

I.B.M  
RING #29

FEBRUARY 1995

# MAGIC MUSINGS

International Brotherhood of Magicians, Ring #29  
8912 Stagecoach Road, #7, Little Rock, ARKansas 72207 • (501) 455-6242  
Meeting 1st Thursday of every month, CARTI, St. Vincent's Hospital



## David Ginn coming to Feb. 23 meeting.

**FEBRUARY**  
**RING #29 MEETING:**  
**Thursday, February 23**  
✓ 7 pm ✓ Be on time.  
✓ A rare opportunity!

### ● BITS & PIECES ●

● Ring President **Danny McDorman** will appear February 18 at the Golden Locust Restaurant in Saxton, Missouri.

He also will be at the Children's Museum March 17, and will emcee at the Comedy House March 27-April 2.

● In case you've missed it, Danny and **Randall Eller** perform on ACT, Cable 27 each Saturday at 10 am. Tune in.

● **Randall Eller** is teaching magic and performing at Timberridge in Saline County.

● In case you haven't gotten the word, **David Copperfield** will be in Memphis **March 28**. Anyone interested in getting up a carload or caravan? Call Jim.

● **John Carney** wants to lecture to the Ring on May 24th. What do you think? Tell Jim or any officer.

● The next club meeting will be at the regular date -- the first Thursday of the month -- **April 6th**.

● **Clayton Cavaness** and company will perform "Make the Magic Happen," Monday, **March 13** at the Newport High School gymnasium. It will begin at 7:30 pm.

### DON'T MISS IT!!!

Those three words sum up what will probably be one of the all-time highlights of Ring #29 -- the appearance of the legendary **David Ginn** -- one of the most respected magicians of our time.

On **Thursday, February 23**, Ring #29 will hold a special two-month combined meeting (for February and March). It will begin earlier than usual -- at **7 pm**, so don't be late.

Who is **David Ginn**? He is author of over 50 books on magic and comedy. He is a performer of some 400 shows each year, including 350 schools and day care centers. He is a world-travelled children's magic lecturer, and a columnist for M-U-M Magazine for 18 years.

His lecture for us will be over two hours long, consisting of half commercial magic with props you can buy, and half do-it-yourself magic direct from his own school and library shows.

David will go beyond just showing the commercial tricks. He'll ex-

plain how they work and how you can entertain with them. Several do-it-yourself items will feature "hands on" materials, plus techniques unheard of ten years ago.

Of course his videos, books and props will be available for sale at the lecture, so bring your cash and check-book.!

Cost for the lecture will be **\$8** for members and spouses and **\$12** for non-members, payable at the door.

## DON'T MISS THIS ONE!

### Clown Alley chapter off to good start in new year; why not join?

You may not even know that there is a chapter of COAI Clown Alley in Central Arkansas, but there is. It's the Giggles Factory. Don Baer (Patches) is president and Al Collier (Great Elbo) is Vice-president. We understand there is a chapter in Rogers, too.

The group started with 6 or 7 folks, and now brags of 25 members. Their December newsletter welcomed new members "Daisy," "Jingles," "Nincompoop" and "Happy."

If you want more information about the club, including meeting dates and times, dues, etc., contact Don Baer at 613 Hacienda Drive, Benton, 72015.

Just think, if most of the Giggles Factory members come to David Ginn's lecture, on top of our own members, and then guests come in from Fort Smith, Newport, Searcy and elsewhere, it will be a record crowd!

● **What's your magic news?** ●

● **We want to know.** ●

● 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** ●

### Randall Eller to conduct "Illusions Symposium" June 3

After thinking and talking about it for several years, Ring member **Randall Eller** has agreed to conduct a special "Illusions Symposium."

It will be on **Saturday, June 3** for most of the day. The actual times will be announced later, as well as the agenda. But count on at least from 9 am until mid-afternoon, with a break for lunch.

There will be a nominal fee to handle direct costs, such as room rental and the cost of lecture notes.

Randall is still putting the program

together, but some of the subjects he is considering include "New and original ideas," "New twists on old routines," and "Ethics and the Magician."

He is even willing to discuss putting on other symposiums, so some time will be devoted to the several options.

Thanks to Randall in advance for his willingness to share some of his love and experience in magic with the rest of us.

For now, mark your calendars for **June 3**, and watch for details in coming weeks.

## MORE BITS AND PIECES

### I'm sick of Rice Krispies!

One of my children gave me the back of a Kellogg's Rich Krispies box for a Christmas present. It had a "Goof Troop" Magic trick on it. (The instructions were on the inside of the front of the box, so don't throw it away if you buy one.)

Anyway, the next time I went to the grocery store, I looked at the boxes, and there were two more tricks on other boxes. Unfortunately, both were on the giant, Walton-Family-size box. I went ahead and bought both, of course, but I won't be able to eat that many bowls of the snappy stuff in a year.

The magic tricks were still there the last time I looked, so look them up yourself.

### Children's Museum features magic.

The Children's Museum, one of Little Rock's newest attractions, is first-rate, and we hear all sorts of good comments about it.

If you watch the newspapers, as well as other sources, you'll pick up on magic and related skills shows they have scheduled. For instance, the following were printed in a recent newsletter:

- ✓ Feb. 7 Juggling
- ✓ Feb. 28 Learn a Magic Trick
- ✓ March 4 Learn a Magic Trick
- ✓ March 10 Mommy Magic (?)
- ✓ March 14 Juggling
- ✓ March 31 Paul Carlon Magic

Do you go out of your way to extend your performance skills by searching out and attending magic performances like these? You should you know.

### Copperfield in Family Magazine

As you can see, I have my family trained to look for magic-related items. My wife rolled up a magazine she saw near the check-out counter of a grocery store, and gave it to me for Christmas, "From Santa."

It was the holiday issue of "Target the Family," created by Parents magazine. On the cover was David Copperfield, and inside was three pages about his Project Magic.

The article tells about the past, present and future of the program, including how to find out more about it. The program is headquartered at the Kansas Rehabilitation Hospital. Write to co-founder Julie de Jean, Project Magic, 1504 S.W. 8th St., Topeka, KS 66606. Call her at (913) 235-6600.

Also included is information about Copperfield's background, some of the highlights of his television shows, and even explanations of two tricks from the Project Magic handbook (send \$5 for a copy).



### Another neat catalog has magic.

Among the dozens of mail order catalogs I receive is one from "Brainstorms," one of those specialty houses with neat things you usually don't find in catalogs (or anywhere else).

The current issue has a page of magic-related items, including Mark Wilson's Complete Course in Magic, a 46x67" throw rug with playing cards all over it, two balloon animals books, assorted juggling videos and sets, and "The Buck Book," Klutz' latest volume about folding money into shapes. (If you haven't seen it, a unique approach is the real brand-new dollar bill which comes in a plastic pocket with the book -- an instant discount.

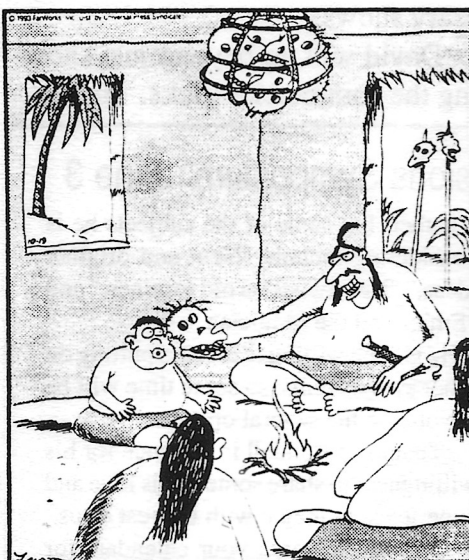
Of course all of these are widely available, and thus not especially exciting. But the fun of the catalog comes from all those other unusual things which you could work into your act. For example:

- ✓ A large sheet of genuine, uncut \$2 bills
- ✓ A 4-foot long giant pencil
- ✓ Miniature plastic skulls for juggling

Flipping through the pages of the catalog is a constant source of ideas for creativity. When you look for magic, you'll find it!

### THE FAR SIDE

Gary Larson



The whole family always enjoyed the way Uncle Numanga could reach over and "find" a skull in little Tooby's ear.

### There's magic in the name.

We who have a particular interest in what has been called "magic," are sometimes amused how the word is used (and misused) in other contexts.

What got me to thinking along these lines was the monthly catalog I received the other day from one of the several book clubs I belong to. Of course I look for the word "magic" along with other subjects I am interested in.

There on one page was "The Magic of Sex." The description said: "This unique guide explores how men and women experience sex differently." Boy, was I ever disappointed. I would rather the book had been: "The Sex of Magic."

Then on another page was a blurb for "Mathemagics," tips and ideas about how to use math more effectively.

I've come across books like "Magic in the Kitchen," "The Magic of Chocolate" and "Magic Meetings."

No, I'm not going to sue over it. In fact, maybe we should be complimented that they think so much about "our" word. But it would be nice when the bookstore computer search looks for magic, it gives me something more than "Magic Johnson," and "The Magic of Relationships with Your Spouse" or "The Magic of Inner Ear Explorations."

### Magic by travel and the mail

As I've mentioned before, I like to look up magic stores when I'm in other cities (when I have time). I also cruise old book stores and look for magic books there, too.

While in Washington, DC in December, I came upon a wonderful magic grouping in an unexpected place. In the Georgetown Park mall, there is one of those neat special stores called "Learningsmith." It's called "A General Store for the Curious Mind." It's full of stuff for the young and the young at heart. But as the name implies, virtually everything in the store bends and stretches your mind and explores everything imaginable, from puzzles and books to games, educational toys and do-it-yourself kits.

You can imagine my delight to find, as I wandered through the store, an entire section on magic things and stuff. I've never seen more magic kits in one place as I did there, including "Armchair Magician," "Magic Fun Activity Case," and "Magic Showcase."

Did I buy anything? Of course not. I'd rather support my local magic store. But it sure was fun to look. Don't pass by any store which looks like it might have magic.