

# **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



October 2000

## Regular meeting Oct. 5; Magic Day Oct. 8 at Tunica

We have another **Magical Double Header** this month, and we invite all Ring 29 members to attend either or both.

#### **REGULAR MEETING**

First, our Regular meeting will be held on our normal first Thursday, Oct. 5, at 7 pm at our regular time (7 pm) and place (one of the meeting rooms in the basement behind the cafeteria of the Baptist Medical Center).

The theme for the month is a potluck: "One of my favorite tricks." We invite all who attend to not only perform a trick, but also to tell why it is one of your favorites (thus. "Show and Tell,") and also to explain how it is done, like lecturers do. Let's have fun with this pot pourri of magic. We each should pick up some new tricks for our own routines.

## MAGIC DAY IS OCT. 8 DEADLINE IS THIS SUNDAY

As we have told you for a couple of months, magic clubs in the Mid-South have been planning a <u>MAGIC DAY</u> for some time. Well, it is finally here!

Sunday, Oct. 8, magicians from all over

the area will gather at the Gold Strike Casino near Tunica, south of Memphis, for the 1st Annual Magic Day.

October 1 is the deadline to preregister and pay only \$25. After that, the fee will be \$30. There is a <u>registration form</u> on the back of this page.

Here is the tentative schedule:

12 noon	Welcome and introductions
12:15-1	Lecture by Jon Bucher
1:15-2	Lecture by Damon Reinbold,
	"Magic in Mentalism."
2:15-4:30	Magic Auction
4:30-5	Break
5-6:30	Brett Daniels Show
6:30-7:30	Dinner break
7:30-9	"The Mad Magician" film,
	and Brian Staron.
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You must have an ID badge to attend any of the events.

Let's have a good contingent of members and guests from Ring 29 join fellow magicians for a fun afternoon and evening. If you have any questions, call Jim Henson at 455-6242.

## BITS & PIECES

- LAST MONTH was our annual Summer Picnic, and the largest number of people ever -- 63 -- attended. A big thanks to **Don Baer** for arranging for the location and for getting the meat donated to us, as well as cooking it.
- 11 RING 29 MEMBERS attended the (TAOM) Texas Association of Magicians annual Convention in Dallas. Those who went had a chance to chat with Mark Wilson, Zaney Blaney, Gene Anderson, Ralph Marcon, Oscar Munoz, Greg Wilson, Roger Kause, Simon Lovell and others. Next year the convention will be in Corpus Christi. That's farther but the effort is well worth it. Read Margaret's report on page four. And be sure to ask her about the Simon Lovell underwear incident.
- DAN BLOCK AND MAXWELL are working for the Camp Quality for Cancer Kids, sponsored by the Oaklawn Rotary Club. The kids were treated to a show by Maxwell at his theater. This type of work shows the community how great a family

magicians are.

- MARGARET LECLAIR will attend the magic workshop in St. Joseph, MO, Oct. 5-7. She is both assisting in and attending the workshop. We'll get her to give us a report when she gets back.
- <u>THE RING BOARD</u> of Directors will meet next in December. Time and place will be announced later. If you have any item to be considered for the agenda, contact Damon or Dan Hecke.
- FOR THOSE WHO KNEW Willie Kerr, a long-time resident of Little Rock, who did pocket magic around the city for many years, he died September 15.
- THERE'S GOOD NEWS from Hot Springs. Lifetime Ring 29 member Fred Hartman is doing better. We all wish him and Nora our good wishes and prayers.
- FRIDAY NIGHT ON TV there were four consecutive half-hour sessions of Penn & Teller's show from Australia. Boy are they weird, but entertaining. Sorry we didn't notice it in time to E-mail you.

#### **NEXT MEETING:**

• Thursday, October 5th
7 pm, Baptist Medical Center

# Oklahoma City to hold magic conference November 17-19.

Ring 46 in Oklahoma City is hosting a "Cavalcade of Magic" featuring Eugene Burger, Kendrick "Ice" McDonald, underground card legend Roger Klause, and IBM award winner Howard Hale.

Dealers will include H&R Books and Joe Stevens Magic Emporium.

The convention will be held November 17-19, 2000.

They will mail brochures shortly, and hope you will share them with other members of the ring. If you have any questions, you can keep up with the convention by going to this Web site:

http://cavalcade.okcmagic.org

# Ring 29 to hold public show in Hot Springs November 4th & 5th

The public show of our Ring is set for Nov. 4th at 8 pm and Nov. 5 at 2 pm, at Maxwell's Theatre of Magic in Hot Springs. Please call Damon at 1-800-442-2487 if you have any questions.

These people will perform: Paul Carlon & Colin Cheesman, John Patterson, Derrick Rose, Richard & Tara Knoll, Jeffery O'Connell, Rebecca Roberts, Kelly Presson, Andy Stirman, Don Baer, Sean Westbrook, Scott Davis, Randall Eller, Don Thompson and Master of Ceremonies Jon Bucher.

Paul Carlon is in charge of ads in the program. Please call him if you can run an ad or know of someone who will.

Close-up performers will be working in the audience before the show and during intermission.

More on the show next month. Tickets go on sale Oct. 1: Adults, \$17.50; Seniors \$15.50; children 12 and under \$10.50.

### Magic Day Registration Form

October 8, 2000

Noon-9pm



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Snacks will be provided

McDonalds/ Large Buffet/ Deli/ Other Restaurants

For more information call 1-888-877-7249 Ask for Jim

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: MIKE RICE

SEND FORMS TO:

MR. MAGIC 8912 STAGECOACH RD # 11 LITTLE ROCK, AR 72209

Duplicates of form accepted

## How magic evolved in my life....by Mary Ann Campbell

EDITOR'S NOTE: Ring 29 member Mary Ann Campbell lectured to the Ring at its July meeting. She told about how she got into magic. We asked her to write it down for everyone to enjoy. Here it is:

My son, John, was interested in learning magic. Col. Seymour, a retired school magician who gave lessons, said John was too young to take by himself. He said I would need to pay for two and take with him (Col. might have wanted a double fee.) However, it worked out well because I learned, too. In setting up John's equipment at hospitals and nursing homes, I wondered "would the Fire Chiefs and Fire Fighters enjoy it when I'm doing volunteer training in East Camden?' They did. Then I wondered, "would my students at UALR, where I taught Personal Finance, like it if I used tricks for money messages?" I tried a couple, and to my surprise, they did. They actually begged for more.

The National IBM Convention was held in Little Rock in 1974. That was John and my first year in magic. Terry Seabrook was MC and the convention whetted our appetite for more magic.

When John outgrew his magic, not being a stage Mother, I took all his stuff. Each semester, I would develop a new "Magic with a Message" effect.

The Director of Innovative Education at UALR, Dr. Harri Baker, called me in and said he heard I did magic tricks in class. I apologized and said I didn't do them often. Actually, he said, the students love it. He inquired if I would consider developing the Personal Finance course for educational television, AETN, using the magic. Dr. Baker explained I would have to secure my own financing. After checking out government grants, I decided to avoid the bureaucratic route and write for a Rockefeller Foundation Grant. Eventually, my grant proposal was funded through UALR.

Reality set in and I knew I didn't know enough magic to carry a complete series. Howard Bauman, editor of The Linking Ring, had been asking me for information on my volunteer work and use of magic in the burn ward of Arkansas Children's Hospital. I asked him if I could write a letter requesting help with ideas for the "Money Magic" series, and would he publish it? He told me he liked the fact that I was using magic in a novel way; and he would only publish my request if I sent a picture along with it. To my amazement, he made my request a cover feature for the May 1979 issue of The Linking Ring.

I received mail from magicians around the world. Most writers were retired magicians with many good and helpful ideas. Kent Cummins had used magic to teach in the service. He was helpful then, and continues to

be a good friend. Our own LR Ring #29 members were awesomely helpful. Frances Marshall of Magic, Inc. in Chicago became my mentor. Her father was in magic before her, and she knew every trick ever invented. She said she wanted to help other women magicians because there aren't many of us. Frances invited me to participate in her "50th Year in Magic" celebration in Chicago, where I did my first lecture. I survived my first lecture, but my lecture notes were not in demand.

At AETN, we developed 26 programs 30 minutes in length. I used personalities to "muse on money" in the middle of each program. Louis Rukeyser, Dr. Milton Friedman, Dr. Bessie Moore, Lou Holtz, Sydney Moncrief, Brooks Robinson, Tennessee Ernie Ford, Senator Dale Bumpers, and Hillary Clinton were among my guests.

Every show ended with a "money magic" message (trick to illustrate my point). Members of Ring #29 brought magic props to me from their attics, basements, and suitcases. Andy Stephens, Jimmy Nolting, and Al Houpt were among the many who assisted. There was a tremendous outpouring of love, help and support from members of our ring, which made the magic in the series possible.

The series received two national awards for UALR, AETN, and myself. Money Magazine featured me as "The Professor with a Magic Act." The Wallpaper Journal featured me as the "Professor with Magic Powers." Money Magic aired statewide for 3 years for 3 hours college credit. The series stopped running when some of the financial information became outdated.

In 1985, I was asked to present "Money Magic" to the Order of Merlin Breakfast at the IBM's Blackstone Convention in Kansas City, MO. I welcomed the opportunity to thank the men of the IBM for their support.

Gannett bought the NBC affiliate in Little Rock, and required a money management person at all their stations. I was contacted by David Jones and asked to do "Money Magic" segments on the news at KARK TV.

I resigned UALR and KARK to do a joint venture with Worthern Bank. We were working on "Money Magic" seminars when they lost \$52 million in an investment fraud. It was like a freight train hitting a brick wall. However, things happen for a reason, and we ended up with an exchange student, Mario Arbelaez Lourido, from Cali, Colombia. He and John were seniors together at Catholic High School. Mario was a blessing to our lives that financial success from my joint venture couldn't have provided.

After Mario left, short-term projects became a way of life for me. However, I began to realize I missed teaching "Money Magic." So, I set out to rebuild my seminars.

My new office and classroom for Money Magic Seminars on Rodney Parham had only been open six months when I received a Presidential appointment to Chair the National Women's Business Council. It turned out to be a two and a half year grand adventure where I interacted with the President, Congress, and Department Heads and spoke to groups around the world. Magic is the universal language I always carried with me.

A couple years ago, the news director from KATV, the ABC affiliate, who used to be at KARK called and asked me to do live Money Magic segments for their Saturday Daybreak show. I do magic once a month, and have done over 30 different tricks (some even work) since I started. I sincerely appreciate the ideas, coaching, and support from fellow Ring members that make it possible for me to do monthly magic. Scott Davis even showed up at 6:30 a.m. to give me direction and moral support. Please keep those thoughts and patter coming! I'm also teaching Personal Finance at UALR again.

My husband, Guy, has a keen magic eye, and has helped me improve my magic. John, now an attorney in Memphis, is once again attending magic conventions with me and does magic for his peers. Our exchange student son, Mario, has returned to us after being away thirteen years. His degree and skills are in computers and he has our phones programmed, our computers optimized, and the light is no longer flashing on our VCR.

I became a professional speaker and continue to speak on money, leadership, and change. Magic continues to add fun to my life and retention value to my messages. When the IBM Convention was held in Little Rock last summer, I was asked to present "Money Magic" to the Spouse's Tea. It was a convenient time for me to thank the women of the IBM.

It's been thrilling to me to see our club grow, to see more women in magic, to have Jim Henson's fabulous Mr. Magic shop in town, to have a professional newsletter and a large e-mail list to get the word out to members.

I look forward to being inducted into the IBM's Order of Merlin in July, 2000. Someone must have fudged the dates. Twenty-five years couldn't have flown by this quickly.

So what are you doing in magic? Call Jim or Dennis (374-1500) so we can let your fellow magicians know.

### Report on Club Picnic

by Bill Fulton

Ring 29 in Little Rock, Arkansas held its Annual Harvest Moon Picnic and Installation of Officers on September 10, 2000. Over 60 members and family members were in attendance.

The Ring discussed its public show for November 4-5, in Hot Springs. We held auditions during August. We set up a panel of judges that developed a judging form that contained scores based on costume, voice, timing, appropriate effect for public show, etc. All profits will be donated to the Arkansas Children's Hospital.

The Ring voted to sponsor, with the Memphis Ring, and attend a regional magic conference at the Gold Strike Casino in Tunica, Mississippi October 8. There will be a magic auction, two lectures, and a performance of the Brett Daniels' show, followed by a rare magic motion picture.

#### Officers installed

Installed as 2000-2001 officers were: Damon Reinbold - President; Dan Hecke -President-Elect; Bill Fulton - Secretary; James Kinsey - Treasurer; Lisa Bolin -Assistant Treasurer; and Mike Curtis -Historian.

After a wonderful picnic meal, **Don Baer** started the performances with his mindreading monkey. Don used a mechanical organ grinder's monkey to answer yes and no questions. You would have had to see it to understand the laughter it produced.

Richard Knoll followed with a switched picnic lunch trick using a Nielsen Coke bottle.

Jon Bucher performed a Professors Nightmare with a twist -- starting with a very long rope. Park Minnich, our youngest magician for the day, showed us her card magic and cups and ball routine.

Margaret Thompson followed with a card routine using a magician's choice, and Margaret LeClair performed Stratosphere.

Tony Eady used a Phantom Tube, Expanded Giant Straw, and Magician's Insurance Policy in his effect.

Kyle Hamsher gave us a long and very funny comedy presentation that involved his rubber chicken, a very large water gun, a chicken autopsy, and a funeral service with taps. Derrick Rose did a signed card routine that was lost in a paper bag and found with a sharp knife. Derrick added a lot of comedy with some balloon animals and a squeaky device. Andy Stirman finished a great picnic with a hat tear and Professor's Nightmare.

### A report on the TAOM Convention, by Margaret LeClair

For me, the TAOM 2000 was more than just a convention to attend. It gave me an opportunity to meet, face-to-face, people I have been chatting with on the magic chat, for almost a year. In fact, two of my chat buddies -- Slim and Ette (better known as Eric and Dawn Evans) -- met me at the airport. It was really great getting to hang around with them, especially when Eric won the Stage Competition, and Dawn ended up being my partner in crime with the Simon Lowell incident (ask me about that if you want to know).

Simon also was one of my chat buddies that I finally got to meet. (And yes, he is as crazy as he appears!) Still another chat buddy I met was Paul Green. In fact, he and I had a very in-depth conversation one night. He gave me a lot of great advice.

I also got to hang out with Oscar Munoz and Steve Bargatze, and had the opportunity to have Gene Anderson autograph an 8x10 photo I had taken with him at last year's IBM convention. He agreed on one condition: that we have the same type of photo taken again, and the next convention we both are at, he will autograph that one, too, and then we'll have another picture taken, and then...well, you get the picture (no pun intended).

The lectures were great, and the shows were great. When it was announced that Eric won the Stage Competition, he was at the back of the theater, holding his 3-month-old daughter. He walked as fast as he could to where Dawn and I were sitting and quickly handed off the baby to her. That was priceless. Afterwards, I told him he should have taken the baby on stage with him. Everyone would have loved it! Now, since he is already booked to perform at next year's TAOM, both he and Dawn expect me to be there. I guess I need to start saving my pennies now.

### Randall Eller continues to have a full professional calendar.

Randall Eller has been very busy lately. September saw him at Blytheville High School, Searcy Church of Christ, Sylvan Hills Jr. and Sr. High School, and at Batesville with college students from around the state. October will find Randall performing at:

- Oct. 1 Music Mt. Jamboree, Hot Springs, AR
- Oct. 3 Beebe Middle and High Schools, Beebe, AR
- Oct. 4 Teen Talk, Harrison, AR
- Oct 5-6 Japan Fest, Horace Mann Auditorium, LR, AR
- Oct. 13 Good Sams Club, Fayetteville, AR
- Oct. 14 Company Picnic, NLR, AR
- Oct. 20 Blytheville, Beebe, and Sylvan Hills training, LR, AR
- Oct. 21 Whirlpool Corp., Fort Smith, AR
- Oct. 23-25 Middle & High Schools, Birmingham, AL
- Oct. 26 Middle School/High School, Wesson, MS
- Oct. 27 Middle School, Ocean Springs, MS
- Nov. 3 Quincy Illinois University, Quincy, Illinois

Randall says this is a partial list and that he will try to keep it up to date monthly. He says he has been meaning to do this for two or three years. If you want to contact Randall, his E-mail address is magicisu@aol.com.

We'd love to have a Master Ring 29 Performance Calendar showing <u>all</u> of our members. But we can't do it unless <u>YOU</u> fax (374-7509) or E-mail (dschick@arkansaspress.org) <u>YOUR</u> performances. Having such a master calendar would give all of us an opportunity to attend the performaces to give ring members our support, constructive suggestions, etc. How about it?