



# *The Performer*

*Little Rock Ring 29 Newsletter  
Little Rock, Arkansas*

*July 2020*





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*It's all about the Magic...*



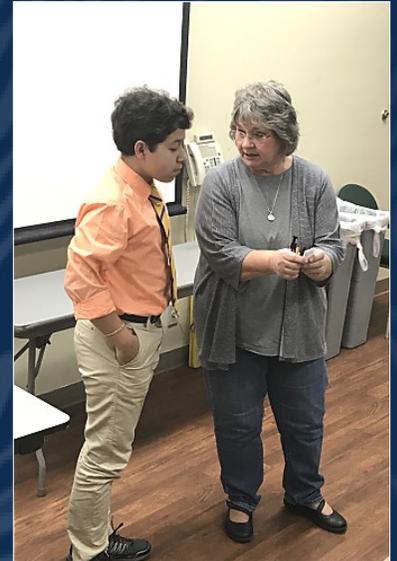
## For your Information

*Here we are in yet another month of social distancing and mask wearing. I hope everyone is doing well and adjusting to the "new lifestyle" as temporary as it may be.*

*It has been a little bit of a busy month for some in the Ring as they were getting things together for new officer selection. A special thanks to Cedric Morely for getting everything in line and informing everyone.*

*Congratulations to the newly elected officers:*

- President: Marty Haughn*
- Vice President: Dane Dover*
- Secretary: Shawn Miller*
- Sergeant at Arms: Adrian Steelman*
- Treasurer: James Kinsey*
- Historian: Mike Curtis*



## Updates

As a result of their first officer/board meeting, a couple of things have come to light and I would like to share them with you.

According to our bylaws, the Ring Historian is supposed to be a 5 year assignment, much to the surprise of Mike Curtis. It was expressed that the Ring find an apprentice to this position so they may learn the ins and outs of being the Ring Historian. This individual would be responsible for the care and recording of all historical data of the Ring. There are other responsibilities which Mike will be passing along to the apprentice. A discussion during our next Ring meeting may determine who this could be. Join us in August to provide your input.

Another item was the possibility of becoming a Non-Profit, officially. We aren't talking about becoming a 5013c but just a Non-Profit registered with the state. Dane Dover is looking onto the specifics and will be sharing what he discovers shortly.

And finally, the discussion of in-person meetings. I'll refrain from explaining here but you will find details in the President's Corner.

We hope to see everyone in the next ZOOM meeting August 6, 2020 @ 6:30 p.m.



## Meetings

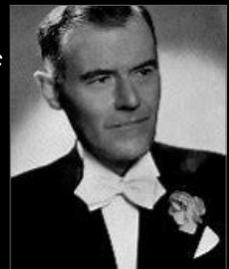
August: Possible face-to-face meeting (TBA)

## Upcoming Events

September/October: Possible in person picnic Meeting/ Installation (TBA)

*"A Magician is not a Magician because he knows tricks, but because he knows Magic - the principles, the fundamentals."*

— Harlan Tarbell —





## President's Corner Marty Haughn



Good day to you all. I hope everyone is in good health and staying cool this summer.

Let me begin by congratulating all the newly elected officers and wish them the best and thank you to the leaving officers, you all worked hard and kept us going. It will be difficult to be stellar until things turn for the better and allow us to all meet again in person. Until then, work on your ideas and projects then be ready to put them into place.

Yes, this year has been a real challenge and will continue to be for a little while longer. Until that time arrives I want everyone to stay safe and healthy as we need to see you again performing everything you have been working on while in pseudo isolation.

So what's happening with the Ring? Well, we held our first board meeting with all officers present, both physically and virtually. There were a lot of topics discussed, two of which seemed to take a lot of our time. First was about our next in-person meeting. To keep things short, although we would like to meet everyone in person it is understood a lot of us are taking precautions and will remain doing so for a while yet. The opportunity to meet in person is projected to be in September/October and would be held outdoors. This should allow some flexibility with our members to possibly attend in person. Details forthcoming.

Next we had a long discussion regarding our bylaws and what needed to be updated/changed/deleted. First of all, most of you, including myself, aren't aware of having bylaws. Mike Curtis was kind enough to share the most recent copy with me and we went to work. Here is what we decided. There were items in the bylaws which were outdated, such as our Ring name. Easy enough to change. However, other items we discussed for change will be made and available to all members in the near future. This will be your opportunity to take a close look at the bylaws and provide the board your feedback as to what could be improved or still removed. The bylaws will be available possibly during the next Ring meeting via email.

Other items on our agenda were meeting themes, finances, the Christmas Show, Public Performances, recruiting of new members, an auction, a Tri-Ring get together and some fund raisers. If any of these items strike your fancy and you have some ideas, please share them with one of the officers for consideration. Folks, we are all ears and open for anything you might have in mind. The goal is to move our Ring to the next level and have some more fun while staying magical.

Mentioned earlier was the website. Due to be active August 31st, our hope is that it will become the hub of information for our Ring members. Email will remain a source of communication but everything sent though email will be posted on the website as well. We are down to the last item listed for site completion. Unfortunately, it is the largest item which will take considerable time to complete...photographs and videos. Photos from 2020 and 2019 will be the first ready for viewing with more years to follow one at a time. The hope is to have it all online by December.

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## *President's Corner*

### *Marty Haughn*



Only time will tell if we meet that goal. Until then, if you have access to any Ring 29 photographs, especially from the early days, I would be interested in obtaining electronic copies of what you have for inclusion to the site.

Other business discussed are items your officers are taking on and will try to make happen. Along with another Phone Tree event in an attempt to "reconnect" past members to return to the meetings, we will be creating a survey to send out to everyone on our list, including current paid members. The survey method has yet to be determined but when ready to go everyone will be notified. Your participation in the survey will be greatly appreciated.

Planning for a Ring 29 auction has begun. There are several options for us to explore so look for details to come forward in the near future. I know Ring 75 is having a State wide auction on August 11, 2020, live and via Zoom. Check your emails for details.

The idea of having a Ring picnic was brought up and is being considered. If we have one, the picnic will fall in line with the planned outdoor meeting in September/October time frame.

Wow! Quite the ambitious list of goals but I believe they will all be possible as long as things around the state begin to loosen up. Stay tuned for details through email and the website. All-in-all, it was a good first meeting with a lot of great ideas presented by everyone.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank Dane Dover for setting things up to make our Zoom/in-person officer meeting a success. This thanks extends to ensuring we are connected every month for Ring meetings.

And finally, I want to give a special thanks to the past Officers, as well as each Ring 29 member, for their trust in allowing me to be the next Ring 29 President. I look forward to serving the Ring to the best of my ability and hope that I can meet up to your expectations.

Very Respectfully,

Marty Haughn





## *For the Record*

### *Shawn Miller*



Greetings fellow magicians! Ring 29 held another successful meeting via Zoom once again.

President Marty Haughn presided over the meeting which was set up by our new Vice President Dane Dover . The turnout was somewhat small but very enthusiastic, in regards to business we kept it short in the beginning with A follow up discussion at the end about upcoming meetings what precautions we could use to help keep everyone safe in 2020

We have new officer announcements for Little Rock magic ring 29 as follows: President-Marty Haughn; Vice President-Dane Dover; Secretary-Shawn Miller; Treasurer-James Kinsey; Sergeant at Arms-Adrian Steelman; Historian-Mike Curtis. Congratulations to our new officer and board members, good luck in the year to come.

We concluded business and got right to the fun stuff.

To start off the performances Adrian Steelman had a “Genius” card trick, we each held eight cards, removed up to four cards, made a selection, did an Australian shuffle spelling “Einstein” only to be left with our selected card in our hand! Very well done Adrian! Following Adrian, Gary Fambrough shared with everyone an inventory of magic tricks bestowed to him that might be on the market in the future, it looks like a nice investment, very impressive collection.

Up next, Marty Haughn had a great card trick, from nine random cards, a card was selected by a spectator, put back in the deck then counted down the rest into four piles. With the combined total face up values of the cards was the exact position the selected card was located in the remaining deck. Wow, I’m not sure of the wizardry behind this but it seems to work every time. James Kinsey gave us a teaser of a new torn and restored card trick he’s working on (can’t wait to see it) then gave us a quick lesson on card splitting with a few technical tips that we all appreciated.

Shawn Miller showed us an eggs-tra-ordinary bag he made. Shawn was able to produce a chicken egg that turned into a shot glass of Wild Turkey which, in turn, was used to sterilize eight needles in his performance of swallowing needles.

Finally, Dane Dover had a Mason jar where he poured water into, placed the lid on its top and turned upside down. Dane then removed the lid leaving the water inside suspended. I could almost feel the tension, then seemingly with a magical gesture the water poured out. I could see that “a-Ginn”. And just like that performances were complete. We concluded the night with a discussion of different topics from live meetings to safely performing for audiences. We are getting better at virtual meetings but we all can’t wait till we can meet again in person . See you all again August 6th!

Everyone be safe and stay magical!

Shawn Miller





## *Blast from the Past*

### *Mike Curtis*



This month we look back 26 years to the August, 1994 meeting of the Ring. The President at that time was Danny McDorman and the Secretary was Dennis Schick. The Ring met monthly at C.A.R.T.I. in Little Rock. "Our new president, Danny McDorman, opened the meeting by thanking all of last year's officers. They did a fantastic job. This was the first meeting that Danny was in charge of and he came through with flying colors. I know he is going to make a great president.

We discussed the possibility of having a Ring 29 summer picnic and a committee was formed to decide where the best place to have the picnic would be. The picnic committee members are Danny McDorman, our vice president James Kinsey and his lovely wife Christy and Danial Veazey. Danny talked about how his performance at the Comedy House was going and also told all the members about amateur night for anybody who wanted to get a little experience and practice in front of a different type of crowd. The meeting was short and sweet but very informative and fun.

Our fund raising auction was a very big success. A lot of great magic was bought and sold. Some of the illusions that were auctioned off were the Floating Bill in Balloon, Card Toon and, books such as the Money Magic Book and Thread Reference which Mary Ann Campbell had to have before she left the meeting.

After a short break, Mike Jones, who brought the majority of the tricks auctioned, demonstrated several illusions such as the fire box. I don't see how he could part with some of the things he sold. The exciting part of the auction was when David Whipkey and Theron Nunley had a bidding war for the Torch to Cane. Doug, after about ten minutes, made the highest bid and got the trick. Sorry, Theron. Better luck next time.

Three people gave 100% of their profits and everybody else gave 10% and the club raised \$73.18. It was a successful event. Everybody left the meeting broke but came home with some great treasures. After the auction, Nathan Ironside did an unusual presentation with the Scotch and Soda. Great job, Nathan."

Another great evening was had at the Ring. The auctions are always well received and make for some fun and interesting interactions. Perhaps one of these days we will all be able to gather again and have an auction. As then, our new officers have taken over for the new year and will try to interject some fresh ideas to keep the meetings interesting and entertaining. It's also a good time for each member to think about and offer input as to what they would like to see at meetings. Take heart! We will get meetings going again safely. . . . someday.

Until next time, remember, the past is just a prelude to the possibilities of the future.





**Treasurer's Report**  
**James Kinsey**  
**July 2020**



BEGINNING BALANCE-CHECKING:	\$3418.24
DUES COLLECTED:	\$25.00
TOTAL BALANCE-CHECKING:	\$3463.24
TOTAL BALANCE SAVINGS:	\$970.33
EXPENSES:	\$0.00
ENDING BALANCE CHECKING:	\$3463.24
ENDING BALANCE SAVINGS:	\$970.33

31 Members have paid dues.

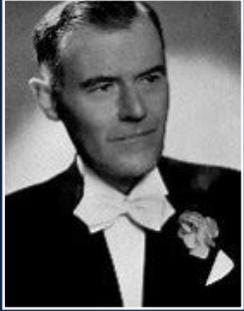
If you are not sure about your membership status, email James at:

[jamesk39@gmail.com](mailto:jamesk39@gmail.com)





# Magical History



Harlan Tarbell was born on February 23, 1890 in the Illinois town of Delavan, but spent his childhood in Groveland Tarbell created cartoons for a newspaper in Morton when he was 12 years old. It was at this time that Tarbell received one of his earliest introductions to professional magic, when he hiked five miles along the railroad tracks to watch magician Harry August Jansen, aka Dante, perform at the Morton Town Hall.

In 1911, Tarbell moved to Chicago in order to pursue a professional career in illustration. His efforts attracted the attention of the magic company Read and Covert, which hired Tarbell to work on their *Illustrated Catalogue of Superior Magical Apparatus*. Tarbell continued to produce illustrations for Read and Covert until 1941.

During World War I, Tarbell served with the 24th Air Company in France, working with the medical department. He found time during his service to illustrate a military atlas and study with French impressionist Claude Monet.

Publishers T. Grant Cooke and Walter A. Jordan developed an interest in producing a correspondence course in magic in the mid-1920s. A few months before his death, Harry Houdini was approached to author the course; Houdini declined but recommended Tarbell. Cook and Jordan hired Tarbell and Walter Baker, another Chicago-area magician, to work on the project, but Baker dropped out of the project in its early stages to concentrate on his performances. The publishers allotted Tarbell \$50,000 for the course, which he finished in 1928, producing 60 correspondence lessons with at least 3,100 illustrations.

Tarbell later discussed the philosophy behind his course: "There is a big difference between a magician and a man who does tricks...Fundamentally, the making of a magician is no different than the making of other professional people. One must be trained in the mechanics, the alternate methods and be skilled in the presentation in order to meet any conditions which may arise." Unlike other magic courses which placed a greater emphasis on self-working illusions, Tarbell began with fundamental drills and practice sessions involving body position, movement, and sleight-of-hand techniques which were to be incorporated into actual tricks in future lessons.

After selling 10,000 complete courses, Cooke and Jordan discontinued marketing the Tarbell Course in Magic in 1931, blaming the Great Depression for slumping sales. In 1941, however, magician Louis Tannen purchased the rights to the course, working with Tarbell and Ralph W. Read (of Read and Covert) to convert the correspondence lessons into book form.

D. Robbins and Co./ E-Z Magic purchased all rights from Tannen's in 1962 and is the current publisher and distributor of the Tarbell Course in Magic. The Encyclopedia was also translated into the Korean and Japanese languages.

Source: Wikipedia





# Event Calendar

Date	Meeting	Location	Theme	Lecturer	Host/Emcee
July	Zoom	Home	Free for All	N/A	Dane Dover
August	TBA - ZOOM	TBA - HOME	First Learned Trick	N/A	Dane Dover
September	TBA - ZOOM	TBA - HOME	Free for All	TBA	Marty Haughn
October	TBA - ZOOM	TBA - HOME	Halloween Magic	TBA	James Kinsey
November	TBA	TBD	Stage Competition	N/A	Adrian Steelman
December	TBA	TBA	Christmas Magic	TBA	Jo Jones
January	TBA	TBD	Christmas Show	N/A	TBA
February	TBA	TBA	Favorite Card Magic	Mini-Lecture TBA	Gary Fam- brough
March	TBA	TBD	Auction Time!	N/A	TBA
April	TBA	TBA	Ring 29 "Fool Us"	N/A	Marty Haughn
May	TBA	TBA	Close-up Competition	N/A	Derrick Rose
June	TBA	TBA	Free for All	Mini-Lecture	Mike Curtis

There are a lot of TBAs here on this calendar. Once the State of Arkansas begins to loosen things up a bit changes to this calendar will begin to happen.

EVERYTHING on this calendar is tentative but we need to continue planning the future as if we will be back to some resemblance of normal soon.

These are our normal meeting gatherings. Any additional activity throughout the month will be listed on the website beginning in August.



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### Using Ring 29 Email Group

Post message: [ring29report@yahoogroups.com](mailto:ring29report@yahoogroups.com)

Subscribe: [ring29report-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:ring29report-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

Unsubscribe: [ring29report-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:ring29report-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com)

### **Membership**

All members of Ring 29 must first be a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians. I.B.M. Applications can be obtained from [http://www.magician.org/membership\\_application.pdf](http://www.magician.org/membership_application.pdf).

*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 is proud to endorse and support Little Rock's world class ONLINE Magic Store, "Mr. Magic" Mr. Magic is owned and operated by retired Fire Chief Jim Henson and is a primary contact for Ring 29.

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**Mr. Magic (Jim Henson)**

**501-580-2860**

