

**I.B.M.**

RING #29

February 1998

# 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



## Annual auction set for February 5 regular meeting

### NEXT MEETINGS:

- **Thursday, February 5, 7 pm**  
**Annual Magic Auction**  
Baptist Medical Center

## Last month...

The Christmas Party brought out over 80 people who all agreed it was one of the best affairs the club has ever conducted. There was lots of good food and fellowship and, of course, good magic. A number of new members joined the Ring.

At the party Bill Fulton was named "Ring Member of the Year," and certificates of appreciation were given to Summer and Christie Henson, and to Dennis Schick, your newsletter editor.

## Bits & Pieces

✓ **Brian Staron** will be lecturing to our Ring either March 5 or April 2. We'll give you as early an alert as possible. His subject is comedy magic and you won't to miss it. Jim says he's fabulous!

✓ **FOR SALE:** wireless and standing mike. Call Fred Hartman at (501) 623-6340. (Do you still have it, Fred?)

✓ **Randal Eller** will perform April 17 at the Arlington Hotel in Hot Springs. It is open to the public. We'll have more details next month right here.

Also, Randal will be performing in Ardmore, OK on April 23.

For more about Randall and his magic, visit him on his website:

RANDALLELLER.COM

And to send him E-mail, write to him at:  
RANDAL.RANDALLELLER.COM

✓ **Randal** sent the Ring a thank you note for the nice plant we sent to him upon the recent death of his father. He said he was touched by the gesture. Several people asked who "IBM" was and he was proud to tell them.

✓ As always, we need your news in order to make our ring newsletter as newsy and interesting as possible. Call Jim Henson or Dennis Schick.

You've been waiting for it since last year and here it is! On **Thursday, February 5** Ring 29 will hold its annual auction. That means you get to bring all those magic tricks which you have not even looked at for years, and turn them into some cold hard cash. Of course then you'll turn around and buy someone else's unused magic, right?

We'll be at our usual place -- Baptist Medical Center -- in one of the meeting rooms behind the cafeteria. It all begins at 7 pm.

Be sure to start looking for your auction items now so you'll bring a good variety of stuff. Don't miss this one. The more people who brings lots of stuff, the better the auction will be.

## Komedy Kid Klinik is coming March 7

There will be a special Komedy Kid Show Klinik on March 7 at St. Andrews United Methodist Church on Baseline. It will be from 8 am to 5 pm.

Presenters will be David Ginn, Samuel Patrick Smith and Steve Taylor. The theme will be "Komedy Kid Show Magic and Marketing." Cost will be only \$35 in advance and \$45 at the door.

Pick up a brochure at Mr. Magic and watch for more details next month.

✓ **Sam Boyce** has to back into the hospital for more surgery. We'll keep you posted. Please keep him in your prayers.

✓ **Brad Matchett** of Richmond, VA, will lecture at the Searcy ring in March, on balloons and marketing yourself. How about getting up a carload and going? Who's interested?

✓ Check out the back of this page for a special report from Ring member **Bill Fulton**. He just returned from California and felt he was lucky to get into The Magic Castle. So he is going to tell the rest of us how we can get in, too. Thanks, Bill.

✓ "Stonehenge," alias **Shaun Westbrook**, will appear in a public show at Fountain Lake School in March. Watch for details. E-mail him at: STONEHENGE7@JUNO.COM

As usual, we ask that 10% of the money for each item auctioned be donated to the club treasury. This money goes for lots of good causes, from postage for this newsletter to helping pay for lecturers and buying some of the food for parties.

In fact, if you want to donate the entire proceeds from one trick, that would be a nice gesture.

See you February 5 at BMC!

## More Bits & Pieces

✓ **Tune-in to PBS February 11** for "The Art of Magic," a special documentary.

✓ Also, mark **March 11** on your calendar and tune to The Learning Channel. There will a special on "The Secret World of Magic and Mentalists."

✓ You'll get this after the fact, but just for the record the Amazing Jonathan was on The Comedy Channel Wed., Jan. 27. Call Jim if you'd like to see his video of it.

✓ More and more young people are becoming intereted in magic. Thus our Ring is sponsoring a Junior Chapter of the Ring. It is for young people, ages 12-17. The group even has a couple of officers already: **Eric Benton** as president and **Rebecca Roberts** as vice president. Let's give our encouragement and support to them.

✓ Recently we saw in a clipping in the Blytheville newspaper that award-winning magician-illusionist **Jim Princeton** performed at the Ritz Civic Center there on January 17. Princeton does a full-scale, two-hour show, featuring illusions from "Metamorphosis" to a levitation and the appearance of a half-scale helicopter. It would have been nice to know this ahead.

✓ I recently saw an ad for and received a mailing from Robert Ian, who bills his act as a "Business Theater." He uses magic and hypnotism as part of his motivational speeches and seminars. I ordered his free video to see how he promotes himself. I'll share it with Ring members.

✓ Dr. Robert "Red Hawk" Moore, an English professor at UA/Monticello, uses magic when he talks to youngsters about poetry.

## How to get into the Magic Castle

Bill Fulton

First, you must get to Los Angeles. How you do that is up to you and may be the hardest part. Your tax dollars send me to an education meeting in Newport Beach, California.

If you have access to the Internet, the Magic Castle's web site can be found at <http://www.magiccastle.org/>. The Magic Castle is the clubhouse for the Academy of Magical Arts. It houses a restaurant, stage, parlor, and close-up room where the best magicians perform in seven acts a night for a week. The Castle is located just behind Mann's Chinese Theatre in Hollywood. Parking is by valet for \$4.00.

The Castle offers Magician's, Associate's, and Non-Resident's Memberships. An Associate must pay \$900.00 to join and \$375 yearly. I do not know the cost for the other types of membership. However, there is a test for the Magician's membership.

You can visit the Castle, have dinner, and view the show if you get a member to get you a pass ahead of time. The member may elect to go with you or just give you a pass. If you are going by yourself you will need to make a dinner reservation, days or more before you plan to attend. Sunday is the slowest night. You must be accompanied by a member on Saturday nights.

I looked up the L.A. regional Rings on IBM's web site <http://www.magician.org/usingrings.htm> and found the e-mail listings for Tom Clifford [WAClifford@prodigy.net](mailto:WAClifford@prodigy.net) and Donald Black [DBLACK106@prodigy.net](mailto:DBLACK106@prodigy.net). I e-mailed both describing myself as a wonderful person and a friend of Bill Pitts and Bill Spooner. Both volunteered to take me. As it worked out neither were able to take me on the night that I could go. Tom brought a pass to my hotel when I was at the education meeting. If either of these gentlemen attend our 1999 convention, please don't tell them the truth about me.

Dinner will cost \$30.00 or more per person and will be special. You will be given a (free) ticket for the stage show. That show time will be approximately one hour after dinner. I had a reservations for 8:00 PM, but arrived at 6:00 PM before the crowd and talked to the maitre'd. He seated us then and gave us a ticket for 7:30 PM.

The entrance contains the gift shop. So bring some money to take something back home. To enter you must utter a magic phrase to a bookcase. It will slide open on your command. The Close-up room will be to your left. To your right will be the stairs to the restaurant. After the dinner the theater and parlor theater are through the restaurant and down the hall. If you are there early sneak down the stairs to the Inner Circle room.

I was able to see and talk to Aldo Colombini and Eugene Burger. The other shows were good, but were not close-up. If you are ever within an hour's drive, put a visit to the Castle on your list. I will be glad to e-mail Tom Clifford and ask for a pass for you.

PS. Thanks for my award. It means a great deal to me. I will not let you down. Jim and I will put together an article on the Christmas Party to submit to IBM. If we are going to look good to the members of IBM we need to submit lots of articles to the Linking Ring.