



The Performer

Little Rock Ring 29 Newsletter
Little Rock, Arkansas

June 2021





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Magical History
Event Calendar



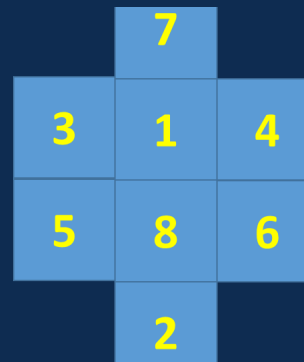
It's all about the Magic...



PUZZLE OF THE MONTH - SOLVED

Buildings crumble. Living things decompose. It's a scientific fact that things tend to go from order to disorder. The fancy name for this principle is entropy. There are, however, a few things that appear to go against this tendency. Crystals grow and become more complex. Living things take in simple chemicals and build complex tissues.

This puzzle, however, uses entropy. Notice how neat and orderly the arrangement of numbers is. Now, let's play the entropy game and rearrange the numbers so that NO TWO CONSECUTIVE numbers TOUCH each other. They cannot align side by side, up and down or diagonally.



CONGRATS TO MIKE CURTIS

Rob Merryman

January 30, 1989 - June 16 2021



Sadly, we must report the magic world lost another magician. Rob passed on June 16, 2021.

"He performed his first trick, levitating in front of his teacher who could not believe her eyes. Despite pleas from his teachers and family, Rob never revealed his secrets. Rob was also a talented musician who played the electric guitar in the band Furiea."

Services entrusted to Smith-Benton Funeral Home

FLEA MARKET TIME!

Where: Jim Henson #2 Home
When: July 1, 2021
Time: Setup at 5, Opens at 5:30
Vendor Cost: \$5
Bring your own tables



Break out all that stuff you no longer use. Magic, Books, Posters, Lecture Notes any magic related items you no longer wish to store in that drawer or closet.

Be sure to price each item to sell so you aren't lugging it all back home. This flea market, vendor is for Ring members only and open to Rings 75 and 308 to purchase.

Please note that this is a normal meeting night and we will still have it, just at a little later time and will be finished at 9 p.m. Come on out and see what you can score!

LECTURE TIME!

Finally! We are getting back to something resembling normal.

Our first lecture since the madness started is really going to happen.

The August meeting will be replaced by our guest lecturer:

TOM BURGOON.

Cost to attend this one will be \$10 per person. This is a "special" return to normal price so take advantage of it!

This is not a lecture to be missed!

Meetings

Upcoming Events

In Person Meeting: July1 @ 6:30

Location:

Henson Home #2 (Father's Place)

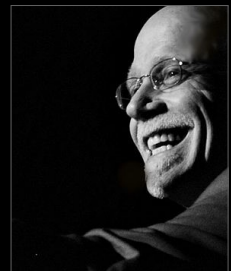
July 1 - Magician's Flea Market
(5:30)

August 5 - Tom Burgoon Lecture

October 7 - Ring Auction

"Please select a card. No I don't have to see the card ... I've already seen this trick ..."

-Michael Ammar-





President's Corner

Marty Haughn



Fellow Magicians,

What a nice turnout for June's meeting! It was so nice to see everyone...unmasked! This month we started the meeting celebrating the life of Dennis Schick. Territorial Vice President Larry Bean performed the Broken Wand Ceremony and presented the wand to Greg Schick (son) and Leslie Schick Gorrell (daughter) of Dennis. After the ceremony concluded several members commented and shared stories of Dennis. Dennis is surely missed.

We were actually able to have an official Officer Installation this year. Last year's did not happen due to the COVID. Before we got started, however, there was the issue of ballot voting. Some members chose to vote via the email.

When the ballots were counted and all votes tallied from both methods, it was unanimously voted to retain the current officers. There was a hitch though. Adrian Steelman was our Sergeant at Arms. After a phone conversation with Adrian I was told he would no longer be able to hold this officer position. Adrian has enlisted in the Army National Guard as a member of the band. He leaves for basic training in January and expects to be away for quite some time due to his training requirements. We all wish Adrian all the best in his career and not to forget about us.

Well, that leads us to who and how the Sergeant at Arms position was filled. The Ring Officers got together, electronically, and discussed a few names of interest. Between the officers it was decided Joel Nicholson was our choice. Now, when presented with the selection, would Joel accept the position?

After the votes were tallied I announced that Adrian was not going to be the Sergeant at Arms. I then stated what the officers had discussed and decided and presented to Joel the position. Thankfully, he did accept and we moved on to the Officer Installation.

One last note. At the meeting not only did I screw up my trick, I also forgot to mention to have Carlos tell everyone of his future plans. He will begin college in the fall at Purdue University. We all wish Carlos safe travels and the best of luck with his future endeavors.

A little business before closing. An email will be sent shortly announcing the location and time of our Ring Flea Market. If you are interested in selling off some of your unused magic, bring a table, five dollars and all the magic you want to sell. Details follow in the coming week. It will be held on meeting day before the meeting.

We are also looking for Ring members who would be interested in performing at the January Show on January 8, 2022. If you are interested please contact one of the officers as soon as possible, identify what you would like to perform and start rehearsing. Cutoff for notification of interest is September 1, 2021. Each performer will have a time slot of 10-15 minutes and we are limiting the list to seven (member) performers. There will be a minimum ten minute intermission.

Until next time...

Stay Safe, Stay Healthy, and by all means, Stay Magical!



For the Record

Shawn Miller



Ring 29 members and guests met on Thursday at 6:30 at the Stagecoach Village Clubhouse in Little Rock, Arkansas. President Marty Haughn presided over the meeting. The attendance of this meeting was up from the past quite a lot. It was nice to see so many members and guests' faces (without masks) and to see everyone doing well and coming together for such a great fellowship. After a little Ring business, Territorial Vice President Larry Bean held a Broken Wand Ceremony for Dennis Schick.

Larry Bean started off the ceremony with a prayer and a few brief words about the ceremony and what it means to us as magicians in the magic community.

Dennis's son, Greg Schick and daughter, Leslie Schick Gorrell was in attendance to help us honor their father. Dennis's memory will live on in our great fraternity.

"We of the brotherhood offer this time as a commemoration for his life and we express our sympathy, prayers and hope in the power of life eternal to his loved ones. The wand was broken. Magic of earth is over the magic a mystery of another realm awaits him and will be revealed and may God bless the life of Dennis Schick."

A few members had some wonderful things to say about their memories of Dennis Greg and Leslie offered their gratitude to our fellowship of members and shared a few stories about their father as well.

The next order of business was our officer elections and Installation Ceremony. Ballots were distributed by email and paper ballots in person at our meeting. The votes were tallied and our officers were announced. The incumbent officers were all re-elected except for one. Here are the officers for 2021/2022: President Marty Haughn; Vice President Dane Dover; Secretary Shawn Miller; Treasurer James Kinsey; Historian Mike Curtis and newly selected Sergeant at Arms Joel Nicholson.

Adrian Steelman was our previous Sergeant at Arms and recently enlisted into the Army National Guard and will be going off for basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Following basic training Adrian will attend 10 weeks of training at the School of Music. Thank you for your service Adrian. Best wishes on your journey and career.

After the officer selection Larry Bean performed the Installation Ceremony and began by lighting the club candle. Each officer then lit their own candle while affirming them to their appointed positions. Shortly thereafter the officers for ring 29 were presented to the attending members. As a gift from Larry, each officer was presented with their own laser engraved name tag.

Then as tradition Larry gave a comical presentation to the Group of interesting facts that he found on Google about the officers and presented each officer with his gag gifts, this year centered on "cleaning products".

If you have been following the Ring Newsletter there's often a puzzle or riddle needing a solution. The first to solve it wins a prize and today we present Larry Bean with a Little Rock Magic Ring 29 custom coffee mug complements of Cool Caps of Sherwood, Arkansas.

Per tradition the officers are to perform for the group and leading the performances is Joel Nicholson with a mirror and a message to Adrian about reflecting on who he is and who he is about to become. Somehow Joel was able to push a pencil straight through a mirror while telling an inspirational story. The story spoke of always trying your hardest and how trying your hardest at all times can often get you ahead. In many ways it also makes you feel good and proud about everything you do thanks for the inspirational story Joel.



For the Record

Shawn Miller



Next up magician and President of Ring 29 Marty Haughn, Marty asked Travis Caudle for assistance. Marty pulled out a very special cigar box telling of a memory of his Grandfather who collected and stored coins in them. Inside, Marty had a few magical items. He began by saying that we all make choices every day, some small like which socks to wear, some large choices like who we vote for on American Idol.

Sixteen cards were shuffled and Travis's first choice involved deciding which of two stacks goes on top of the other. Next, the cards were placed in four rows of four. Travis was given four pennies to place one on each of four different cards. As the pennies were placed, each card in the corresponding row and column were removed. Once there were four cards with pennies on top left, each card was turned over and the number written on each was added. This is where the magic "was" supposed to begin but the "expected" total did not add up. Instead of magic it now ended up as an explanation. The expected total was to be thirty-four. Additionally, as a kicker, Travis was asked to look at the dates of each coin which all read as 1934.

Shawn Miller was up next and asked former Junior Magician Will Ketcher to be his volunteer. Shawn had an interesting carved wooden box containing a random envelope, a deck of cards, a little black bag with a crystal and some dice. All the cards were different on the face and different on the back, a card from all of his favorite decks. Will rolled the dice and was given a choice to count from the top or bottom by choosing a card for the back and for the face. Somehow the back of one card and the face of the other card match the card in the envelope.

Next up was none other than Mike Curtis the Magnificent with a psycho-tele-pathetic display of what must be the most mentally taxing but miraculously amazing prediction. We were fortunate and privileged to be present to witness the very extraordinary task in which Mike the Magnificent was about to perform. Bob Bullock volunteered to help Mike the Magnificent by thinking of an animal, a name and a card. At first it seemed like Mike the Magnificent didn't get those right but actually when he revealed the answers they were all 100% right! Mike the Magnificent is an awesome story teller which makes his magic MAGNIFICENT.

Adrian Steelman was up next with a stellar linking ring routine which wowed and amazed the audience. Each move was articulated with precision, style and a smile. Adrian even had the assistance of one of the Ring members as he formed the linked rings into what appeared to be a pyramid. This was an impressive display of talent proving that practice and rehearsals pay huge dividends. Well done Adrian.

Last but not least Dane Dover was up with a colorful M&M vest and an even more amazing coin in the bottle trick. As Dane's volunteer, Carlos Yang assisted Dane with a few classic sleights and visual magic. Dane paper wrapped a coin in classic Tarbell fashion and threw the paper at the bottle. From the beginning the bottle had been empty but upon the colliding paper to bottle, Dane's coin impossibly appeared inside the corked bottle.

Concluding the officer performances we had an unexpected guest in attendance who was once a Junior Magician student of Jim Henson. Will had shown interest in testing out a little magic on the members so we obliged. Although this was his first "senior magician" meeting, not that we are old or anything, Will wanted our constructive criticism and feedback.



For the Record

Shawn Miller



Will asked for a volunteer so Blake Puckett came up to assist. Blake chose a card and lost it in the deck as Will turned away. The next step sort of threw everyone off a little because Will had Blake grab his arm and squeeze. When Blake released his arm the number of the card began to appear on Will's forearm displaying the seven hearts, Blake's chosen card. Afterwards, members offered some good advice and wished him luck as he was heading for Florida.

Jim Henson closed out the magic by performing and teaching a few paper and scissor tricks. There were multiple versions that were demonstrated and, as custom with the generosity of Jim, each member received their own set of the tricks. As always, we appreciate your generosity and fellowship Jim.

Like most magic meetings prior to the pandemic, members hung around to share stories and a little magic before heading home. We would also be remiss in not thanking Bob White who arranged for us to have a great place to meet for this month. Thanks Bob.



Blast from the Past

Mike Curtis



We will take a look back 42 years this month to the June, 1979 meeting of the Ring. The President at that time was Jim Henson and the Secretary was Mike Curtis. The Ring met monthly at C.A.R.T.I. in Little Rock.

"Fifteen members and guests attended the June meeting. The Ring was pleased to have two additions to its' membership: Lyndon Hickey and Charles Price. Mr. Price was a charter member of Ring in 1944. He allowed his membership to lapse, but he has returned with a renewed interest in magic. Welcome Lyndon and welcome back, Mr. Price.

After a productive business meeting, interest quickly turned to magic. Jon Bucher was emcee for the evening and introduced Lyndon Hickey, who gave his initiation performance. Lyndon caused spots to multiply on a card until it was difficult to tell if the spots were real or imaginary. He then vanished a silk and did the professor's nightmare. Good job, Lyndon.

President, Jim Henson, followed with a fine card routine in which a selected card was transformed to jumbo size within the confines of a handkerchief. He cleverly caused a metal slug to disappear from a small die box and reappear in a wooden coin slide. He concluded his performance with the vanish and reappearance of a ten dollar bill.

Bob Spray demonstrated how to convert a coloring book into a blank pad. Just keep flipping the pages and saying the magic word: peanut butter. The pages first lost their color and then their lines. Avery good illusion. He then produced a bouquet of flowers and kept everyone in suspense as he methodically folded each petal back in place. He vanished the collapsed bouquet in a box and took his bows.

Randy Cox, a young visitor, did impressive routines with "color monte" and the "occult board." Rev. Robert Bangs, another visitor, did a clever transformation of a silver dollar to a dollar size penny and a very striking rope effect in which two watches were looped on a rope and with a magical flick of the wrist were individually knotted on the rope.

Logan Pritchett called upon his psychic powers to correctly predict the date and denomination of two selected coins. He further amazed with an electronic black box that could identify a selected card by flipping a few switches. Very, very mysterious.

Mike Curtis demonstrated three ways to make a half-dollar vanish. Now if he could only learn to make them reappear! Jon Bucher took the floor and did some very impressive manipulations with a golf ball and entertained with a humorous sponge ball routine.

Al Houpt finished the evening's magical festivities with a classic coin routine from the past. He caused four half-dollars to pass invisibly from his hand to a glass sealed within another glass on a wooden pedestal. Although the method is old, the magic is timeless."

That night was filled with magic and even visitors got in on the fun with some great routines. A lot of classic effects were enjoyed by all, along with some new mysteries to get everyone excited. It's always fun at meetings when members put new twists on older effects to give them a fresh look. It helps to inspire us all to be creative with that stuff we may have left in the drawer too long. Until next time, remember, we shouldn't live in the past, but we can still let the past live in us today.





June Performers and Guests





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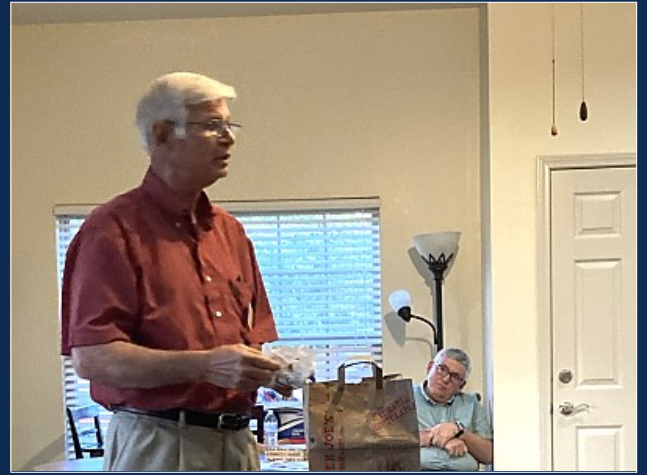


June Performers and Guests





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Event Calendar

Date	Meeting Location	Theme	Lecturer	Host/Emcee
July	In Person - Henson #2 Home	Magic Flea Market - Magic of Japan	N/A	Marty Haughn
August	100 Stagecoach Village *Clubhouse	LECTURE	Tom Burgoon	Marty Haughn
September	-	Buyer's Regret	-	Dane Dover
October	-	AUCTION NIGHT!	N/A	TBD
November	-	Something you Created	-	Dane Dover
December	-	Found Online Magic	-	Marty Haughn
January	January 8, 2022 Jacksonville Community Center	Christmas Show	N/A	TBD
February	-	Free for All	-	Dane Dover
March	-	Comedy Magic Night	-	Marty Haughn
April	-	Prop Builds	-	Dane Dover
May	-	I bought it from Jim "Mr. Magic" Henson	-	Marty Haughn
× June	In Person - *Clubhouse	Installation	N/A	Larry Bean

* The clubhouse is where we used to meet near Jim's shop, Bob White's neighborhood.

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



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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*.

www.littlerockmagic.net or 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 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)

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