

I.B.M
RING #29

MAGIC MUSINGS

International Brotherhood of Magicians, Ring #29

1917 N. Grant, Little Rock, Arkansas 72207 • (501) 666-8735

Meeting 3rd Thursday of every month, CARTI, St. Vincent's Hospital



APRIL 1993

Double-header lectures set for April 7 and 12

WOW! What a great opportunity we have during April! Not one, but two lectures to add to our knowledge and skills on magic.

Yes, we're taking advantage of two fine magicians being in our area during April, and they will replace our regular April meeting (the first Thursday of the month).

Both meetings will begin at 7:30 pm at our

March meeting well attended

If you missed the March meeting, you missed seeing and learning how to do some neat rope tricks. That was the theme for the month, and we appreciate all of those who helped demonstrate and/or teach tricks. Only when we help each other learn and grow will we strengthen our ring and our hobby.

Thanks, Randall, for performing

We have lots of good talent in our Ring, so it is especially pleasing when one of our members performs for us as our monthly program. That was the case in February when Randall Eller performed some of his magic, and also explained how he uses it in his work with youth. Thanks, Randall.

Friends, Romans, magicians!

Lend us your news!

This is the first issue of our new newsletter, created and edited by prospective member Dennis Schick. He is Executive Director of the Arkansas Press Association and teaches advertising and marketing at UALR at night, so works in the news and advertising fields.

This is your newsletter and we need EACH of you to regularly let us know anything magical about you: engagements coming up, accomplishments in learning a new trick, magic performances in the state, etc., as well as personal stuff, too (getting married, having a baby, etc.). Give us a call. The more news the better.

Call Dennis at 374-1500

regular meeting place -- CARTI, on the east side of St. Vincent's Infirmary Medical Center. Call if you need directions.

The first opportunity we have will be Wednesday, April 7. Frank Pember from Wauwatosa, Wisconsin will be with us. He has been a professional magician -- "Ricardo the Debonair Magician" -- for over 50 years.

APRIL RING MEETINGS:

✓ Wednesday, April 7

7:30 pm - CARTI

Lecture by

Frank Pember

Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

✓ Monday, April 12

7:30 pm -- CARTI

Lecture by

Dr. Bob Doggett

Rancho Mirage, California

Mary Ann Campbell named to national position by President

Magicians are performers and thus are often in the spotlight. But our own Mary Ann Campbell has really been shining lately.

● On March 13, President Clinton appointed her to chair the National Women's Business Council, a high honor, indeed! The Council reviews the status of women business owners and makes annual policy recommendations to the President and Congress.

● We hope you saw the nice article last year about Mary Ann in the "High Profile" section of the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*. The article told how Mary Ann got started in magic (by driving her son to magic lessons and then helping him learn the tricks), and how it gradually led to her adding it to her own seminars. She used those two skills to produce 26 30-minute lessons on AETN entitled "Money Magic," from 1979 to 1981. The series won several national awards.

● The year before Mary Ann and husband Guy were featured in a husband-wife feature in the *Arkansas Gazette*, again emphasizing her use of magic in her financial planning seminars and consulting business.

Congrats, Mary Ann, but don't forget us.

He promises a lecture that everyone will find some portion of as a worthwhile learning experience.

Cost to attend this lecture will be only \$2.50 for members and \$5 for non-members, payable at the door.

The second opportunity will be the following Monday night, April 12, also at 7:30 pm. That will be when Dr. Bob Doggett of Rancho Mirage, California will lecture.

Bob calls his lecture "Easy Stuff." At least he will make it look that way. It is aimed at all ranges of skill in the magic community. He features cards, cups and balls and coins, and he teaches numerous slights. Bring a pack of cards with you.

Cost to attend this lecture will be \$5 for members and \$8 for non-members, also payable at the door.

Jim says come even if you're feeling bad. There will be a couple of doctors, a mortician and a preacher to handle whatever ails you. Bring guests and prospective members.

PERFORMANCES

Here's an idea suggested by one of our members: when you have an engagement booked, call Dennis to put it in this newsletter. Then some of us would attend and critique the performance, passing on constructive suggestions. Only another magician can fully appreciate what you are trying to do.

If you like the idea, participate by calling 374-1500 (or 753-8767 evenings). Some examples of what we might include:

✓ The Great Fambosi, will entertain at this year's Zoo Days, August 29 and 30. He will perform at 4 pm, making Tubby the Elephant disappear, a real show-stopper.

✓ Buffo the Clown, whose reputation is spreading rapidly among Greater Little Rock children, will be featured at the 13th birthday of Chelsea Clinton at the White House in Washington, DC on September 28th. It will be televised nationally on TNT Network.

✓ The Fabulous Frank -- who works with schools with an anti-drug message -- will be featured April 1 at Central High in Little Rock at 2 p.m. and at Parkview High the same day at 4 pm.

Magical performers and performances in Arkansas in recent months

Carlton was opening act at Juanita's

Little Rock magician **Paul Carlton** was the opening act for rock band Cosmic Giggle Factory March 20 at Juanita's.

The article about the performance said he got his start doing birthday parties for children and has been performing about 2 1/2 years. He graduated to conventions and banquets and gradually added bigger illusions. Carlton, 29, travels throughout the state performing anti-drug programs for the Arkansas Sheriff's Association. He also does shows for the Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families.

Included in his act are a substitution trunk, a special cannon illusion using a dove (similar to David Copperfield's version with a duck), and a guillotine -- an arm-chopper illusion (but not for kids).

Magicians appear at concerts, too; expose magic to wider audiences

Magicians have appeared this year as parts of at least two concert series in the state.

On December 3, the Greater Little Rock Community Concert Association presented "The Shanghai Acrobats and Dance Theatre," during which a magician performed some spectacular effects for 10 minutes or more. He produced glass after glass from under sprawling gowns, all filled with water. He topped them off with a huge fishbowl filled with water and including live fish.

Last Sunday, March 28, The Spring River Entertainment Association presented the "Chinese Golden Dragon Acrobats & Magicians" at Hardy. Magic was included.

We use both of these examples to say that if some of us had known about them in advance, we might have attended. So we ask that when any of you know about magicians performing in the state, please help pass the word to this newsletter (if there is time) and to Jim Henson, so they can help spread the word.

Lt. Jerry Agnew uses magic in his workshops for elementary students

Lt. Jerry Agnew, a Pulaski County deputy sheriff, uses magic as part of his motivational presentations to county schools. He also features six robots in his programs, including several which he designed himself.

An amateur magician since he was 8, he taught himself most of his tricks, and uses tricks and illusions to teach his basic message, and to teach students to echo the words he teaches them: "I believe in myself and in my dreams. I am a positive I-can person."

B-Boys perform at Piggott

The Piggott Kiwanis Club featured a magical double-header March 13 at the Piggott Middle School gym, featuring The Magic of **Anthony Baker** and magician **Jon Bucher**.

Baker, from Piggott, has been performing for 14 years. He has been a featured entertainer at the Texas Association of Magicians in San Antonio, the Cavalcade of Magic in Eureka Springs; the Grand Opening of Magic Springs in Hot Springs; and numerous other conventions and festivals.

He is an accomplished actor and is co-star in the syndicated television series, "Theatre of Magic."

Master Magician **Jon Bucher** of Searcy is a lecturer and award winner who has taught and lectured to other magicians. He specializes in comedy magic and has appeared in Wichita, Dallas, Chicago, New York, Dogpatch USA and Magic Springs. He is the winner of the prestigious Close-up Magic Contest for members of the International Brotherhood of Magicians (IBM). He also won the State Magic Contest at the Midwest Magic Jubilee. He is a co-star of the syndicated television series "Theatre of Magic" and has taught magic to Notre Dame football coach Lou Holtz.

Silverman new to Blytheville area

Magician **David Silverman** now resides in Blytheville, having moved there from Dyersburg, Tennessee in early 1992. A native of Tennessee and reared in Michigan, he started magic at four or five years old. His uncle got him started in magic and taught him many tricks.

He progressed from simple magic and juggling to bigger illusions. He started out as a clown and did birthday parties, moving up to schools, hospitals, churches and charity events. Magic involving doves is what Silverman says is his favorite thing to do. He keeps and trains his own doves.

Christian magicians Kole and Snipes perform in state in November and January

Illusionist **Andre Kole** came to Little Rock last November, sponsored by the Family Ministry of Campus Crusade for Christ. He performed at Robinson Auditorium and at Robinson High School. He has worked with David Copperfield and created several illusions for him.

Seymours on postcard (again).

You know that feature that used to run in the *Arkansas Gazette* about old postcards? A couple of months before it went out of business in October, 1991, they featured a 1910 card showing Col. Seymour and Frances.

The merged *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* picked up the popular series and recently they featured -- you guessed it -- the same postcard. A happy coincidence.

Mini Page features magic in February.

You may subscribe to a newspaper which includes a weekly feature for kids, "The Mini Page." In mid-February, the themed page was about magic.

Featured were such items as "Where to pick up tricks," "How to put on a magic show," careers which do or could include magic, a magic crossword puzzle, and explanations for 11 magic tricks. Dennis has a copy if you'd like to see it.



Cavaness performed at DeWitt

Batesville magician **Clayton Cavaness** performed in DeWitt March 26, sponsored by the Grand Prairie Ruritan Club. In February he appeared in Trumann.

Cavaness, 32, has been a professional magician several years, having performed since he was eight. He has performed at Magic Springs, Six Flags Over Mid-America, Dogpatch USA, and Astroworld.

His act includes modern sets and props, including a camera connected to a big-screen television set so audiences can see his close-up and slight-of-hand illusions. He took his "Making Drugs Disappear" show to over 125 schools last year and has done workshops for teen drug awareness groups.

Christian magician **Felix Snipes** conducted three appearances at Central Baptist College in Conway in January. He is a well-known illusionist who travels extensively and has appeared on numerous TV specials. He performed a family magic show as well as "Biblical Answers to the Supernatural."