

I.B.M

RING #29

AUGUST 1994

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



August 4 meeting will be Benefit Auction.

July meeting review

A small (15) but enthusiastic crowd attended the July 7 meeting at CARTI. The highlight of the evening was the election of new officers for 1994-95 (see below).

New president **Danny McDorman** thanked the members for electing him, then left to emcee at the Comedy Club -- demonstrating his wit and magic. (Our apologies for misspelling Danny's name last newsletter. The type gremlins did it!)

Members **Fred Hartman**, **Jim Henson** and **Andy Stirman** performed Svengali deck tricks, the theme of the evening. (We do wish more members would get involved on theme nights, though.)

New member **Herb Hodde** gave his Club Acceptance Performance and did well while his appreciative wife, Beth, watched. A Michigan native, Herb said he currently is out of work so help him find a job.

Dennis Schick showed and told about several new and used magic books he has bought recently.

BITS & PIECES

● New president **Danny McDorman** has also been performing at Music Mountain Jamboree on weekends in Hot Springs. Catch him if you can (figuratively and literally)!

● **Theron Nunley** taught magic at Summerquest, a Gifted and Talented program in North Little Rock, and at Junior University at UCA in Conway, a special program run by Pulaski County and UCA.

● **James and Christy Kinsey** attended the Kirby Van Burch magic show in Branson recently, and had the special privilege of being invited backstage for a VIP tour. Talk about being thrilled. He got to see several of the illusions up close.

(If you go to the show, stay around afterwards and identify yourself as a magician. You could get lucky, too.)

● When the Ring Caravan of 32 people went to the Van Burch show in March (just after the show opened for the season), at least two major illusions weren't ready yet. So **Jim Henson** says he is going back again before the season closes.

- ✓ Everyone bring one or more
- ✓ Great chance to buy and sell

Every magician goes berserk every now and then (mostly now), and buys tricks they know they'll never use much or at all. They just "have to have" the latest fad or just want to "possess" a certain trick.

Well, many of those tricks now possess the possessor. You have tricks you never use, think you can't afford some tricks you'd like to have and -- all-in-all -- are one confused and frustrated magician. Sound familiar?

Weep no more my lady (and gentleman). Do we ever have a cure (and solution) for you!

Come to the August 4 Ring #29 meeting for instant relief. But don't come alone. Bring with you at least two (count 'em, two) magic tricks, books, props, etc. to sell at our annual Benefit Auction.

We call it a benefit" auction since it will benefit both the buyer and the seller, as well as the club -- a triple benefit!

So here's the deal: 10% of all sales will go to the club general fund -- to pay for stuff

Warning: annual dues are due by Aug. 26 or no newsletter!

Local dues for Ring #29 are only \$10 and they are payable each July 1. To keep in good standing, all local members should pay their dues immediately (they're now a month late).

This is the last newsletter you will receive if you have not paid your dues by the end of the month, when newsletters are mailed. Let's set August 26 as the final day to pay your dues or get cut off the mailing list.

Congratulations to new officers:

President:	Danny McDorman
V.P.	James Kinsey
Secretary	Dennis Schick
Asst. Sec.	Joe Ferrer
Treasurer	Mary Ann Campbell
Asst. Treas.	Lisa Bolin
Historian	Mike Curtis
Sgt. at Arms	Jim Henson
Programs	Andy Stirman

AUGUST

RING #29 MEETING:

Thursday, August 4, 7:30

- ✓ Benefit Auction
- ✓ Bring tricks to sell
- ✓ Nathan Ironside performance

ranging from refreshments to part of lecture fees. So help the club treasury.

Of course, if each magician wanted to donate the TOTAL sales price for at least one trick, it would be gladly accepted! The bigger our treasury, the more we can do!

Also at the August meeting, new member **Nathan Ironside** will give his Club Acceptance Performance. He's a student at Harding and has been interested in magic about two years. Come encourage him.

So clean out those closets, crawl under the bed, dust off those unused tricks and make two people happy: you (the seller) and the buyer. Let's have a big crowd!

Ring members perform at Med Camp

We understand several Ring 29 members have performed at Med Camp at Camp Aldersgate this summer. We'll get details and report next month.

LOOKING AHEAD:

● It has been proposed that the canceled Summer Picnic and Show (due to heavy thunderstorms), be rescheduled as a Fall Picnic, Saturday September 10. The final decision and details will be voted on at the August meeting. Please come and add your input. Call Danny, Andy or Jim if you can't be there but want to comment or vote.

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So what's with you?

We want your news!

● If you have news, call Jim or Dennis and we'll include it in this newsletter.
 ● Call **Dennis Schick** at 374-1500 or mail to: 1701 Broadway, Little Rock 72206
 ●

Joe Floyd

Retired printer kept the magic in his life

BY SANDRA COX
Democrat-Gazette Staff Writer

Joe Floyd, the co-owner of Creative Multigraphics in Jonesboro, always had a magic trick up his sleeve.

When Floyd was a young man, he went table to table at Hank's Dog House in North Little Rock, performing sleight-of-hand tricks for diners who were waiting for their meals.

He traveled with a professional magician as a stage manager in Arkansas, Texas, Oklahoma and Colorado, sometimes stepping in as an assistant in the magic acts.

Later, as a businessman in Jonesboro, his love for magic never died. In the 1980s, he co-founded the Northeast Arkansas Magic Club.

He died of cancer Saturday in Little Rock. He was 67.

Floyd was born and raised in Hope. His fascination with magic began as a boy, when his older brother, E.P. "Perk" Floyd, bought him a magic kit.

After meeting a magician who was skilled at sleight-of-hand magic and string magic, Floyd — who had attended Little Rock Junior College and Texas Christian University — decided to travel with the magician.

Floyd set up stages in cities with theaters and built stages in towns without any. The fact that he was seldom on stage himself didn't bother him.

"Joe was never a big stage magician, a la David Copperfield," his wife, Bobbye Floyd, said. "He never did like the big stage illusions. But he was quite agile and flexible with his fingers, and he did a lot of card and coin manipulations."

After more than a year of traveling with the magician, Floyd joined his brother in Washington, D.C., taking a government job involving health research.

He enjoyed being in the nation's hub, which at that time didn't have the crime and traffic problems it does now, his wife said.

While in Washington, he met and married his first wife, Teresa Floyd. The two had two children. Teresa Floyd preceded him in death.

Much as he had traveled with the magic troupe, Floyd moved around the nation, taking jobs in sales.

His employers included a pharmaceutical company and an oil and grease corporation, where he wrote a sales management manual.

"Joe said that those who were willing to follow it to the letter made money; those that didn't, didn't stay with them," Bobbye Floyd said.

While in Chicago, where he was working with a friend, Floyd became homesick and moved to Jonesboro to work for an electric company. But that was not to be in the cards.

He met a man in Leachville, northeast of Jonesboro. The two realized there was no quality four-color printing in Northeast Arkansas.

They put their heads together and formed Creative Multigraphics of Jonesboro, a successful business that quickly outgrew Floyd's basement.

As a printer, he and his brother worked to produce two

children's books about birds. The books, "All About Cardinals" and "All About Bluebirds" have appeared in school libraries, state park gift shops and bookstores in Arkansas.

Following his first wife's death, Joe Floyd found love again with a woman he met at a supper club. After going on a luncheon date, the two kept seeing each other. Joe and Bobbye Floyd were married Valentine's Day, 1983.

And magic was coming back into his life.

During the 1980s, while watching the news on television, he saw a magician featured. The magician was looking for other magicians in the area to meet. Floyd sought the man out, and the two formed the Northeast Arkansas Magic Club, which met every month at Floyd's home.

The club, which still exists, performed at festivals and Halloween events.

The Floyds were also active in the Foundation of Arts in Jonesboro. Floyd wrote grant applications and served in other administrative capacities, including board member of the foundation's Fine Arts Council.

Floyd loved the arts. He also wrote poetry, which will be read today at his funeral.

In 1991, Floyd retired. He and his wife moved to Little Rock.

"If anyone ever practiced the golden rule, it was Joe," Bobbye Floyd said. "He treated people with the respect that we all hope to be treated."

TUESDAY, JULY 19, 1994

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