



THE PERFORMER



In the News

FREE ONLINE MAGIC CONVENTION

William Rader, is at it again! He's putting on a FREE online magic convention. The WellAttended Summit takes place on November 1 - 4, 2018. Each day, the video interviews go live at 9:00am MDT and will be available for 24 hours.

Visit <https://wellattendedsummit.com/> to get FREE access to the Well Attended Summit.

Here is the lineup:

Thom Britton	Paul Draper
Bill Abbott	Art Grueneberger
David Serero	Freya West
Gary Berg	Matt Marberry
David DaVinci	Peter Boie
Bill Gladwell	Brad Montgomery
Brad Shur	Evasons
Dan Holzman	JC Sum
David Parr	Peter Michael Marino
Philip Peredo	Marty Wilson
	Joe Diamon

Ring 29 News

In case you did not receive the email from Gary Fambrough, Paul Prater was in the news this week. An article in the Arkansas Democrat was telling of the Haunted Argenta Ghost Tours.

For more information, here is the link Gary provided:

<https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2018/oct/16/history-buff-hosts-haunted-tour-in-arge/>

You can also go to the website: <http://www.hauntedargenta.com/>

Additionally, there is a 116 page book written by Paul titled "Haunted Argenta". It will be available for purchase at the tours for \$15.

The next tour is called "Boos and Brews" on Oct 24 at 8 PM-10 PM

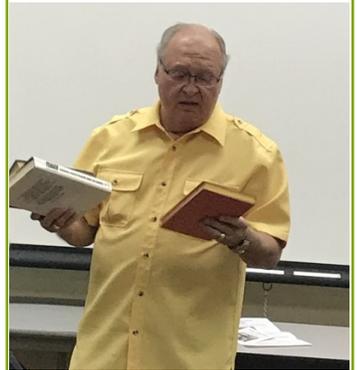
The next "Haunted Argenta Tour" is on Oct 25 at 8:00 PM-9:30 PM

Tours run through to Nov 14, don't miss out and book your tour early.

More details on page 7...

Sneak Peek

Mini Lecture—"Book Tests"
Dan Hecke presented us with an awesome lecture on a couple of book tests he uses. He included instructions for everyone to take home and learn.



Special guest performer Trey Morley performed this month! Quite the treat and aspiring magician.



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President's Corner

by Jo Jones, Ring 29 President

Hello Magician Friends!

The October Ring 29 meeting was interesting, fun, and a learning experience! We had 23 present and many of those performed in the magic section of the meeting!

Dan Hecke delivered a very good mini-lecture on book tests! He shared with us the Third Deadly Sin by Lawrence Sanders and Book Test Mentalism Trick. He also taught them to us and gave us written instructions, for future reference, on how to do them, including variations of the tests. Thank you, Dan, for sharing with us!

Ralph Feldor shared one of his book tests from his new book, Mapping Miracles. Dane Dover followed with a modified version of Halloween Trick by Stuart Robson found in The Jinx Summer Extra 1935. Dane also gave us written instructions. Thanks Ralph and Dane!

Mike Jones did a great job as the emcee. He kept us laughing with his funny introductions! Other performers were Adrian Steelman, Jo Jones, Cedric Morley, Trey Morley, Bob White, Sid Salmans, Jim Henson, Travis Hoston, Mike Jones, and Jimmy Ross. Thanks to each of you for your participation!

A note for those of you who remember Kylan Mann...He was a very active member a few years ago until he moved to Tennessee to pastor a church. Kylan and his wife just welcomed their third son into their family. We send our congratulations to them!

Our November meeting will be November 1st at Baptist Hospital in Classroom #1. Dane Dover will be our mini-lecturer. He will be talking to us about Impromptu Magic. Jo Jones will be our emcee. Please come out to give your support to Dane, our performers, and the Ring. I hope to see you!!!!

See you soon! Magically yours,

Jo





Completely Focused!

Ring 29 Report

by Gary Fambrough, Ring 29 Secretary

Ring 29 met Thursday, October 4th at 6:45 pm in Classroom #1 at Baptist Hospital in Little Rock, AR. We had a nice gathering with 21 members and guests. As is the norm, club President, Jo Jones, presided over the meeting and started off with announcements.

James Kinsey was absent with some sort of stomach bug. We wish him a quick recovery. Marty Haughn has been battling some health issues as well but fortunately he was able to make the meeting.

Jo Jones handed out a calendar containing the next few months of club activities. It was mentioned that we'll be using the auditorium down the hall from our meeting room for the close up competition and auction meetings.

Jim Henson gave a run down of his experience while attending the Orlando Ring 170 meeting. He said he really enjoyed meeting everyone there. Jim was one of three performers that included Matt Bergeron and a young 20 year old up and comer.

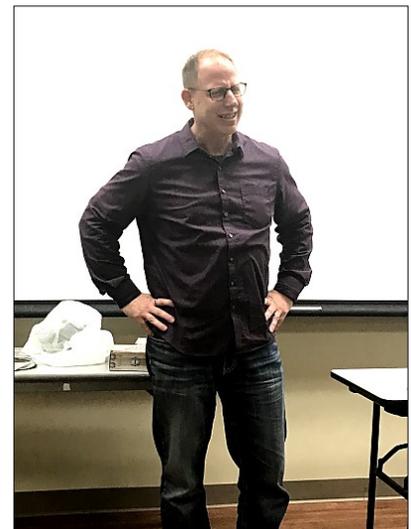
Our last and biggest announcement of the evening came from Dane Dover. Seems he has become a new Grandfather! There's no better news than that.

After these announcements, we pushed forward with some Halloween fun.

Mike Jones served as emcee for the evening and announced our mini lecturer for the evening, Dan Hecke.

Dan spoke about a well known trick called Book Test. He started off with a performance followed by explanation. For his first example, he chose three books... one by Will Rogers, one by Chuck Yeager, and Jack Parr. After some spooky

...continued on page 4



Gary Fambrough

a randomly chosen book (one of the three), and some randomly selected page numbers, Dan was able to call out specific words on the resulting page.

For his second example, he used magicians choice to select the book and utilized some more spooky math to add up randomly chosen numbers from the audience. Using the result to indicate a page number, Dan was able again to conjure up the word on the selected page; this time illustrating the word with a drawing.

For those present, Dan handed out some 'cheat sheets' with the math needed for anyone that wanted to perform this trick to their own audiences. Thanks Dan!

Next up was Ralph Felder with his own version of Book Test. Mike Jones assisted by choosing a random page. Ralph proceeded to recite the first line of the book. Creepy!

Jo Jones started off her presentation with some funeral humor (at her husbands expense mind you). Taking a full size poster she folded it up at various intervals revealing pictures to match her hilarious story.

Cedric Morley was next with a haunted trick involving a crystal, a coin, and a key. The coin and key were chosen by an audience member, Dan Hecke. He then gave the coin back to Cedric. This left the crystal to be placed in the box. When the box was opened to place the crystal, a note was removed and read aloud by Dan. "I have the key, You have the coin, and the crystal is in the box". Great Goblins!

Following Cedric was Dane Dover with a Halloween card trick. Halloween topics were written on several cards. An audience member, Derrick Rose, then thought of a Halloween topic. Using the cards, Derrick then discarded those that didn't contain anything related to his topic. Finally, Dane was able to announce Derrick's topic by simply peering through the cards.

Jim Henson freaked everyone out with his version of a torn and restored banner. What more can you say? Jim never drops the ball... wait, well, mum's the word.

One of our youngest members, Adrian, actually won 1st place at the Garland county fair. From there, he moves on to performing at the Arkansas state fair. Having said that, he continued to stun all of those watching on this night with some really cool slight of hand magic. Not only that, he might be the only magician to include a trombone at the center of his act!

Bob White was next with a really cool poker trick using jumbo cards. With Travis Caudle assisting, 10 cards were mixed and shuffled. Bob ended up with a royal flush that beat Travis' hand, hands down. Cedric's son, an aspiring young magician in his own right, was up next with a creepy version of the magic vase. Sid Salmon continued the shenanigans with some tricky dice moves and a 21 card trick.

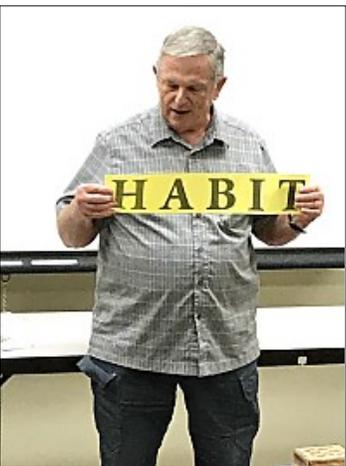
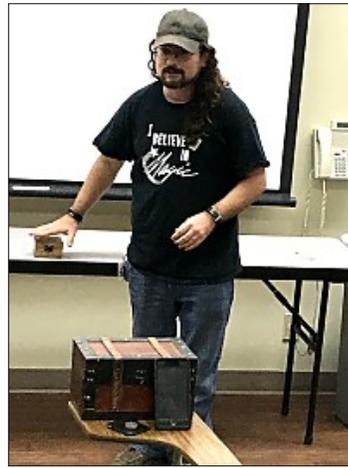
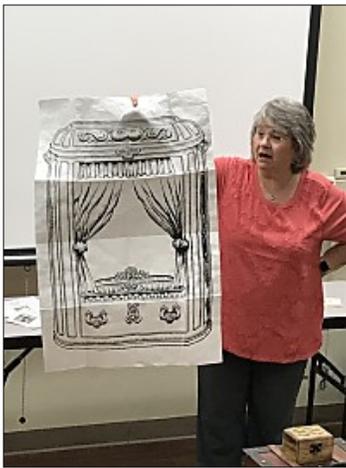
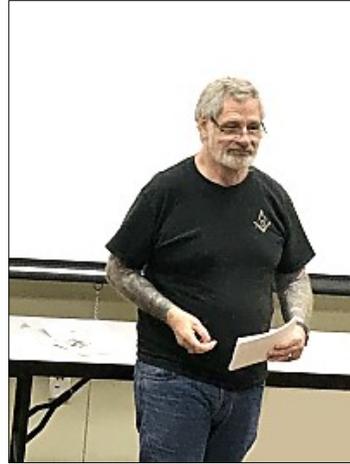
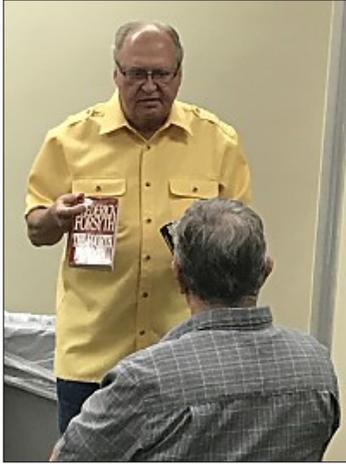
Mike Jones then added to the excitement with three piles of cards. Mike, Dan Hecke, and Cedric Morley each chose a card from one pile. The cards were replaced and after some random shuffling and down dealing of each pile, the chosen card from each pile mysteriously made its way back to the top!

To round out the evening with something really scary, Jimmy Ross selected Jo Jones as his assistant. He presented a deck of blank cards. Next, the cards then changed to colored backs. Jimmy placed the deck in Jo's hands and when she turned the cards over they then revealed printed spider webs! Finally, as she handed the cards back to Jimmy, Jo realized a "spider" had made its way on to the back of her hand! Yikes!!!

Well, that's it for our meeting in October. We'll see everyone next month!

Gary Fambrough

October Performers







THE ORIGINAL Haunted Argenta Ghost Tours

www.hauntedargenta.com

In the Spotlight

by Marty Haughn, Ring 29 Newsletter Editor

Tis the season to be SCAREY! This month is a special one for me as my favorite holiday is Halloween. For October I thought it appropriate to feature something special and it happens to be none other than PAUL PRATER. Here we go...

Haunted Argenta Ghost Tours offers tours in historic downtown Argenta and focuses on the history, tales, myths and legends of the area. These historical tours take the facts and apply them to the myths separating one from another.

These family friendly tours are informative, entertaining and can be quite thrilling. While we can't guarantee anything, you never know, you may come face-to-face with a ghost!

BOOS AND BREWS

We are offering something a bit different this year. On Wednesday nights only, we will be offering a special ghost tour that involves stops inside two of the haunted locations. You will have the opportunity to grab a drink and a seat while you hear about the hauntings AND there will be demonstrations of Victorian séance work.

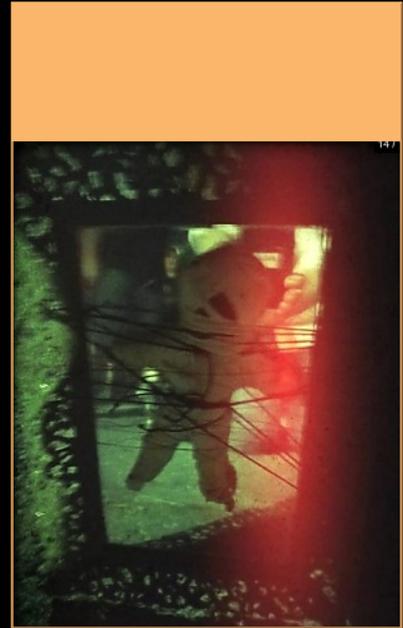
On this special tour you will get to hear the stories, experience the locations, grab drinks and see séance performances! This is a special and unique tour so don't miss it!



The Haunted Argenta book is here! You can get yours on the tour for \$15.00

This book is painstakingly researched and covers all of the stories on the tour plus plenty more. It is filled with photos, facts, lore and GHOSTS!

The book is 116 pages and soft cover.



Gypsy Thread



The Gypsy Thread, also known as the Hindu Thread, is one of the classic effects in close up magic, performed by many magicians including Mark Wilson, Slydini, Doug Henning, David Blaine, and of course Eugene Burger. Burger's handling can be found in his book *Spirit Theater* (Kaufman and Greenberg, 1985).

In effect, a three or four foot length of thread is removed from a spool of thread. The thread is broken into numerous short pieces of varying lengths. One of the pieces is separated from the rest, which are rolled tightly into a little ball.

The little ball of pieces is placed onto the center of the single strand, where it mysteriously clings in place.

The two ends of the short piece are pulled. The small ball comprised of pieces jumps and dances on its little tightrope, as the ends are pulled farther apart, ultimately revealing the thread to be completely restored to its original condition.

Written explanations go back to at least 1500s, and can be found in J. Prevost's *La Premiere Partie des subtiles et plaisantes inventions* (as "To Cut a Thread into Many Pieces, Then Seem to Have Rejoined Them All Together") and Reginald Scot's *Discoverie of Witchcraft* ("To burne a thred, and to make it whole againe with the ashes thereof"), both published in 1584.

Sach's *Sleight of Hand* (1877) describes an early close-up version of a cut-and-restored thread, and another version of this effect was published by Elbiquet in *A Text Book of Magic* in 1913.

Source: *Magicipedia*
www.geniimagazine.com

Blast from the Past

by Mike Curtis, *Ring 29 Historian*

This month's report comes from 60 years back with the November, 1958 meeting of the Ring. The President at that time was Walter Scott and the Secretary was Dr. John McCullough Smith. The Ring met monthly at the Albert Pike Hotel.

"Attendees at the November meeting were Blass, Caple, Houpt, Nolting, Scott, J. M. Smith, W. M. Smith and Pritchett. Discussed the good work of C. Thomas Magrum, magician from Rock Island, Ill., who played in this area, such as card manipulation wearing gloves, and coin moves. Al Houpt showed colored slides of our Mid-South Convention featuring Lee Grabel, and of members taken with Edgar Bergen who visited our Ring recently. Magic session was short."

This was probably the shortest report I've seen. Not a lot of magic performed but slide shows were popular in 1958 and the subject matter of the convention and shots including Edgar Bergen must have been a hit. Perhaps our Ring could have a walk down memory lane some day with some old video clips of our members performing. Interested?

Until next time, don't forget, the past only remains alive as long as we continue to remember it.

A Little Magic History



Carl Ballantine (September 27, 1917 – November 3, 2009) was an American magician, comedian and actor. Billing himself as "The Great Ballantine", "The Amazing Ballantine" or "Ballantine: The World's Greatest Magician", his vaudeville-style comedy routine involved transparent or incompetent stage magic tricks, which tended to flop and go "hilariously awry" to the wisecracking Ballantine's mock chagrin. He has been credited with creating comedy magic and has influenced both comics and magicians.

Ballantine was born Meyer Kessler in Chicago, Illinois, the son of Israel Kessler (1883-1930) and Rose Cohen (1890-1973), both Jewish immigrants from Borshchiv, Ukraine and Russian Poland (then part of the Austrian Empire and Second Polish Republic). Nicknamed the "Jipper," he was inspired at age 9 by his barber who would do magic tricks with thimbles while cutting his hair. His first job was working as a printer. In the 1930s, Kessler was doing professional straight magic as "Count Marakoff", "Carlton Sharpe", and "Carl Sharp" in Chicago, helping support his family, and later moved to New York City, where he performed in night clubs and on television variety shows.

In the early 1940s, he gave up "real magic" when he realized he could not be as good as some of his peers. According to his daughter, "one night, one of his tricks got screwed up, he said something to cover, and the audience laughed. So he started adding more."

He switched to comedy magic and changed his name to "Carl Ballantine", after he noticed a bottle of Ballantine whisky in an advertisement and decided it sounded "show-businessy and classy", and called the magic act "Ballantine, the World's Greatest Magician". He entertained troops during World War Two. He was billed as "The Amazing Mr. Ballantine" when he played the New York Capitol in 1950, and "The Great Ballantine" in The Ed Sullivan Show and The Steve Allen Show on television in the 1950s and 1960s. He was the first magician to play Las Vegas, appearing on a bill with Harry James, Betty Grable and Sammy Davis Jr. at El Rancho Vegas in 1956.



In 2007, he received the 2006 Lifetime Achievement Fellowship from the Academy of Magical Arts. The award was presented by Steve Martin, who calls Ballantine "the king of bungling magicians" in his memoir *Born Standing Up*, and said in an interview: "Carl Ballantine influenced not only myself but a generation of magicians and comedians. His was also the most copied act by a host of amateurs and professionals." According to David Copperfield, "Carl Ballantine created comedy magic. The combination of magic and comedy had perhaps been done before, but he truly defined it and made it his own."

(text source: Wikipedia)



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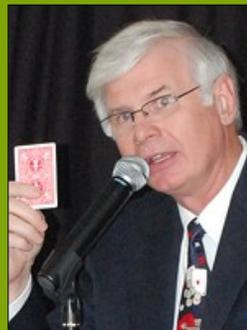
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Membership

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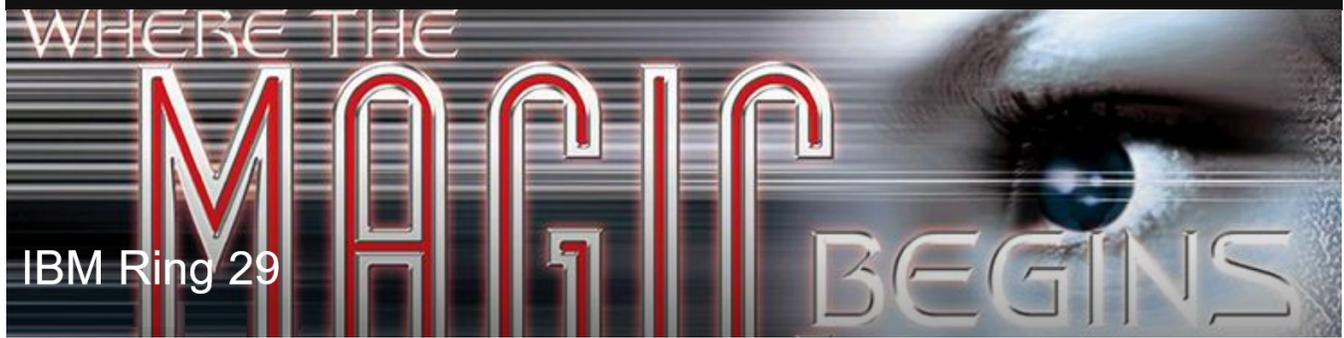
Contact Mr. Magic or any Ring 29 Officer for information on joining the IBM or Ring 29.

Mailing Lists

In addition to this newsletter Members can receive last minute email information on meetings, events, and lectures. If you wish to be added to our email list, please contact Treasurer **Col. James Kinsey**.

LittleRockMagic.net

Our website has been filled with a wealth of information to assist our members and potential members. New features are being added daily. Check out the Ring 29 Highlights video, the Magicians for Hire page, or the Ring 29 Event Calendar.



Ring 29 Meetings 2018-2019

Date	Meeting	Location	Theme	Lecturer	Emcee
Aug 1, 2018	Regular	Baptist Classroom #1	Invisible Deck	Jim Henson	No emcee needed
Sept 6, 2018	Regular	Baptist Classroom #1	Jim—Card Cube Tear & Restore Napkin	Jim Henson	Jo Jones
Oct 4, 2018	Regular	Baptist Classroom #1	Book Tests Halloween Magic	Dan Hecke	Mike Jones
Nov 1, 2018	Regular	Baptist Classroom #1	Impromptu Magic	Dane Dover	Jo Jones or TBA
Dec 6, 2018	Regular	Baptist Classroom #1	Emceeing Effectively Christmas Magic	Jon Bucher	Jon Bucher
Jan 12, 2019	Christmas Show	Jacksonville Community Center	Walk-Around and Stage Magic	TBA	Derrick Rose
Feb 7, 2019	Regular	Baptist Classroom #1	Teach-In	TBA	Adrian Steelman Carlos Yang
Mar 7, 2019	Stage Competition	Baptist Sheffield Auditorium	Stage Magic **	Blayk Puckett	Blayk Puckett
Apr 4, 2019	Auction	Baptist Sheffield Auditorium	Auction	Dan Hecke Auctioneer	Dan Hecke
May 2, 2019	Close-Up Competition	Baptist Sheffield Auditorium	Close-Up Magic **	Cedric Morley	Cedric Morley
Jun or ?, 2019	Installation	??	Officers will perform	Larry Bean, TVP Installing Officer	Larry Bean

**To enter Ring 29 competitions, you must be a paid up member of the IBM



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Mr. Magic (Jim Henson)
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