

I.B.M.
RING #29

October 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



No regular meeting Oct. 1; Close lecture Fri., Oct. 2

NEXT MEETINGS:

- **This Friday, Oct. 2, 7 pm**
Michael Close lecture
Baptist Medical Center
Basement, near cafeteria

Bits & Pieces

✓ **Randal & Ed** will perform at the Little Rock Air Force Base on Sunday, Oct. 18 at 2:30 pm. The performance is free and open to the public. Just go to the main gate and say you want to go to the Thomas Rec Center and they will give you a pass.

✓ **Jim Henson** has registration forms for the **1999 IBM Convention** in Little Rock. The earlier you register the better the show seats you receive.

✓ A meeting will be held **Oct. 10** with some board members and members of the convention committee. They will be gathering and discussing details on what our ring can expect for the convention.

✓ Ring Life Member **Dr. Henry Johnson's** wife, Lucille, is extremely ill and the family is in need of your thoughts and prayers.

✓ Many of our members are very busy this time of year with shows and performances: **Greg Gillis** is at the River Rock Brewery; **Derrick Rose** is at Shorty Small's and CiCi's Pizza; **Ed & Eric** are at the Pizza Company in Jacksonsille; **Scott Davis** at the Brickhouse Grill in Hot Springs; **Damon** at the Golden Leaves Bookstore in Hot Springs; **Randal & Ed** are traveling throughout Mississippi, etc.; **Andy** is at many parties and shows for kids; **Don Baer** is performing at lots of festivals and parties; etc. Call Jim or Dennis and tell them what you are doing.

✓ Our fellow Ring -- #308 -- in Searcy, sponsored **Dick Barry** for a lecture recently. From all reports it was a good event.

✓ On the back of this page is one side of a flyer from "THRILLVANIA," a three-haunt theme park near Terrell, Texas. The wolfman (Mike) used to live in Jacksonville and hung out at Mr. Magic. Ask Derrick about him. Call them for details.

Our October meeting will be one day later in October, on Friday instead of Thursday. We think most of you know this by now, but this is a reminder for all of you.

The time (7 pm) and location (Baptist Medical Center basement) are the same as our usual.

Friday evening world-famous magician **Michael Close** will lecture to our Ring. According to the MerketPlace reviewer in *Magic* magazine, Close's current tour will be his last for quite a while. So don't miss this great opportunity to see Close up close and personal.

Don Thompson: profile

Don Thompson is our Ring profile of the month. He was born and reared in Little Rock and attended Little Rock Central High. He holds in BS in accounting from UCA.

Don began working in state government in 1970, with Arkansas Social Services. It became the Department of Human Services in 1976. He currently is in their Audit Section.

He is a National Certified Public Manager, a Certified Government Financial Manager; and a Certified Master Gardner.

Besides magic, his hobbies include riding bicycles, gardening and playing the guitar. He joined our ring in 1995 and has served as the picnic chairman.

His preferred types of magic include close-up and parlor. He performs mainly for the pleasure of friends and co-workers, although he does perform occasionally for Baptist Rehab patients during garden presentations, as well as for private schools.

Three new members have been inducted into IBM

Ring 29 inducted three members into the International Brotherhood of Magicians recently: **Damon Reinbold**, **Rebecca Roberts** and **Margaret Leclair**. Congratulations to all three. Please extend to them the right hand of magical friendship (with a joy buzzer, of course), give them the secret handshake and kisses on both cheeks and ask them to sing the club song!

The fee to attend is only \$10 for Ring 29 members and \$15 for non-members. Don't miss this one and then be disappointed when someone who was there tells you about it later.

November meeting will be on Wednesday, Nov. 4

We've been talking about taking a car caravan from our ring to Hot Springs to see and support **Maxwell Blade's magic show**. So we're going to do it for our November meeting (like we did last year).

We'll have more details next month, but plan to join us for a 7 pm meeting and the 8 pm show.

You missed a good magic picnic Sept. 19

Our ring annual picnic was held Sept. 19 and over three dozen people came and had a great time. A big thanks to member **Don Thompson** for making arrangements for the picnic, and also for cooking. In fact, Don did such a great job that it is the unanimous vote that he do it again next year.

Magic coming to TV:

Here are some of the magic specials we are told will be on television in coming weeks:

- **"The Secret World of Magicians and Mentalists"** will be on The Learning Channel Oct. 8th at 9 pm and midnight.
- **"Houdini/Believe"**, a two-hour made-for-television movie is tentatively scheduled to show on TNT October 31st.
- **David Blaine, Street Magician**, has a new special to be aired on ABC later this year. Watch for details.
- **"The World's Greatest Magic 5"** will be shown Thanksgiving night.
- **"Champions of Magic III"** is scheduled for showing on ABC early next year.
- Tom Cruise is in negotiations to portray Houdini in a Columbia Pictures movie, we understand. No more info at this time.

Please let us know when you read or hear about live or televised magic shows.

THREE BIG HAUNTS AT ONE THRILL PARK

BARON VERDUN AND LADY CASSANDRA DARE YOU TO ENTER THEIR REALM OF SENSATIONAL ADVENTURES - THRILLVANIA!

HAUNTED Verdun Manor

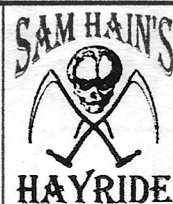
Voted "Best Of" Dallas area Haunted Houses
by the readers of the Dallas Observer

In 1901, Baron Michael Verdun, a psychopathic werewolf, built a strange, twisted house on Voodoo Bayou. Deep within the hidden recesses of his manor, he conducted cruel experiments on travelers, turning them into human-animal hybrids. Together with Lady Cassandra, his vampiric wife, he hosted many fiendish masquerades, serving human flesh to his inhuman guests. Finally, one stormy night, angry vigilantes set the manor afire and murdered Verdun and Cassandra. Verdun's dying words swore vengeance upon all who dare enter his realm. Haunted Verdun Manor has stood silent for these many years, but Verdun's fierce vow of vengeance is still told in whispers. It's said Baron Verdun and his creatures still haunt the rotted mansion and overgrown cemetery when the October moon rises.

Verdun Manor is a themed attraction of over 30,000 square feet. With a well-deserved reputation for horrifying detail, it features theatrical sets and lighting, custom effects, and eerily realistic costumes coupled with a talented cast of live actors.

NEW! FOR 1998!

Before Lady Cassandra married Baron Verdun, she was Cassandra D'Arque, sole heir to the Carnival D'Arque. Renowned for it's unusual — and often violently surreal — circus acts, the Carnival D'Arque also left a trail of unidentifiable, blood-drained corpses behind it. Having traveled with the Carnival for all of her life — and for many years after her death — she brought the heart and soul of it with her to Verdun Manor when she wedded Michael Verdun, setting up the fun house and freak show on the eerie banks of Voodoo Bayou. Reflecting her own shattered mind, these became Cassandra's Labyrinth of Terror, infused with her restless spirit after her vampiric body was decapitated. Shunned by all in the daylight, by the silvery light of the October moon it takes on a life of it's own, thirsting for living fear — and blood — to feed on. Now quite insane, Lady Cassandra's restless spirit challenges you to see the world as she does . . . if you dare!



A chilling hayride through the overgrown Verdun estates, where you will encounter horrifying scenes of torture, cannibalism, death and mayhem. Tour includes the old Confederate battleground. Weather permitting, survival at our option.

Doctor Phineas' Phantom Phrolics, truly masterful demonstrations of magic and illusion, are performed hourly for your enjoyment. We also offer a fireworks show at dusk, tarot and palm readings, and on-site concessions and amusements along Cassandra's Midway, as well as many other unique entertainments.

A Lights-On Tour of Haunted Verdun Manor and Cassandra's Labyrinth of Terror will be offered on Saturday, October 17th at 2:00 pm. Tickets are \$10.

The D'arque Masquerade will be held for the first time in over ninety years this Halloween, beginning at 9:00 pm. There'll be music, dancing, and a \$500 cash prize for the best costume. Admission is included in the All-Night Thrill Ticket for Halloween night. No alcohol, please.

Come, live your nightmares!

Thrillvania Admission Prices		Adult	Child
Haunted Verdun Manor		\$10	\$8
Cassandra's Labyrinth of Terror		\$7	\$5
Sam Hain's Hayride		\$5	\$3
ALL-NIGHT THRILL TICKET		\$22	

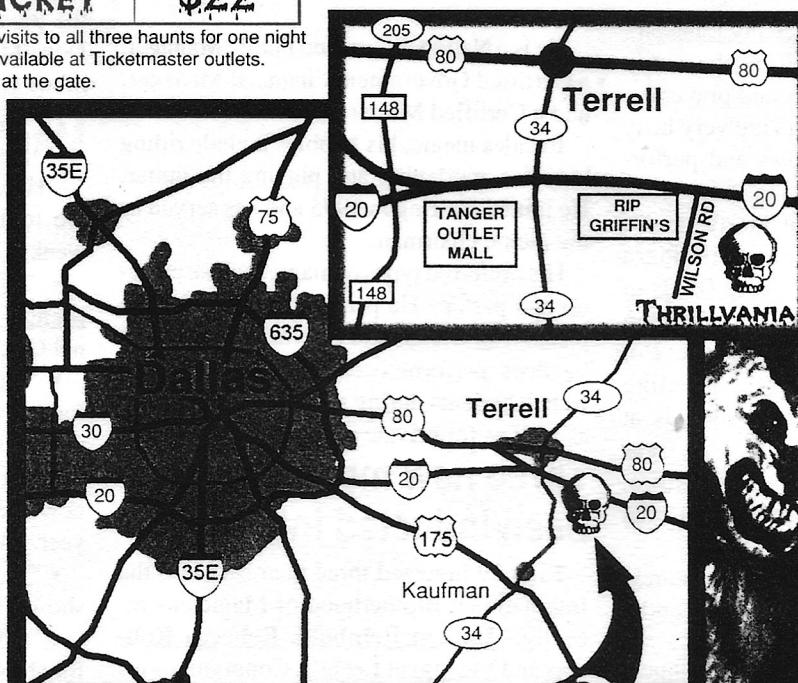
Each All-Night Thrill Ticket is good for unlimited visits to all three haunts for one night for one person. All-Night Thrill Tickets are available at Ticketmaster outlets. All tickets are available at the gate.

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
SEPTEMBER 1998						
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	28	29	30			
OCTOBER 1998						
				1	2	3
	5	6	7	8	9	10
	12	13	14	15	16	17
	19	20	21	22	23	24
					30	31
NOVEMBER 1998						
	2	3	4	5	6	7
Open 7-10			Open 7-12			

www.verdunmanor.com

(214) 559-5779

Thrillvania is located on Wilson Road, one-quarter mile south of Interstate 20, in Terrell. Take the Wilson Road exit from Interstate 20 and look for the flames. Parking is \$2.



THRILLVANIA