five roses from her every day, seven days a week. During the day at the kiosk I would produce roses for different women and girls walking by. I would do it in my shows magically one at a time. The only thing I had as a deal with her was that I was getting a good price from her because I kept getting them from her every day and kept her roses really fresh, she liked that. The only stipulation we had was that she could give me any size and any color that she wanted it didn't matter.

I have to tell you one really cute story about that. When I was doing roses a lot and I quit doing it left Hawaii because roses aren't as readily available for me as they were there. But when I was doing it in Hawaii I would actually carry three roses on me all the time. People wouldn't know that I had them and had different loads hidden where I could just grab one anytime I wanted.

One day during the day at the kiosk I had given a girl...there was a wedding party coming through...I was actually doing a show for the wedding later that night. During the day I gave one of the Bride's Maids a rose. Magically produced it for her and later that night at the wedding reception I was sitting at a table with a few of the Bride's Maids and Best Man...the Bride's Maid snuck her rose all the way under the table back to me so that I could produce it for the Bride which I did but it was a different color rose that I produced. I had switched it for one of the loads I had on me. It kind of blew everybody's mind.

MH: I also understand you hold two other Guinness World Records. Can you tell us about them?

MW: Yeah, and those are kind of interesting too. The other two records I officially have are actually group records. One for the most Linking Rings linked together at one time by magicians and second by the most magicians performing the Linking Rings at the same time. Those were set at, I think, Cleveland, Ohio's I.B.M. Magic Convention in 2004 I believe it was. I had organized a bunch of magicians there and we all did that at the convention just before one of the main shows. What's really interesting about that is we're actually going to try and break that record and set a few other new records...I've already submitted the application...at this year's convention in Scottsdale, Arizona. There will probably be information coming out on it in the Linking Ring magazine. We are going to try and set five records there and try to beat that Linking Ring record. They will all be group records so anyone involved with it can get a copy of the certificate. I think we stand a good chance as long as we can get the word out and get people excited about it.

MH: Tell us about social media and its effect on magic.

MW: Yeah...um...I'm glad you asked that question because it is something that is becoming very dear and important to me because social media is having such a huge effect, good and bad, on magic right now. The only thing I really want to talk about on it is to kind of challenge the more experienced magicians to do some things about it.

We frequently hear and I am sure you have heard it, the more senior and the more experienced magicians are constantly complaining about all of the exposure and quality of magic put out on YouTube and how it kind of hurts the industry. And that is true of course but that is not the point I want to bring across. Throughout history magicians have been one step ahead on technology and they really take advantage of it. When some new form of technology comes out the experienced and more skilled magicians are usually the ones who jump on it and turn it into something really neat and magical. For some reason, with social media they are not doing that. What they are doing instead is just complaining about the problems of it and what I would really like the experienced and more knowledgeable magicians is to quit complaining about it and start working primarily towards treating it just like they would a new sound gizmo or a new funny looking prop that comes out. Treat it as though it can be turned into something truly magical. Try to create something that is so magical with it, so impressive that creates that strong magical experience that a lot of these men and women are so good at. Create something that is so good that it makes this other stuff on social media look like just what it is...saying yeah but that is not magic, this is. Quit worrying about the bad

side of it and work on the good side of it and make it better for social media without exposing how it is done and protecting the secrets as long as they can. That in itself will help get rid of this "I know how that is done" kind of stuff. Also teaching people out there why we don't reveal the secrets. I think the younger generations are treating it more like that puzzle. I would like to teach more and more people as to why things are not exposed because it takes the fun out of it. Where is the experience in that? It won't stop it but I think if we work on it we can help it.

MH: Why do you think no one has jumped on board with it like the other technologies they took advantage of?

MW: I don't know. There were some things that were slow in getting started by the magic society in adapting to. In the early stages they were a bit slow in adapting to VHS and DVD but did a little better with the DVD. I don't know why they are so slow with this one. I think they may be scared that the secrets will get out. And it may have something to do with magicians in the past not wanting to be recorded fearing people would reverse engineer what they are doing but that is a thing of the past though. Everything we do now is recorded so we need to learn how to take advantage of that not avoid it. There are such good quality magicians out there. The number of quality magicians are much higher than that of the past. There is no reason they cannot do this if enough people get involved.

MH: Let's flip a switch a little and talk about some "experiences". We first met a couple of years ago at the Cavalcade of Magic in Eureka Springs, Arkansas. It was the first time I saw your sponge ball routine and you did it with a lot of kids on stage. Describe for us your most harrowing episode while performing for kids and what did you do to turn things back to your favor.

MW: *(laughter)* That's a rough one. For the most part I have performed so many times that I really don't have any bad experiences with it because I can control the kids pretty well with it. I do, like you said, bring a lot of kids up on stage. I know in our Christmas show we try to...half the audience might be kids...and at some point in the show we have had every kid up on stage.

Probably my most harrowing experience was not too long ago and just totally took me by surprise. I did a birthday party and I don't do a lot of birthday parties...that is another misconception...a lot of people think I do a lot of kid magic but I don't. I do a lot of family shows therefore I bring a lot of kids up on stage because the parents like it so much. I did an all girls birthday party for a bunch of thirteen/fourteen year old girls. Frankly, it was a nightmare! There were two magicians there myself and one of my apprentices Danny Dane who has been with me a long time and does a lot of shows with me. We had a haaarrrrd time controlling those kids. They had brought in a magician because the birthday girl loved magic but I think all the other girls wanted to make trouble. I've done nightclubs where we had hecklers but that was the most hecklers I have had in one place!

I'm not sure we ever succeeded in that show. We got through the show but it was a struggle all the way through. I just never thought that many girls together at one time wanting to make trouble...they were very good at it. Danny and I both left that show and...like....whoa! That was difficult! I did something like a rope routine with a sliding knot. I think most any one you talk to will know what that is. You cut a rope and tie a knot and the knot slides from one end to the other. Well, there was a major tug-o-war between the two girls. And wouldn't listen. Fortunately, the parents got in a little bit and helped with the control. It was an interesting experience and we were able to solve a lot of the problems by taking control of the situation but I'm not sure we made it through with one of our better shows.

TO BE CONTINUED...

Well fellow magicians...this is the end of Part 1. I hope you have enjoyed the interview up to this point. In next month's issue we will conclude Monty's interview with some very interesting talk about theater. Stay tuned as this was a very good interview.



Carlos Yang... "Mr. Entertainer!"

Chop Cup

The premise of the concept was described in French in *Récréations mathématiques et physiques* by Jacques Ozanam in the revised edition of 1723 done by a so-called Grandin. There is wax or mutton suet on the balls or in one Cup.

It was popularized by Al Wheatley, a professional magician who performed under the name Chop Chop. His original Chop Cup, created in the mid 1950's and presented in 1955 Santa Barbara Convention, was made out of a section of hollow bamboo and marketed as Chop Chop's One Cup & Ball Routine. By 1957, Wheatley's company, Excato Magic, was advertising a modified aluminum Chop Cup in magic magazines.

The Chop Cup became a popular magician's tool in part due to the celebrity of Don Alan, who made it a staple of his act. Don Alan performed his Chop Cup routine on the "Ed Sullivan Show" in 1960.

Wheatley saw Larry Jennings perform his Chop Cup routine at The Magic Castle shortly after it opened in 1963. It was noted for its loading of a big ball and the use of a silk handkerchief and a shot glass. He was so impressed that he asked Jennings to please not reveal his method or routine in print until after his death. Larry kept his promise, and did not publish his routine until a year after Wheatley's death. It was published in *Genii Magazine*, Volume 29, Number 7, in March of 1965. Don Alan used a version of the Chop Cup on his national TV show and popularized it with magicians everywhere.

The trick has spawned many variations, leading to elaborate routines developed by Larry Jennings, Ron Wilson, Earl Nelson, Alan Wakeling, John Mendoza, Danny Tong, and Jim Swain. The Nelson and Wakeling routines eventually appeared in *The Chop Cup Book* (1979). Ron Wilson's *Uncanny Chop Cup* saw print in *The Uncanny Scot: Ron Wilson* (1987).

...Source: *Magicpedia*

Blast from the Past

by Mike Curtis, Ring 29 Historian

This month we flip back the pages of time 20 years to the May, 1999 meeting of the Ring. Anticipation and preparation was increasing for the upcoming I.B.M. convention to be held in Little Rock. The President at that time was Jim Henson and the Secretary was Bill Fulton. The Ring met monthly at the Baptist Medical Center, Room 20.

"We are in the final stages of work on the 1999 I.B.M. convention in Little Rock. Our convention chair, Damon Reinbold, reported that registration for the convention is going well. Dan Hecke reported that we are looking good for the number of ads we have sold from the program. Randall Eller is putting together a volunteer list for the convention. Bill Fulton has sent contact names for the local hospitals to the national office. Bill also reported that the Ring Quality Report was finished and mailed to Ron Bell,

I.B.M. Ring Quality Activities. The Ring will sponsor a magic display during June at the Museum of Discovery in Little Rock to increase interest in the convention for the public.

Mike Funtenatto has volunteered to chair the Junior Magician's Program and he is looking for members to help with the training. Members have volunteered to loan needed equipment to Rebecca Roberts who recently lost much of her stage and children's magic.

Bill Pitts, Past President of I.B.M. was our lecturer for the evening. Bill's lecture centered on the history of magic and in particular the history of Ring 29. Bill was a charter member of Ring 29 and was close friends with many of the founding members, in particular Logan Prithett. Bill got his start in magic because of his father's interest. His father took him to the 6th annual Abbotts Convention in 1939.

Bill showed us several of his posters, magazines, catalogs, and pieces of magic equipment that are still in his collection. David Copperfield bought much of his

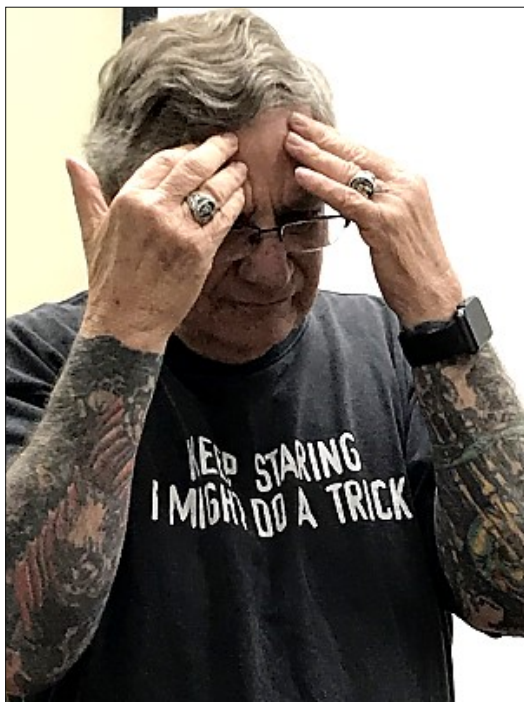
collection. The Ring was impressed by a table and magical effects by Thayer that Bill showed us. He showed us a Fake Deck (now called the Universal Deck) from T. Nelson Downs and a Spirit Bell. Bill described some of the Spook Shows that he performed in some of the Malco Theaters.

Reverend Ralph Bird, Ring 29 President 1974-75, attended the lecture to hear Bill Pitts and catch up on our Ring's activities. Our Ring felt that Bill's lecture would be of great benefit to Rings in our neighboring state within driving range of Fort Smith, Arkansas, Bill's home.

We are looking forward to Samuel Patrick Smith lecture to the Ring this month. We attended one of his lectures last year and were greatly impressed. We would recommend him to other Rings."

A lot was packed into that meeting. Plans were materializing for the I.B.M. convention with volunteer members doing their part to make sure important details were handled. Everyone was ready to pitch in to do whatever was necessary to make the convention a success. As a bonus for the evening, Bill Pitts gave everyone an insight into our magical heritage and the roots of Ring 29. Bill has always been an avid collector and amassed a great collection of quality antique magic. He was gracious enough to bring and share some with the Ring. Sow and tell is always fun and something we may need to do more often at our meeting.

Until next time, remember, what we used in the past and stored away, still has the potential to amaze today.





Project Magic teaches magic as therapy to the disabled, partnering with physical, occupational, and psychological therapists. David and Julie DeJean, formerly a physical therapist, developed the program at the Daniel Freeman Hospital in Los Angeles, California. It's currently in 30 countries and over 1,000 hospitals.

I met David at an IBM Convention in New Orleans and he asked me to direct his program in Arkansas. His office mailed a video and workbook and many of our Ring 29 members graciously participated. A couple years into our services, David came to Little Rock to do a show at the Robinson Auditorium. He and Julie gave a 2-hour workshop for our Ring members and therapists. People came statewide to learn how to teach and share the program in their communities.

Project Magic developed into a robust program statewide in Arkansas during the 80s and 90s. Dr. Kelsey Caplinger, who developed summer Med Camps for children with various serious medical issues called on us to provide a magic night each week at Little Rock's Camp Aldersgate. Thanks again to multiple Ring 29 members, the campers voted "David Copperfield's Project Magic Night" their favorite evening of the week.

Al Houpt, Andy Stephens, Fred Hartman, and Willie Webb may no longer be with us, but they certainly created positive memories for patients and therapists. Melvin Brown reproduced the instruction booklets for our volunteers. Christopher Hendrix spearheaded putting together magic kits containing ropes, paper clips, rubber bands, and painted popsicle sticks for Hot Rod, that the campers and patients could take home with them. Other Arkansas magician contributors included Elson Bihm, Lisa Bolin, Jon Bucher, Ron and Stephen Bryant, Paul Carlon, Mike Curtis, Scott Davis, Randall Eller, Brad Green, Jim Henson, Jesus Rivera, and John Zardin.



We were allowed 15 minutes to present at the conference. In my 13.5-minute video slide presentation, I thoroughly enjoyed including Little Rock Ring #29 members' comments and updates. My presentation will be on YouTube soon, and I'll email a link to everyone.



Under David's direction, Julie DeJean pulled us all together. I felt blessed to be among the 14 magicians invited. There were 3 of us from the USA that lead original programs. Magicians from other countries sharing their past and current program successes represented Austria,

Belgium, Mexico, Argentina, Croatia, and Australia. It was truly a wonderful world of lovely people.

My husband, Guy, and I stayed at the MGM Grand. The first evening included meet and greet over drinks and then dinner at Wolfgang Pucks. David does 2 show a night. Later he met our group at his International Museum and Library of the Conjuring Arts. David and Chris Kenner gave us a midnight tour for 2 hours. It was historic, moving, and entertaining.

We made our presentations the next day and spent the afternoon addressing the purpose of such reporting and reflection. It's to work toward even more effective ways to adapt to changes in the medical and psychological fields; to be even more inclusive, and to promote more independence among the disabled. We spent a lot of time brain storming and came away energized and committed to all the above.

We attended David's 7 o'clock show together as a group of 20. If you go to Las Vegas, don't miss the amazing, incredible, spell binding show that David Copperfield and his team present. You'll not only be entertained; you'll leave scratching your head and in total wonderment.

The midnight invitation on the 2nd night was for a pizza party at David's hanger in Henderson, NV. He keeps his jet, James Bond inspired Helicopter illusion, and DaVinci flying machine there. Our new friends told us it was a great evening, but we weren't up to making it. Not to worry, it was a great all-round experience and Guy and me.

I'm forever grateful to our fellowship of magicians who made David Copperfield's Project Magic work well in Arkansas. There are also possibilities for volunteers who might want to revive it and take it to the next level. Thanks Ring 29 members for the memories!



CAVALCADE OF MAGIC

EUREKA SPRINGS, ARKANSAS - 2019

"Cavalcade of Magic" continued from page 1...

What did we do? I am so glad you asked! The Cavalcade of events began Thursday night with an auction of magic! Gerry Bailey, a member of Ring 29, took the stage as the evening's auctioneer. Let me tell you something here and now, be careful around Gerry as I am confident he could sell a used computer to Bill Gates...and make a profit! Gerry left no stone unturned as he barreled through a load of good used magic.



There was concern about the amount needing to be auctioned off but Gerry was having nothing of it. What looked would take over two hours to auction off, Gerry spent a solid hour plus a few more minutes and POOF! Everyone who bid went out with great magic at very good prices. My hat is off to you SIR! Well Done!

The following morning after registration, Alan Burdick got the morning rolling with a lecture on Classics that Pack Small and Play Big. Topics covered were things like rope; silks; coin sleights; sponge balls and cards.

Next was Randall Eller tearing the stage up with his Paper Tear. Randall was demonstrating some "specific and critical" folds necessary to make this paper tear possible. To the audience's delight, all though there were a few glitches, all worked out well and another lesson learned. Thanks Randall, always a pleasure. As a special guest, "Ed Magic" joined Randall on stage to demonstrate some of Ed Magic's creations and even gave us a sneak peek as to how they were done...well one anyway.

Clyde Hayre of Ring 75 presented us with a lecture on collecting magic. If you don't know, it is said Clyde has an extensive collection and brought a small sample with him. The lecture centered around Cups and Balls but weaved in here and there were useful words of advice, some I am even considering today.

The Cups and Balls Clyde shared were some of the most beautiful tools of the art I have seen. Each had a story and a rich history. As the lecture went on Clyde talked about the differences of each style, who they were made by and how they were made. He even cautioned that if anyone wished to start their collection they were to do their research first. Wise advice.



Starting off the "Open Mic" session where anyone who wanted to speak their favorite effect, prop or book could come and share. Jim Henson took to the stage and pitched some of his books he had for sale as a vendor.

Duane Laflin talked of a few items he brought with him to sell as a dealer. There were some great items to be had, that is if you got there early enough, as there were only one of a particular item or maybe just two. Either way, if you got to the item you wanted and did not buy it, well, sometimes it pays to buy when you first see something as opposed to waiting. Duane also demonstrated his items for sale.



Richard Knoll came up with his dog, I think his name is "Magic", then commenced to talk about the wonderful T-Shirts he prints up and brings for sale. I personally have bought one every year attended. High quality t-shirts with various designs and sayings revolving around...of course, Magic...no not the pooch! I wonder what the designs will be next year?

Randy Naylor popped up with an unusual item for sale. Looking at it you know what it is...well, what it looks like anyway. He had a "bubble gum" machine but it dispensed small toys in capsules. You see them all the time at the entry of just about any store. Well, let me tell you, this was no ordinary toy dispenser. There was something magical going on with it and I know the new owner will make some kids happy with this trick.

John "Murf" Murphy was our next presenter. The first thing I noticed as Murf began was his table. It was one of these that sort of packs flat then when needed extends for use. Looked real nice. He spoke of one of his favorite tricks.

Ken Zelnick was next up showing his skills with silks. Ken has a real knack with these things. He always manages to end up with a hole in one though...

Dane Dover discussed the "Tossed Out Deck" then explained a new twist to the trick through the use of UNO cards.

Monty...all that needs said here is SPONGE BALLS! Monty spoke briefly about his coming workshop later in the evening. Anyone wishing to attend will learn from the best on sponge balls.

Bob Sanders...Today was Larry Bean's birthday! In memory of our birthday boy's special day we tied two black silks together for a "Black Day in History". Next we came up with a Happy Birthday silk but since the "boy" was over sixty we vanished it (Silk to Egg). Once we cracked the real egg we decided that even if it was a black day in history we could pull the black silks apart to still wish him a very Happy Birthday (Twentieth Century Silks).

Russell Turner stepped up and performed an old trick he had purchased twenty-five years ago from Dave Emerson but remade it with a new look and put a rhyme to it. He calls it "Smiley, Wiley and Riley.

There was a surprise guest roaming around at the convention. The Easter Bunny dropped in to pass out candy and take in several photo ops. You had to be careful as he was pretty tricky (pun intended). Before you knew it you might just have had some "rabbit ears" show up in your photograph complements of the tricky rabbit.

It was getting late in the day and nearing time for the first evening magic show. Performers of the show were as follows: Lee Woodside; Randy Naylor; Monty; John Murphy; Alan Burdick and Randall Eller. The emcee for the evening was none other than the very funny and entertaining Jody Birchfield. All the performers were entertaining and kept the audience in that magical state of wonderment. I'll let the photos tell their story.

On Saturday things got started off with a bang. There was some controversy about what was going to be discussed as the opener was a panel comprised of Duane Laffin; Randall Eller; Lance Rich; David Sandy and guiding the discussion was Clyde Hayre. The topic: Future of the Convention. Through some very interesting discussion and a lot of very good recommendations and suggestions I am happy to say the convention will carry on but with some needed changes, at least according to the panel. All-in-all, it was a great discussion and very informative.

David Sandy from St. Joseph, Missouri presented an interesting lecture on Andre Koe's Creativity and Inventions. A couple of examples were brought out and demonstrated for example the Helicopter Cups...though it was done with buckets. Very impressive I must say and one for the collectors. Everyone in attendance received a good history on Andre Koe.

Lunch today brought together many of the attendees to partake in some tasty Mexican cuisine. It is always good to gather and talk with one another and it is especially nice to have the time away from the excitement to introduce yourself to those you do not know. The time was well spent with good friends and you get to hear some pretty amusing stories.

After lunch the crowd was gathering. Excitement was high and you could tell magic was in the air. It was time for the Magic Matinee with Larry Bean as the emcee.

CAVALCADE OF MAGIC

EUREKA SPRINGS, ARKANSAS - 2019

Performers for the matinee: Chuck Larson and Jamee Barham; Ken Zelnick; Jo Jones; Mike Jones. I must admit, this was the first time I saw a version of cups and balls performed with large garbage cans! Well done!

The Close-Up show was next and the performers were: Clyde Hayre; Jody Birchfield; Bill Evans; and Lee Woodside

The close up show was followed closely by the Magic Game Show, "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?" The contestants were Jo Jones; Lee Woodside of Oklahoma City, OK, and Dane Dover. There were a variety of questions about magicians past and present, who created props like sponge balls and TT's, magic terminology, who created a specific magic trick and of course magic history. As it turned out, Jo Jones won the game but there was a misread question for Dane Dover so he was asked the Million Dollar Question. You really need to know your stuff for this game!



Well the Cavalcade was coming to a close but not without one final show. Performers for the evening were: Duane Laflin; Russell Turner; Marty Haughn; and David Sandy. Our emcee for the night was the ever funny Jimmy Rhodes.

The crowd was hopping and filled with excitement you could feel it in the air. Anticipation by the performers was growing back stage then the lights come on and off goes Jimmy Rhodes to get the crowd warmed up. It was a great night of magic by all. Again, the photos will tell the story.

As with every year there is an after-show get together and we all pile into Larry Bean's room at the hotel. Soft drinks, great cookies and plenty of conversation and often some magic. It is always a great time but sad as well because this get together marks another Cavalcade conclusion.

Ladies and gentlemen, this concludes another year. It is my hope that those who have yet to experience the thrill and excitement...education and fellowship...and most of all some FANTASTIC MAGIC...take the opportunity to come next year and see what all the talk is about and become part of the Cavalcade family.

Let's take a look of some more photos from the weekend.



CAVALCADE OF MAGIC

EUREKA SPRINGS, ARKANSAS - 2019



CAVALCADE OF MAGIC

EUREKA SPRINGS, ARKANSAS - 2019





Treasurer's Report

April 2019

Beginning Balance	Checking	2739.18	Expenses	
	Dues Collected	75.00		
	Sedlacek Lecture Collected	200.00		
	Total Balance Checking	3014.18		
	Total Balance Savings	970.33	Ending Balance Checking	2698.64
			Ending Balance Savings	970.33

Sedlacek lecture had a loss of 115.54

32 members have paid dues.

13 members from last year are past due.

If you are not sure about your membership status email me at:

jamesk39@gmail.com

Scott Alexander *April 26, 2019*

If you were not in attendance you missed out on an awesome lecture by a very talented and funny magician, Scott Alexander, "Stand Up Guy Lecture".

Scott is a very personable entertainer and always willing to answer or assist anyone with what he discussed. Effects he performed then explained were: Eye Balls in the Net; his twist on Color Monte; a Down and Dirty Needle Swallowing; Brick Phone; Nailed it; Bill to Lemon; and Further Silent Control (*an improvement on one by Rick Lax*).

On top of all the magic we witnessed and learned Scott entertained us further with his quick wit and comedy. Everything Scott explained was easy to follow with a few you could just pick up and do, that is if you had a good story to go with it. Of the lectures I have attended this one is one of my favorites.

Here are some photos from the lecture, some will leave you wondering, what the?...



July 5, 2019

Back to the Basics –

A Lecture (with secrets) by

Dameon



Dameon, to most magicians, is a recently discovered prestidigitator, yet he is an accomplished entertainer specializing in manipulative magic. He creates visually captivating presentations working silently to the universal language of music. Dameon has performed for over 35 years and has appeared in numerous shows and revues around the globe. Featured at the 2018 S.A.M. National Convention in Orlando as a stage performer, lecturer and card throwing contest sponsor, and a recent recipient of the "Bill Baird/Neil Foster Award for excellence in manipulative magic at the 78th Abbott's Magic Get Together, Dameon brings his unique, fast paced, fun-filled, interactive lecture to your group! He covers numerous topics in a lecture which has been designed to fit your club's time schedule. Plus, as you enter the lecture "space" you receive several free items to follow along and take home with you at the conclusion.

This lecture invites you to participate. In addition. If you have time and the interest, he

also offers a two-hour master class (with a maximum of 5 participants), or private sessions, The following day for those who would like personal attention/in-depth details on several of the lecture topics or your own routine, act, or show!

Here are the categories covered in the lecture. He demos and explain each of the items within the category.

Cards -

- 1) Rising cards ... make your own ... or purchase
- 2) A real fooler manip move ... a difficult flourish
- 3) A shooting card - stupid but fun
- 4) Spinning card from fan - stupid but fun ... too
- 5) A twist on a D&D flourish - that I use all the time
- 6) A NEW CARD MANIPULATION ROUTINE ... **A SECRET**

Balls -

- 1) A quick basic roll and flourish sequence
- 2) Several color changes
- 3) Vanishes and reappearances
- 4) Palming

Rope -

- 1) Simple Overhand Vanishing Knot (a killer effect)
- 2) Shoe lace - you should know it
- 3) Threading the needle - you should know this too (as in also)
- 4) Over the shoulder knot - Irv Tannen
- 5) JUMBO ring and rope

Thimbles -

- 1) A few simple moves
- 2) The jumping thimble - Buckingham
- 3) A NEW routine ... **A SECRET**

4) A quick thanks to Joe Mogar

Doves

- 1) The clear tails - pockets and more pockets
- 2) The Chest piece ... **A SECRET**
- 3) The BUTTON
- 4) Dove Harnesses
- 5) Single Tail Vanish
- 6) The Cressey Throwstreamer Packet (mine)
- 7) A NEW Van BC idea ... **A SECRET**

The Entire Manipulation ACT set-up

- 1) Cases
- 2) Cue Sheets
- 3) Containers
- 4) Necessary Items- Tape, Thread, Markers, Fanning Powder, Bags, Rubber Bands, Clips, Scissors, Ribbon, Kleenex, Towels, Music CD's ... etc.

Extras:

- 1) A new quick and easy to make Dove Cage
- 2) A card Castle built into a Tray - Specs
- 3) The Skyliner

IBM Little Rock Ring 29 Contact Information



Jo Jones
President



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Gary Fambrough
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Sergeant at Arms



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Treasurer



Mike Curtis
Historian



Bob Bullock
Webmaster



Marty Haughn
Newsletter Editor



Ring 29 Meetings 2018-2019

Date	Meeting	Location	Theme	Lecturer	Emcee
Aug 1, 2018	Regular	Baptist Classroom #1	Invisible Deck	Jim Henson	No Emcee Needed
Sep 6, 2018	Regular	Baptist Classroom #1	Jim-Card Cube Tear & Restore	Jim Henson	Jo Jones
Oct 4, 2018	Regular	Baptist Classroom #1	Book Tests Halloween	Dan Hecke	Mike Jones
Nov 1, 2018	Regular	Baptist Classroom #1	Emceeing Effectively	Jon Bucher	Jim Henson
Dec 6, 2018	Regular	Baptist Classroom #1	Impromptu Magic	Dane Dover	Jon Bucher
Jan 12, 2019	Christmas Show	Jacksonville Community	Walk-Around Stage Magic	N/A	Derrick Rose
Feb 7, 2019	Regular	Baptist Classroom #1	Storytelling	Marty Haughn	Adrian Steelman Carlos Yang
Mar 7, 2019	Stage Competition	Baptist Sheffield Auditorium	Stage Magic	Blayk Puckett	Blayk Puckett
** To enter Ring 29 competitions you must be a paid up member of the IBM					
Apr 4, 2019	Regular	Baptist Sheffield	Regular	N/A	Jo Jones
May 2, 2019	Close-Up Competition	Baptist Sheffield Auditorium	Close-Up Magic **	Cedric Morely	Cedric Morely
Jun or ? 2019	Installation	TBA	Officers will Perform	Larry Bean, TVP Installation Officer	Larry Bean



Using Ring 29 Email Group

Post message: ring29report@yahoogroups.com

Subscribe: ring29report-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Membership

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.

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*.

LittleRockMagic.net

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.

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



Mr. Magic (Jim Henson)

501-580-2860