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IBM Ring 29

Little Rock Ring 29 Newsletter
Little Rock, Arkansas

February 2020

http://www.littlerockmagic.net
https://www.facebook.com/ring29/
https:twitter.com/ring_29

The Performer

Lecture by Kent Axell

This month we had the pleasure of Kent Axell and Watkins to visit our Ring 29 in Little Rock. Kent and Watkins specialize in Mentalism and we were assured they both perform other forms of magic as well.

Credits of Note: A consultant for Brain Games; Featured on National Television, Fox5, NY1; Solo Shows include Off Broadway and around the U.S.; and a Director/ Performer of "A Taste of Magic" (NYC's highest rated dinner/magic show).

We had a large attendance for this lecture and we all had a good time learning a bit more about mentalism.

Announcement: Ring 29 now has a Twitter account. Please connect to https://twitter.com/ring_29

News and meeting updates will be posted there along with our Facebook page.

Instagram is in the works as is Pintrest.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MEETINGS & LECTURES

Lecturer: Paul Prater (TBA)

Cavalcade of Magic 27-28 March, 2020

Watkins, Paul Prater & Kent Axell working up some virtual reality fun!

President's Corner

by Jo Baker, Ring 29 President

Ring 29 Magicians,

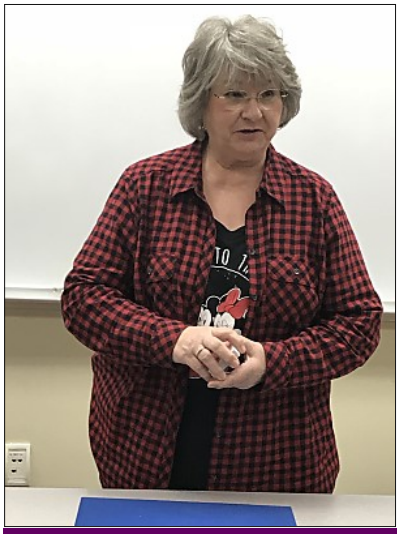
I hope the New Year has gotten off to a great start for you. For me, it is moving very quickly! It is hard to believe it is almost March.

Our February meeting was a lecture by mentalists, Kent Axell and Robert Watkins. We had over 20 attending the lecture. This was much needed support for our club.

The March meeting will be Thursday, March 5th at Baptist in Classroom #1.

The auction has been postponed until we get a larger location. Our theme will be St. Patrick's Day magic or something that includes the color green.

Remember that the Cavalcade of Magic is the last weekend of March. Several members attend this convention. There is usually a lot of fun and fellowship involved. Some of Ring 29 members will be performing and/or emceeing. We are also hoping to see Larry Bean, who is back home, but still recuperating along with Anne.



Jo Jones, President

Also, remember to keep Mary Ann and Guy Campbell in your thoughts and prayers. Guy has had some serious health issues lately. We wish him well!

If you have not paid your dues, please pay James Kinsey as soon as possible. You might contact him and give him a heads up that you intend to pay them soon.

Thanks to all who came to the lecture in February. We have plans for more lectures so please read your emails, newsletters, and the Facebook page for information so you do not miss any of them. Please make plans now to attend the March meeting. We miss you when you are not there.

We will be electing officers in the next few months and meetings will be planned for the next year. If you have any suggestions of things you would like to see happen at the meetings, please let a Board Member or current officer know.

Jo Jones, Kent Axell & Dane Dover

For the Record

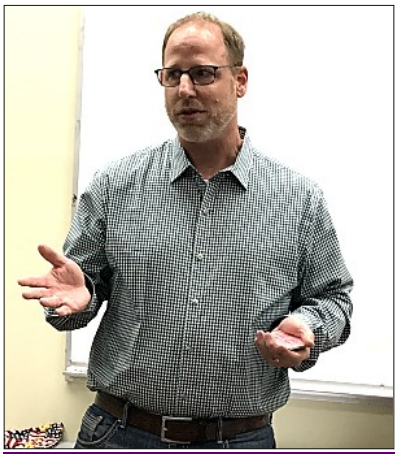
by Gary Fambrough, Ring 29 Secretary

Ring 29 members and guests met on Thursday, February 6th at 6:45 pm at Baptist Hospital in Little Rock, Arkansas, in classroom #1. We had a nice turnout for the meeting which happened to coincide with a lecture night.

Jo Jones presided over the meeting and started with a few medical announcements. Dr, Mary Ann Campbell's husband, Guy, is currently in the hospital. Please keep their family in your prayers. Larry Bean and his wife, Anne, are both home now from their hospital stays out west. Please also continue to pray for their complete recovery.

It was also mentioned that our annual auction will be postponed until we can procure a meeting space adequate to host the event.

After announcements, Jo introduced our lecturers for the evening. We were happy to welcome Kent Axell and Robert Watkins to our Ring. With a focus on mentalism, these guys really provided some great performance knowledge.



Gary Fambrough

We were gifted with some insight into card predictions, several billet routines, and a fascinating time prediction using a stopped clock tucked away into a large envelope. Additionally, if you are interested in audience challenge questions, then this was the lecture to see. Watkins and Axell explained some great ways to get into the minds of your audience using "randomly" selected questions hand-picked by audience members.

The guys wrapped up our lecture with some virtual reality fun. Thanks go Dane, Jo, Shawn, Marty, Jim, and Paul for being willing volunteers. I think there may have been others as well so I'm sorry if I left your name out. I'd also like to thank Kent Axell and Robert Watkins for stopping in Little Rock to give our group a great lecture and fun filled experience learning a few tricks of the mentalism trade.

We will meet again next month on Thursday, March 5th. Until then, take care.

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Almost every seat filled!

Blast from the Past

by Mike Curtis, Ring 29 Historian

This month takes us back 60 years to the March, 1959 meeting of the Ring. The President at that time was Logan Pritchett and the Secretary was Albert Houpt. The Ring met monthly at the Albert Pike Hotel in Little Rock.

“Leon List of Miami, Oklahoma, newest member, opened the show with bouquet to cane. Joe Ball of North Little Rock senior high school did a card location using a book of matches, name of the card appearing on the match head after it was burned. Also a glass of water was vanished from a handkerchief and appeared in a hat on a chair. Byron Huddleston presented a coin routine. Member of the IBM 20 years ago we are glad his interest has again been stimulated. Guest George Engel of Ring 123, Long Branch, N. J., gave an interesting and instructive impromptu lecture on card routines. He did Out of This Universe, a mental card location, and his version of Do As I Do. Frank Caple, emcee, did a burned match routine with the burned match returning, attached to the book of matches. Logan Pritchett, Mr. Zuko, displayed silks, the monkey silk, and the silk of the man in the foreign car. He also found his picture in Look magazine and did Ray Don's Hypnotic. February 20 a number of us journeyed to Cabot, Ark., to catch the Ken Griffin show. He was assisted by his wife, and Jack and Betty DeHolt, and our old friend,

Bob McDowell, who was formerly with the Lee Grable show. Ken has a good show and everything moved with no lost motion. Highlight of the show was the presentation of the Floating Lady. He passed a large chrome ring out for examination, then “hypnotized” Mrs. Griffin and placed her on a couch.

Following Ken's gestures she floated up to about the height of his waist. Ken then walked from behind the floating lady to the front of the stage, received the ring and turned and looked at the subject. He then returned to his original position and passed the ring over the floating lady, and at his command and gesture she floated down to her original position, the trance was broken and she and Ken

Mike Curtis

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acknowledged a wonderful applause. It was beautiful.”

It seems the Ring enjoyed some fine performances from those present at the meeting. A short road trip, in the previous month, also gave them a chance to be entertained by a classy professional magician.

There were frequently magicians traveling through the area in the 50's and 60's performing at schools, churches, civic organizations and theaters which presented great opportunities for our members to feed their magical appetites. We now have videos and YouTube but back then the live performances had to be seen first hand. Even today there is something about experiencing it live that can't be re-placed. Let's be on the lookout for those opportunities and take them when they come.

Until next time, remember the past has a special way of preserving those things we cherish.

Greetings and Happy New Year to All!

Cavalcade! If you reserve your room at the Inn of the Ozarks by Feb 26, you will get our discounted rate, so don't procrastinate! Also, if you pre-register by mail (Clyde Hayre at 10813 Hunters Point Rd, Fort Smith, AR 72903) or PayPal (ibmring75@att.net) by March 24th, you will be entered in a drawing for FREE registration for 2021. Registration is still only $75 for the whole family!

Lecturers and show Closers are Steve Lancaster, Rocky Clements, and Josh Farley (of recent Penn and Teller fame). Jon Bucher, Jody Birchfield, Russell Turner, and Clyde Hayre will be our Emcees. If you want to perform on one of the shows, please reply to this email and let me know what items you will perform so we can set the shows for the best variety and entertainment.

This year we are teaming up with a local business to advertise the shows locally and hopefully bring in more lay audience members! We will be performing a free show in the Eureka Springs Coffee House on Thursday evening before the auction. They serve breakfast and lunch, and you will be given a "magic word" to get a 10% discount! It ought to be a lot of fun!

We will have our auction at approximately 9 p.m. on Thursday, so bring items to auction and money to spend. We always have good deals and a lot of fun.

There will be lots of magic to buy at the dealers booths. Bring your list of things you need and want, and see what you may need that you didn't even know was available!

If I left out any information you need, or you have questions, or want to be on a show, reply to this email (ron.ingram@sbcglobal.net) and I will try to get you and answer post haste.

Hope to see you all in about 8 weeks!

Ron Ingram

Cavalcade of Magic Committee

KENT AXELL AND WATKINS

Modern Stage Magic

A founding figure of modern entertainment magic was Jean Eugène Robert-Houdin, originally a clockmaker, who opened a magic theatre in Paris in 1845. He transformed his art from one performed at fairs to a performance that the public paid to see at the theatre. His specialty was constructing mechanical automata that appeared to move and act as if alive. Many of Robert-Houdin's mechanisms for illusion were pirated by his assistant and ended up in the performances of his rivals, John Henry Anderson and Alexander Herrmann.

John Henry Anderson was pioneering the same transition in London. In 1840 he opened the New Strand Theatre, where he performed as The Great Wizard of the North. His success came from advertising his shows and captivating his audience with exert showmanship. He became one of the earliest magicians to attain a high level of world renown. He opened a second theatre in Glasgow in 1845. Towards the end of the century, large magic shows permanently staged at big theatre venues became the norm. The British performer J N Maskelyne and his partner Cooke were established at the Egyptian Hall in London's Piccadilly in 1873 by their manager William Morton, and continued there for 31 years. The show incorporated stage illusions and reinvented traditional tricks with exotic (often Oriental) imagery. The potential of the stage was exploited for hidden mechanisms and assistants, and the control it offers over the audience's point of view. Maskelyne and Cooke invented many of the illusions still performed today—one of his best-known being levitation.

The model for the look of a 'typical' magician—a man with wavy hair, a top hat, a goatee, and a tailcoat—was Alexander Herrmann (1844–1896), also known as Herrmann the Great. Herrmann was a French magician and was part of the Herrmann family name that is the "first-family of magic".

The escapologist and magician Harry Houdini took his stage name from Robert-Houdin and developed a range of stage magic tricks, many of them based on what became known after his death as escapology. Houdini was genuinely skilled in techniques such as lock picking and escaping straitjackets, but also made full use of the range of conjuring techniques, including fake equipment and collusion with individuals in the audience. Houdini's show-business savvy was as great as his performance skill. There is a Houdini Museum dedicated to him in Scranton, Pennsylvania.

The Magic Circle was formed in London in 1905 to promote and advance the art of stage magic.

As a form of entertainment, magic easily moved from theatrical venues to television specials, which opened up new opportunities for deceptions, and brought stage magic to huge audiences. Famous magicians of the 20th century included Okito, David Devant, Harry Blackstone Sr., Harry Blackstone Jr., Howard Thurston, Theodore Annemann, Cardini, Joseph Dunninger, Dai Vernon, Fred Culpitt, Tommy Wonder, Siegfried & Roy, and Doug Henning. Popular 20th- and 21st-century magicians include David Copperfield, Lance Burton, James Randi, Penn and Teller, David Blaine, Criss Angel, Hans Klok, Derren Brown Steve Knight and Dynamo. Well-known women magicians include Dell O'Dell and Dorothy Dietrich. Most television magicians perform before a live audience, who provide the remote viewer with a reassurance that the illusions are not obtained with post-production visual effects.

Many of the principles of stage magic are old. There is an expression, "it's all done with smoke and mirrors", used to explain something baffling, but effects seldom use mirrors today, due to the amount of installation work and transport difficulties. For example, the famous Pepper's Ghost, a stage illusion first used in 19th-century London, required a specially built theatre. Modern performers have vanished objects as large as the Taj Mahal, the Statue of Liberty, and a space shuttle, using other kinds of optical deceptions.

Source: Wikipedia

Treasurer's Report
February 2020

Beginning Balance Checking	2975.78	**Expenses**	
Lecture Collected	360.00	Lecture Fee: Kent Axell	250.00
Dues Collected	400.00	Hotel for Lecturer	103.49
Total Balance Checking	3785.78	Mailing Costs	39.05
Total Balance Savings	970.33	**Ending Balance Checking**	**3393.24**
		Ending Balance Savings	**970.33**

30 members have paid dues.

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

jamesk39@gmail.com

Ring 29 Meetings 2019-2020

Date	Meeting	Location	Theme	Lecturer	Emcee
August 1, 2019	Regular	Baptist Classroom #1	Children's Magic	TBA	TBA
September 5, 2019	Regular	Baptist Classroom #1	Basic Magic	TBA	TBA
October 3, 2019	Regular	Baptist Classroom #1	Halloween	TBA	TBA
November 7, 2019	Regular	Baptist Classroom #1	Dollar Store Grab Bag	TBA	TBA
December 5, 2019	Regular	Baptist Classroom #1	Christmas Magic	TBA	TBA
January 11, 2020	Christmas Show	Jacksonville Community Ctr.	Walk-Around and Stage Magic	N/A	Jon Bucher
February 6, 2020	Regular	Baptist Classroom #1	Mentalism	TBA	TBA
March 5, 2020	Regular	Baptist Classroom #1	TBA	TBA	TBA
April 2, 2020	Regular	TBA	Teach-In	TBA	TBA
May 7, 2020	Regular	TBA	Coins and Cards	TBA	TBA
June 4, 2020	Stage Competition	TBA	Stage Competition	TBA	TBA
July 2020 Date TBA	Installation	TBA	Officers Performing	TBA	TBA

**** To enter Ring 29 competitions you must be a paid up member of the IBM.**

****Lecture dates not included as James Kinsey is currently working on scheduling.**

****Watch for emails for those dates, times and locations.**

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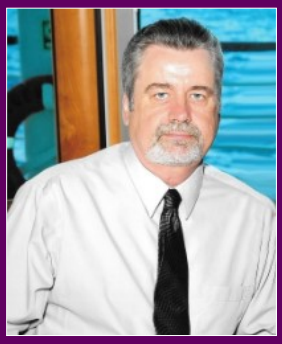

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https://www.facebook.com/ring29/ https://twitter.com/ring_29

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

https://www.facebook.com/ring29/ https://twitter.com/ring_29