

I.B.M

RING #29

JUNE 1993

MAGIC MUSINGS

International Brotherhood of Magicians, Ring #29

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

Meeting 1st Thursday of every month, CARTI, St. Vincent's Hospital



June 3rd meeting to feature "Linking Card" & math

JUNE RING #29 MEETING:

✓ Thursday, June 3rd

7:30 pm -- CARTI

(1) Business meeting:

✓ Election of officers

✓ Summer Picnic

(2) New trick: The Linking Card.

Taught by Randall Eller.

(Bring old cards to tear up.)

(3) Your favorite math trick

(Bring one with you.)

✓ Bring old cards, learn new trick

✓ Bring your favorite math trick

The June 3rd meeting of Ring #29 will be another great evening of magic. It will begin at 7:30 at the regular meeting place, the north side of CARTI (on the east end of St. Vincent's Infirmary). Look for the propped door.

We still need your personal data form for our new Directory.

Thanks to you who completed and returned your personal data form.

Newsletter editor Dennis Schick has volunteered to take the data and compile a Ring Directory for each member. That way we can get to know each other better, can communicate with each other easier, can form car pools, refer performance opportunities, etc.

Please bring your form to the meeting or mail it to Dennis ASAP. We'll have additional copies at the meeting, too.

People who have returned the forms so far include:

Ben Bradley
Melvin Brown
Mike Curtis
Henry Johnson
Christy Kinsey
James Kinsey
Danny McDorman
Jeremy Newton
Theron Nunley, Jr.
Mike Pridemore
Dennis Schick
Andrew Stirman
Daniel Veazey
Sean Westbrook

Where is YOUR form?



● Kicking off the evening will be a business meeting and our annual election of officers. The nominating committee of Mike Curtis (Historian), Jim Henson (President) and Lisa Bolin (Immediate Past President) will report. Nominations will be accepted from the floor. New officers will be installed at the July meeting.

● The business meeting also will include discussion of when and where the annual Summer Picnic should be. It will be either the August or September meeting. Bring your ideas, including any offer to host it at your house, office, party house, etc.

● The program for the evening will be another double-header:

(1) Randall Eller will teach us the great "Linking Card" routine which everyone is still talking about. We hope Greg Gillis and Scott Davis will be there too, to help him teach in small groups. Be sure to bring throw-away cards to tear up.

(2) Your favorite mathematical trick.

Bring, demonstrate and teach the rest of us your favorite trick involving math: formulas, counting, numbers, etc.

REMEMBER: DUES ARE DUE JULY 1

The club annual dues of \$10 are due July 1, so pay at this coming meeting. Remember, you must be a member of I.B.M. National in order to qualify for local membership.

PERFORMANCES

Call Jim or Dennis and tell them about your current, past and future performances. Some of us could come and critique you. Or we might just enjoy watching you in action.

✓ Randal Eller is preparing for a cross-country tour. How about details, Randal?

✓ Don Baer has been performing at several birthday parties recently.

✓ Andy Stirman seems to be conducting shows nearly every Saturday night.

✓ Congratulations to Paul Carlin and his new bride, Lisa, who were married last Saturday. Their wedding ceremony should be his most important performance for some time to come.

We need your news in this newsletter!

Hey! How can we have a NEWS letter if you don't tell us your news? It is interesting to know each other better and to know what you're doing with magic.

The personal data forms will generate some news, which we'll use in coming issues. But we still need to get all ring members to start "thinking publicity" on a regular basis by calling the editor as soon as you book a performance, hear of a magic show scheduled, change jobs, accomplish something special, etc.

Call Dennis at 374-1500 or mail to: 1701 Broadway, Little Rock 72206

COMING EVENTS:

June 29 -- Regular July meeting. Jim is trying to arrange an appearance of a special guest from England. To be confirmed.

July 1 -- Annual dues (\$10) are due.

August -- Either Summer Picnic or lecture/performance by Ben Bradley of Pine Bluff.

September -- (See August)

Landis & Co. Theatre of Magic gave unique shows in Bentonville May 7-9

A clipping from the *Benton County Daily Record* in Bentonville reported that on May 7 and 9 Landis & Company Theatre of Magic performed "The Sorcerer's Apprentice & Other Stories" in the Walton Arts Center. It was billed as a fun show for the entire family.

The clip described the show thusly:

"The lively one-hour performance begins with the mysterious appearance of The Magic Storyteller. To tell each of three tales, he first pulls a symbolic prop from his magical Storybag and then becomes a character in the story.

"The three stories to be told are: "The Sorcerer's Apprentice," "Till Eulenspiegel's Merry Pranks," and an original piece, "The Snow Princess."

"Imaginative choreography, illusions and special effects enhance these mystical tales of magic and enchantment. Brooms with minds of their own and disappearing ducks accent the intriguing journey, accompanied by the evocative music of Strauss, Dukas and Prokofiev."

Sounds like it would be fun to watch, huh? If any of you know anything about the company -- and especially if they are to appear again in Arkansas -- please pass it on.

Robb Boyd & Jazmin performed in Paragould at Caboose Festival.

Escape artist Robb Boyd & Jazmin of Paragould were featured performers at the 4th Annual Loose Caboose Festival at Paragould May 7-9. They call their act, "Magic and Escape Artistry."

Boyd performed his Rope Tie Challenge during the Festival. The stunt involves two volunteers from the audience who tie him up with 100-feet of rope. His challenge is that if he cannot escape he pays them \$100.

Jonathan Gerald of Oklahoma to perform at Fort Smith June 12

According to an ad in the Fort Smith newspaper, "Jonathan Gerald," a native Oklahoman who has won numerous awards for his magic and illusions, will bring his world-class magic show to the Fort Smith Civic Center on June 12 at 7 pm.

The show will benefit the Interfaith Schools Program and area veterans confined to area hospitals and nursing homes.

For more information and to order tickets call 783-5176.

Copperfield was in Springfield May 10

David Copperfield gave his "Magic for the 90s" show in Springfield, MO. May 10. Did any Ring #29 members go? Does anyone know if Copperfield has a fan club?

Danny McDorman demonstrated sight gags at May ring meeting.

Danny McDorman showed how various gags used during a performance can keep the audience laughing, a key element in the success of many shows.

Some of the gags he demonstrated and explained included:

✗ Limp in with "a rock in my shoe." only to pull out a huge, sponge rock.

✗ Cut and restore the microphone cord using an extra piece of cord from Radio Shack.

✗ Use a running gag throughout the show (the Energizer Bunny, which he demonstrated live; a growing tree, etc.

✗ Use timely, unexpected gags such as crushing a soft drink can on your forehead (a collapsible plastic can with spring).

He recommended the book, "Clown Magic," from which he got many of his gag ideas.

Westbrook gives performance advice: "What lectures never tell you."

Following his performance to the Ring last month, Sean Westbrook talked on "What they don't tell you in lectures." Here are some of his major points:

● CHECK IT OUT. Upon accepting a booking, ask whether it is in-doors or outside. If it is scheduled for outside, what is the alternative in case of rain? Check out both locations. Ask how many people will attend. Bring appropriate tricks for all kinds of weather and conditions. Have back-up tricks for unusual conditions. The Torn and Restored Newspaper doesn't work well in a high wind, for instance. Small, tight quarters (like a living room surrounded by people) don't allow some tricks which depend on angles.

● GET ATTENTION. Require an introduction. Introducing yourself is almost al-

ways a weak opening. Start your show with music and something good and very visual to watch. (Sean likes to use rings.)

● USE STAGE PRESENCE. Bow often. It asks for respect and applause. Make the audience applaud, even ask for it, if necessary. People are not used to applauding these days with so much television and passive entertainment (cable, VCR, movies, etc.). He recommends David Ginn's "Comedy Warm-ups for Children."

● BE YOURSELF. Develop your own style. Don't just imitate someone else. Decide whether you're comfortable with comedy or serious or what.

● BE WELL REHEARSED. The three most important words in magic may be "Practice, practice, practice." Don't go on with tricks you aren't comfortable with.

GALVIN AND HOBBS



Bill Watterson