

I.B.M
RING #29

June 1996

MAGIC MUSINGS

International Brotherhood of Magicians, Ring #29
8912 Stagecoach Road, #7, Little Rock, Arkansas 72209 • (501) 455-6242
Meeting 1st Thursday of every month, Baptist Medical Center



Hendrix to perform card show & lecture June 6

NEXT MEETINGS:

✓ **Thurs., June 6, 7 pm**
Baptist Medical Center
Meeting room 20, Cafeteria

THEME: CARD MAGIC

SHORT STUFF

✓ **Bill Spooner** will lecture to our club **July 26**. Spooner was president of IBM in 1985. He still is active on the IBM Board of Directors. He is a practicing magician. He performs with cards, coins, rope and sponge balls, among others. We'll get to see some of his famous "Magical Spoonerisms" lecture.

✓ We noticed in a UALR brochure that as part of their Community Outreach Program this summer that "The Mystery of Magic" will be taught by **Timothy Lee** on Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30 pm, June 17 to July 22. Cost is \$45. Call 375-3690.

✓ Remember, the **Northeast Arkansas Magic Club** at Newport invites our ring members to attend their regular meeting on the last Sunday of each month, at 2 pm. That's **this coming Sunday, May 26**.

✓ Ring membership dues are due **June 30**. Pay before then or be dropped from our mailing list! Bring it to the June meeting.

✓ When television networks want a blockbuster program to run during their sweeps periods, they have been turning to magic shows. In recent weeks we've seen one **magic TV show** after another.

Most of the time we don't know about these in time to tell you about them in this monthly newsletter. We suggest that you study the TV guides each Sunday to see what magic shows are coming up.

✓ **Ring 308** in Searcy will meet June 3rd in Room 122 of the Mabee Center on the Harding University campus. The theme for June is magic with fire, escapes and novelties. You are invited to attend. Let Jim Henson know if you're going.

✓ A great crowd of 65 people turned out to see the graduation recital of Jim Henson's magic students May 11. Good show!

Hey, how about two for the price of one for our regular June meeting? That's right. On **Thursday, June 6**, we'll get to see **Chris Hendrix** deliver both a card show and lecture, featuring the magic of Darwin Ortiz and Guetner. Jim Henson says Chris has been working hard to perfect a number of their tricks, so come give him your support. Bring a prospective member!

We'll meet at our regular time and place -- 7 pm at the Baptist Medical Center. We'll be in one of the meeting rooms just around the corner from the cafeteria. In fact, come early, go through the cafeteria and bring your tray to our room and eat with friends. Remember, we're starting 30 minutes earlier than we used to.

Three magicians now performing in Branson. Go see them all!

✓ Remember last month when we told you about the "Legends in Concert" at The Grand Palace in Branson, and that magician **Martin Preston** is performing in the show as Liberace, and uses magic in his act?

✓ Well, we now find out that **Blackstone** is performing in the Hot Country Revue on Ice at the Osmond Family Theater, from May 22 through June 8. He gives two shows a day (except Sundays), at 2 pm and 8 pm. For more information call (417) 336-6100.

✓ And we also understand that **Kirby Van Burch** -- "The Prince of Magic" -- is back with his show, with his comedian sidekick.

So it looks like three (3) magic choices in Branson for at least the next several weeks.

Let us know if you go.

New magician is born

There's a new magician in our midst.

First the particulars: **Derrick and Tracy Rose** had a baby boy -- **Jett Hunter** -- on May 16 at 5:10 am. The future magician weighed in at 7 pounds and 8 1/2 ounces.

Now, as Paul Harvey would say, "The Rest of the Story." It seems that as the birth got closer, Jett acquired more than one "Daddy." Jim Henson, Don Baer, Greg Collett, Damon Reinbold and Mark Clifford all took such an interest in the anticipated event with their frequent calls -- all asking if "their" baby had arrived yet -- that they all have been awarded the title of "Honorary Daddy" by Derrick and Tracy.

Congratulations to one and all. Bring him around when he gets a little bigger, Derrick, and even work him into some trick.

Nominating committee announces selections

The nominating committee has announced their recommendations for 1996-97 officers. They are:

President: James Kinsey (2nd term)
Vice president: Don Baer
Secretary: Bill Fulton
Asst. secretary: Greg Collett
Treasurer: Mary Ann Campbell
Asst. Treas.: Lisa Bolin
Historian: Mike Curtis
Sgt. at Arms: Jim Henson
Programs: Don Baer, Lisa Bolin,

Dennis Schick, Derrick Rose
These will be voted on at the June meeting. Nominations will be accepted from the floor.

Please respond to survey

On the back of this page is a survey to determine whether there is any interest in an occasional luncheon get-together to discuss magic, exchange tips, teach a new trick, etc. Please fill it out and mail it back, or bring it to the June meeting. Thank you.

Send us your news!

Many of you tell Dennis how much you enjoy this newsletter and all the news in it. But he and Jim Henson have to really scramble most months to dig out what goes in it.

Just think how much easier it would be to call either one of them (Dennis at 374-1500 and Jim at 455-6242) and tell them what's going on!

Just do it!

Your name _____
Mailing Address _____
City _____ Zip _____
Telephones: Work _____ Home _____

● IBM RING 29 MAGIC INTEREST SURVEY ●

Several members of IBM Ring #29 have expressed interest in getting together over lunch or even for a few hours on the weekend from time to time, to talk magic, exchange tips, learn a new trick, polish and perfect a technique, etc. Please express your interest in this idea, as well as tell us about your general and specific interests. Give us your comments after each item, too:

() Yes, I would be interested in participating in an occasional lunch get-together at a convenient location.

COMMENTS:

() Yes, I would be willing to get together for a 2-3-hour training session on one topic on the weekend.

COMMENTS:

TOPICS OF INTEREST TO ME (with comments underneath each): Check all which apply.

() Books on magic

() Cards

() Children's magic

() Close-up

() Coins

() Comedy magic

() Cups and balls

() Doves & rabbits

() History of magic

() Illusions

() Linking rings

() Mental magic

() Magic technique

() Patter

() Sponge balls

() Silks

() Stage magic

() Other _____

PLEASE MAIL or FAX this filled-out page, or bring it to the June meeting

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or

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THANK YOU

Hollywood Magic II by Michael Strobel

Last month I gave you an overview of the famous *Magic Castle* in Hollywood, Ca. Having been fortunate enough to visit the castle a number of times, this month I thought I would provide you with my time tested tips and strategies for getting the most out of a visit to the Castle. You won't find any of this in the travel guides and given what a visit to the Castle is probably going to cost you, I expect everyone who visits *the Castle* in the future to send me \$5 just to show their appreciation.

First, avoid Friday and Saturday nights if at all possible, it's just too crowded. In L.A., the weekend starts on Thursday, so it's not much better. If you want to go on a Thurs., Fri. or Sat. you need to call by Monday afternoon. In any case, call for reservations as much ahead of time as possible. They sometimes close for private club affairs. Get the earliest dinner seating possible. As much as I like to save a dollar, the valet parking is a must. The Castle itself cannot be seen from street. The driveway entrance has only a small sign so keep a sharp lookout. If you are an IBM member you MUST have your current membership card when you arrive and you may be asked to also show a photo ID.

Arrive as early as possible so you have time to wander around the place. Be sure to check out *Invisible Irma*(?), the phone booth on the second floor, the basement and even the bathrooms. In the basement, they usually have some informal (and unannounced) performances. I've often received one-on-one shows and it gives you a little more opportunity to meet with some of the other magicians. At dinner, order just the Salad Buffet (about \$17.00!!!) instead of a dinner item from the menu because it's the cheapest and fastest, giving you more time to go see the shows. However, all the food is great if that is what you are there for. The shows are overlapping in schedules and because of the limited seating, it's almost impossible to see them all in one night. Seating is on a first come bases and on busy nights lines form as early as an hour before the show. When I have gone on weekends, I have sometimes waited in line for 40 minutes and then not been able to get into the show. When you eat dinner, the waiter will give you a VIP Pass to the *Palace* Show. This means that you get seated before non-pass holders, but, just about everyone has a VIP Pass, so you still need to get in line early for the show. In fact, on most nights, don't even get in line unless you have the pass. Decide which shows are most important to you and get in line as early as possible. The close-up room only seats about 25 people and fills up fast. It's best if you can plan to stay late because it is very difficult to simply go from one show to the next and see them all in one night.

And finally, for the best souvenir, ask the bartender for a box of matches and then by pass the overpriced ones that are in the lobby area where you enter and leave. The Castle's number is 213-851-3313.

In part III of my Hollywood Magic Sequel, I tell you about a new magical alternative to the *Magic Castle* in L.A.