

Magic Musings

International Brotherhood of Magicians, Ring 29
8912 Stagecoach Road #11, Little Rock, AR 72210 (501) 455-6242
Meets 1st Thursday of nearly every month @ Baptist Medical Center



Visit our website: www.littlerockmagic.org

April 2005

April 7th Meeting is at Mr. Magic Featuring Local Talent

Yes that right, the April 7th magic meeting will not be at Baptist Hospital this month but instead will be at Mr. Magic. You will not want to miss this great evening of entertainment. It will be held Thursday at Mr. Magic at 6:30pm. The meeting will feature Jim Henson lecturing on Thumb Tips, Pulls, and Dye Tubes; Richard Knoll and Joey Williams lecturing on Doves; and Derrick Rose lecturing on his magic. If you can come and have access to a folding chair, please bring one

News from the Ring

*Maxwell Blade will be open with basically an all new show at the Theater of Magic in Hot Springs on Memorial Day. Be sure to call for reservations.

*Note from Lannie Cox: "Lannie Cox, once the communications director for the American Heart Association in Arkansas, was promoted to vice president of communications for the American Heart Association, Heartland Affiliate. I will manage communications for the association in Arkansas, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Nebraska and Iowa. I will

supervise five communications directors and one communications director/web designer located in each one of the Heartland states respectively. My wife Laura, daughter Sylvia and I will be relocating to St. Louis during the next few months. I want to thank the people from Ring 29 for ushering me into magic with patience and good direction. It's with a divided heart that we make this move. I am aiming for June to make the transition to St. Louis. I look forward to seeing many of you before I leave."

*Margaret LeClair has moved to Memphis and plans to continue in magic there.

*The Masters of Illusion performed at The Public Theater on April 1-2. The show featured Jimmy Rhodes' famous paint ball catch between the teeth (you have not seen this one before). Shannon Williams performed the Bandanna comedy effect. Both worked together on a Zig-Zag effect. Joey Williams performed a close-up act, Richard Knoll told some stories about childhood memories, and both Joey and Richard did silk productions

(some of these are Rice silks) and made a mess with sound, music and explosions. John Crippen and Bill Fulton performed a comedy mind reading act that is brand new.

*Dr. Henry Johnson, Life Time Member of Ring 29 and past president of Ring 29, past away Saturday April 2nd and the funeral was on Monday

*Christy Henson will be leaving for Cambodia at the end of April for 10 days on a Medical Mission Trip- as usual she will be taking magic.

*Correction from March newsletter- True Story: Frank at the World Magic Seminar in Las Vegas put 10 pennies in a one penny slot machine and won \$2,100.

*The newsletter will be highlighting one of our Ring magicians each month. This month will be Derrick Rose. Check the article and picture in this newsletter.

*Begin thinking about our May 5th Meeting. Pull out tricks you have bought but have lost the instructions, refuse to read the

instructions, or read the instructions and you still don't get it and bring it to the May meeting for help. Theme: "I bought this....now what?"

-The I.B.M. Convention will be held June 28-July 2 in Reno, Nevada. Check out the website www.magician.org for more info.

Performers/ Lecturers (just to name a few):

Stan Allen, Les Arnold and Dazzle, Gay Blackstone, Rich Bloch, Mike Caveney, Mike Close, Aldo Colombini, Steve Dacri, Dana Daniels, David Ginn, Lee Grabel, Paul Green, Cyril Harvey (France), Mark Kalin and Jinger, Jorgos Katsaros (Germany), Tina Lenert, Johnny Lonn (Sweden), Chip Lowell, Hank Morehouse, Marvyn Roy and Carol, Steve Walker (Australia), Frank Zak

Nearly 40 Dealers so far have registered. There will also be Stage and Close-up Competitions.

*If you are making plans to go to Branson, be sure to look up the magicians performing; Darren Romeo, Brett Daniels, Kirby Van Birch. If you see one of these magicians, please give us a report for the newsletter.

*Several Ring 29 members attended and performed at Bill Pitts' Cavalcade of Magic in Eureka Springs last month. Be sure to check with Jimmy Rhodes, Don Thompson, Sam Boyce, Jay Miller and obviously Bill Pitts (sorry if I left someone out) to find out what you missed.

RING 29 FEATURED MAGICIAN FOR APRIL

DERRICK ROSE, THE THV MAGIC MAN

My Wife and I have been to Shorty Small's on Rodney Parham many times. We have gone on Monday Nights which is Family Night. We have *watched the magician* work the crowded tables, extracting giggles and laughter from the kids, and smiles from the adults. He does this with floating money, slight of hand, and balloon animals.



His name is known to a lot of us, that is none other than the comedy magician, Derrick Rose member of Ring 29, the IBM and SAM. I recently sat with Derrick and extracted information for more than an hour. He started doing magic in the summer of 1986 while employed at Disney World in Orlando, Florida, as Jungle Cruise Skipper. Downtown Disney had a magic shop, he thinks, was run by Mark Jenest, now known as the Disney

Magician, where he purchased his first thumb tip and learned the French Drop. This was his first introduction to magic.

Derrick graduated from the U of A in Fayetteville with a degree in Public Relations in December of 1986. He went to work at the Arkansas Development Finance Authority (ADFA) four months later as assistant to the assistant to the president. Derrick was promoted to the position of public relations director in 1995, a job he still holds.

It wasn't long after Derrick returned to Little Rock that he wandered into "Mr. Magic and Novelties" located, at the time, in the Heights near where he lived on Kavanaugh. Jim Henson introduced Derrick to more magic, starting with the Poor Man's Handcuffs (rubberband magic). Next came Color Monty, one of J.H.'s favorite tricks that he teaches anyone that will take the time to learn properly. Using magic to punctuate his comedy, Derrick has found the perfect mix for his entertaining. To quote Derrick (and that is what I am doing), "If I can make the crowd laugh, giggle, or smile, then I've earned my money. The icing on the cake is that I'm having a wonderful time too."

A combination of performing at birthday parties and substituting for magicians at other restaurants led to his present gig of 10 plus years at Shorty Smalls in west Little Rock where he now appears every Monday night from 6:00 PM to

9:00 PM. He has worked at four or five other eating establishments, but due to an increase in time constraints, all are gone except Shorty's. Derrick stated that each one in its own way helped to hone his skills as a magician. His restaurant appearances created an opportunity to perform at more birthday parties and these helped him book corporate picnics and after dinner shows. In 1999, KTHV Channel 11 morning news anchor Robyn Richardson saw Derrick perform at Shorty's and asked if he would like to appear on a new Friday morning segment with weatherman Tom Brannon? Derrick said, "Does the Pope wear a beanie!!!" The segment was named "Breakfast with Tom" and is still a regular Friday morning feature. (If you get up before breakfast on Friday morning you can see him. Writers note: way too early.) (Derrick also notes: way too early but thank goodness not for everybody!!!)

And now back to the name Disney, where Derrick started, only this time Disney radio. Radio Disney (KDIS FM 99.5) has contacted Derrick to work special events with the station. This offers another venue for meeting people and doing what he loves, making people laugh. He performed his first event on March 12 at the Women's Show located in the Statehouse Convention Center in Little Rock and has another half dozen shows planned this spring. Just listen to Radio Disney to find out where.

Entertaining seems to be a family trait. Derrick's mother Shirley is a member of the award winning female choral group "Top of the Rock". His younger brother Brent and wife Julie both followed music careers before deciding on a careers in law enforcement. Derrick gives credit to his older brother the late Terry Rose, best known in Arkansas for singing Christmas Time in Arkansas with KATV weatherman Ned Perme and writing the Arkansas State Song, as being his mentor in learning how to work a crowd. Following in Derrick's footsteps is his 8 year-old son Jett. Derrick is teaching him the fine art of shilling and story telling.

What advice would Derrick give a budding magician? Derrick believes that a new or inexperienced magician should try and pair up with a veteran magician who might be willing to be a mentor. If you can, help an established performer set up their sound or props and then watch how they handle a crowd. He said it doesn't have to be a magician but at least someone you consider to be a good entertainer or public speaker.

Derrick said he was fortunate enough travel around Arkansas to at least 500 shows with his older brother. By the time he was 15, he was Terry's stage manager, soundman and roadie. Terry would give Derrick a few bucks for making sure everything went well during his show and for freeing him up to mingle with the crowd before and after shows. Even though

Derrick's brother was a singer, 80 percent of his show was made up of jokes and stories. Derrick was able to watch how he worked humor into his show and when the time came to create his own magic show, laughter naturally became a part of it.

Derrick's clients include: Dillard's; Eli Lilly Pharmaceutical; Entergy Arkansas; Heritage Publishing; The Pink Tomato Festival, Warren, AR; Raytheon Aircraft; National Shrimp Festival, Gulf Shores, Alabama; Timber Festival, Sheridan, AR; The Wort Hotel, Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

Interviewed and written by Doc and Sassy, a/k/a Gerry and Judy Bailey
Come and see Derrick doing his thing at the next meeting.

You know you're a magician when...

...you are the only one driving to work while practicing palming a quarter.

...you pull five bucks out of your waitress's ear to leave a tip.

...you just bought more toys at the dollar store than your kids, because of a trick you plan on making.

...you accidentally do a double while playing "Go Fish!"

...you are the only one that can have fun with a Blank Deck.