



# CENTER of the RING

"Quality Ring Award Winner"

April 2005 Newsletter

## Chris Capehart Lecture

April 6—7 PM  
US Toy

## Regular Meeting

April 7—7 PM  
Best Western

## Michael Close Lecture

April 16—7 PM  
US Toy

## Board Meeting

April 21—7 PM  
Alan Goodheart  
8803 W 102 PL, Apt 1  
Overland Park, KS

## NEXT MEETING

April 7, 2005 7:00 P. M.

Best Western  
Rainbow & Southwest Blvd.  
(directly behind Applebee's Restaurant)



Chris Capehart

## OFFICIALS

### President

Alan Goodheart 913 648-0331

### Vice President

LC Collier 913 579-1506

### Secretary

Don Douglas 913 888-9236

### Treasurer

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Harris Deutsch 913 962-4045

### Board Member

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### Board Member

Ken Reedy 816 734-1484

### Board Member

Mike Blum 913 383-2586

### Past President

Terry Elton 913 268-8187

### News Editor

Eric Woods  
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## Don't Miss the Magic Instruction of Chris Capehart

To say that Chris Capehart is an accomplished magician is a serious understatement. Chris started performing magic on the streets of New York City over thirty years ago. Armed with just one trick and quick come-back verbal skills Chris dazzled his way into the hearts of some of the toughest crowds in the world!

Chris' talent for entertaining audiences is almost legendary. Many have seen Chris bring lay audiences AND magician audiences to their knees with his magic, but don't take our word for it, read on...

Chris Capehart is called the Ring Master, and for very good reasons. Many years ago Chris was asked to contribute his Three Ring Routine to the highly acclaimed "Stars of Magic" magic series (number 13 if you're curious). According to Tony Spina of Tannen's, Chris' routine quickly became the hottest selling issue

of the entire series! That's no small feat considering the caliber of the magic in the series and the number of ring routines published throughout magicdom.

In addition to being a regular headliner at the famous "Monday Night Magic" in New York City, Chris has performed in Atlantic City at the Tropicana and has been invited to perform in nightclubs in Trinidad, Africa, Canada, Mexico and all over the United States. In 2002 the Delaware Knights of Magic voted Chris the "2002 Magician of the Year" and at the 2003 Abbott's Get-Together, he was awarded the prestigious Senator Crandall Award for comedy.

In July 2003 at the Society of American Magicians national convention in Las Vegas, Chris Capehart was chosen as one of the Top Five Black Magicians In The Country. In February 2004 he was one of the featured magicians on the television show "The Art and Soul of Magic" produced by Glen Farrington.

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## President's Column

by Alan Goodheart

Since we last convened there has been a lot of magic in the air. Or is it the smell of spring that we are all itching to grab hold of? Either way, this season to me symbolizes a re-birth - a renewal if you will, and the beginning of a fresh start. We each should take a "fresh look" at our magical abilities, and try to "grow" something creative and unique that will take the Ring by "storm".

One thing that was very noticeable to me over the past several weeks was our Ring's cohesiveness. Character - concern - compassion - and support - that is what has been so evident as one of our members faced some very tough challenges. I can't tell you how many members called to make sure we all were aware of what was happening, and the concern I heard in each of their voices. That showed me how strong of an organization we really are. But I knew that our real compassion for each other would always be there, because you see it every time we are together. At meetings, special events, or just gathering in small groups away from the Ring.

What we heard was a concern for making sure that all parties involved were OK, and that everything that could be done was taken care of. I can only tell you how proud we should all be that we are a member of Ring 129 - a truly wonderful group of not only magicians, but people with outstanding character. You should ALL be proud!

So we look to the near future - with our meeting in April, and several lectures planned, and more being added every week. This year looks to have more varied talent coming to perform and teach than in years past, and there is such a varied blend of styles, that there will be something for almost everyone's magical tastes.

Please do not miss this coming regular meeting on April 7th, as we have hopefully planned a special little presentation that you will not want to miss. So please, practice some form of magic - either close-up or stage - and bring it to share this month. Try to "fool" your fellow magi and in doing so, win our monthly contests. I look forward to being together again real soon.

## Attention:

**The newsletter editor would like your help.**

If you have taken pictures at any club events recently or if you plan to bring your digital camera along to future events, the editor would greatly appreciate your sending copies for possible inclusion in future newsletters.

Eric Woods  
5738 Long Ave.  
Shawnee, KS 66216  
ewoods20@hotmail.com

## Magic Trivia

- 1) Who is the founder of the National Capital Area Skeptics?
  - a. Harry Houdini
  - b. Penn Jillette
  - c. James Randi
  - d. Jamy Ian Swiss
- 2) Albert Levinson is the birth name of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Albert Goshman
  - b. Al Flosso
  - c. Fred Kaps
  - d. Slydini
- 3) Who of the following performed 28 straight shows at the Magic Castle without repeating an effect?
  - a. Michael Skinner
  - b. Peter Samelson
  - c. Penn & Teller
  - d. Ken Krenzel
- 4) Houdini's death was caused by \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. the "Chinese Water Torture Cell"
  - b. a punch to the abdomen
  - c. a heart-attack
  - d. a kick to the head
- 5) Circle the name of all of the following that have NOT appeared on HBO?
  - a. Jeff McBride
  - b. Harry Anderson
  - c. Ricky Jay
  - d. Jay Marshall

**Wear your badge at the meeting  
and you may win a prize!**

**Earn More Sorcerer's Circle Points!!**



**Submit a news article today!!**

**NEW MEMBERS to RING 129**

**John Born**

9808 W. 118th St. #9  
OP KS 66210  
913-980-1449

**Barron Stringfellow**

P.O. Box 28  
Horton KS 66439  
785-486-3716

**New Associate Members  
Candy Collier & Athena Stringfellow**

Welcome to the club!!!

**Working in the Area?**

In Ring 129 we all share a common bond: the love of magic. If you are performing magic at restaurants or doing any public shows please inform the club so we can support you in your efforts.

We are fortunate to have some of the greatest magicians in the country right here in Kansas City and the success of one is success for all of us. Help us help you by sending information about your shows for submission in upcoming newsletters.

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**Magic in the City**

April is here and so is the magic. The Science City Magic Exhibit is going on through May 1, 2005. Now is a great time to round up family and friends and head downtown to support Magic in KANSAS CITY.

The *Crown Center Magic Shows* are for all ages, indoors and FREE.

**Show times:**

**12 PM and 2 PM**

**Date:**

**April 9  
April 16  
April 23  
April 30**

**Performer:**

**Eric Vaughn  
David Sandy  
Tom Burgoon  
L.C. Collier**

**March Magician of the Month Winners**

**Close Up Winner  
Stage Winner**

**Stu Lewis  
Mark Myers**

Congratulations to the winners. We look forward to the upcoming performances.

**Our Web Page**

Go to [www.ring129.com](http://www.ring129.com)

**User Name:** ring129

**Password:** aj

See all the new changes that have been made and that you can download!! If you have questions, contact Ken Reedy at **816-734-1484** or email him at ...

[webdesigners@kc.rr.com](mailto:webdesigners@kc.rr.com).

**Ken Reedy**

**Tentative Lecture Schedule**

**Chris Capehart**  
April 6—7 PM

**Michael Close**  
April 16—7 PM

**Ron London**  
May 11—7 PM

**John Calvert**  
May 16—7 PM

**Tom Jones & Rachel Wild**  
Aug 15—7 PM

All lectures held at:

US Toy Magic  
2008 W. 103rd Terr.  
Leawood, KS 66206

## Get Well Danny!!

### Michael Close On the Road Again!!

It's been six years since Michael has lectured for magicians. Those who had the chance to attend a lecture in 1998 hailed it as "entertaining," "educational," and "inspiring."

A Michael Close lecture is not just an educational experience – it's a lot of fun. You'll laugh, you'll be amazed, and you'll leave knowing more about the art of magic.

Michael's new lecture features routines from his groundbreaking ebook *Closely Guarded Secrets*. This is material that Michael developed during his three-year run at the Houdini Lounge in the Monte Carlo Hotel in Las Vegas. Michael will also discuss some old favorites from his critically acclaimed *Workers* series. Don't miss this great opportunity to spend some time with one of magic's modern masters.

#### Reviews of Recent Michael Close Lectures

"Greatly enjoyed your lecture in San Francisco last week. I DEFINITELY "got my money's worth". Your new Ebook is clearly written and kept me thinking in terms of checking and reviewing other effects I've done in the same style your *Workers* series has done. In addition, the format is beautifully done by your wife Lisa and deservedly should get more credit and recognition for the work." - **Joe Jubilado, San Francisco, CA**

"Thanks for coming to Sacramento, as always, I really enjoyed your lecture. I think you are one of the very few magicians who output material to the magic world and actually try to, and are, educating magicians to make better magic and advance magic through your performances, lectures, books, articles, and videos." - **Jeremy Gessaro, Sacramento, CA**

"I was fortunate enough to attend this lecture in Sacramento. It is simply superb and I would strongly recommend Michael's

new lecture to any group, club, etc., as possibly one of the most important lectures you will see. If you have to drive, fly, walk, etc. don't miss this lecture – it will make you a better performer, magician, and thinker." - **Tim Trono, Sacramento, CA**

"Seldom have I felt, that I was in an environment, that mimicked a classroom with a professor at the front of the room. This lecture has the feel of an expensive course in magic complete with the manuals and study books, with the added touch of laughter each and every step of the way. Michael's lecture was a knockout!

One important quote was, "What's your story?" He asked each of us in the room, at the very end of his lecture, "What's your story?". You will find yourself pondering this! I PROMISE YOU WILL! No lecturer to date has ever challenged me in such a direct way as this!" - **Rey Rey Puentes, El Paso, TX**

"Michael just lectured in Houston last night to a crowd of 60 magicians. Everyone was VERY impressed with Mike and his thinking on magic. He REALLY wants to make EVERYONE a better magician. Several of us went out to dinner after the three hour lecture. I finally made it home at 1:30 am and 5:45 am sure came quickly, but it was sure worth it. Do yourself a favor and catch Mike's lecture if he is anywhere near your area. You won't be disappointed. He does this great trick where cards become magnetized..." **Gary Plants, Houston, TX**

"I was at Michael's lecture in Houston. It was one of the best lectures I have ever attended from a viewpoint of being totally relevant to every person who was in that room. If you miss this one, you need a note from your psychiatrist to get back into your next magic club meeting." **Bill Palmer, Houston, TX**

### Coming Soon!!! Buy, Sell, and Trade...

Check the website and you will see a new form in the downloads section that will allow you to put your want ad in the newsletter. This section may include, but is not limited to magic items. If you are in need of a new vehicle, need to sell a boat, or have a computer for sell (for example) then this is a free place for you to place your ad.

# Editor's Column

By Eric Woods

At a recent performance I had what may be considered by some as a nightmare: Fumble- Fingers. I was presenting a six phase cups and balls routine and from the onset there were problems.

The first problem was I admittedly had not practiced the routine for a while, so I was worried that I might forget something. As the routine progressed I was confident that I remembered it all, but there were new problems to deal with.

The table I was working on had a forward slant to it and the balls kept rolling off the table, but that was not the worst of it. On the third phase of the routine I intended to secretly load a ball that was supposed to be in my pocket, but I missed the load. Fortunately, I was able to quickly come-up with a line and it ended up making the routine funnier.

Next, was the crash phase, which wasn't working that night. A ball went shooting out into the audience and I said, "the other night I did the same thing and the ball shot right through the man sitting right where you are now... he's been a Holy man ever since." Then a ball shot up in the air, rolled down my shoulder and landed on the table, followed by another line that got the laughs.

Before the fifth phase could begin I paused to wait for the laughter to die down and someone said "we've all forgot where we were at before... don't worry about it." I responded "I didn't forget, I am just waiting for Dale to stop laughing so I can tell this joke that he is already laughing about!" Then on this phase where there were not suppose to be any balls, one of the three *hidden* balls fell out of the center cup. The challenge then became reloading that one ball without having the other two fall out. This magician in distress syndrome became hilarious.

The final phase was where I encountered the balls falling off the table. On one occasion I picked up a ball and like I do when practicing without a coat on, placed my hand *beside* the pocket and went on. I saw at least one person noticed so I called out, "this ball came back and I didn't even put it in my pocket!" Again the laughs...

After the performance Dale "Huff-Daddy" Huffman said, "There's a lesson in 'outs', you just saw a

bunch of them."

The point is I could have easily become distraught and just went right to the end of the routine. If I would have gotten flustered, I would have missed out on the opportunity to expand as a performer. Further, though the routine was a fluke, it was absolutely the most fun I and my audience have ever had with that effect.

So, when things aren't going well, just have fun with it and your audience will too. They don't know what is supposed to happen anyway, so you just might get credit for having done it all intentionally.

## "The Greatest Annual Magic Convention on Earth"

June 28th to July 2nd, 2005

Reno/Tahoe

Wild Wild West for 2005. The Biggest Little City in the USA will play host to one of the most memorable Magic Conventions the I.B.M. has ever presented. You can register online at [www.magician.org](http://www.magician.org), but don't wait too long! While the Reno Hilton Hotel has plenty of rooms at \$99.00 a night, this years convention's limited to 1200 registrants for the four (yes, count them... four) Evening Gala Shows... not to mention at least 10 Lectures, special events and the Lake Tahoe...A vacation bonanza for any magic enthusiast and a treat for the entire family!

Just take a look at some of the talent already booked for performances, lectures, workshops and/or special forums:

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

(subject to change without notification)

**DON'T MISS THIS CONVENTION!**

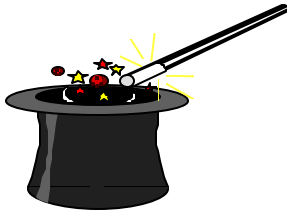
## Kirk DeWeese

634 SW Walnut  
Blue Springs MO 64014

*The Heart of the Ring* is published monthly as a service to the members of IBM Ring 129. Views and comments do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Ring 129 officers, the IBM, or the Editor.

Members are encouraged to submit articles and comments for publishing and earn additional Sorcerer's Circle Points.

Articles must be in the Editor's office by the 20th of the month.  
ewoods20@hotmail.com



## Last Months Meeting By Stu Lewis

March blew in like a lion for Ring 129, as the first week of the month featured not only our regular meeting on Thursday but a lecture by Lee Asher the night before, sponsored as part of our joint venture with the U.S. Toy Magic Shop. About sixty people were on hand to see this engaging young magician teach us some innovative card and coin moves. He drew high marks from those in attendance. Perhaps the strongest aspect of the lecture was that he asked people to bring cards and coins with them so they could follow along with props in hand. On a number of occasions, he circulated among the audience to help people work on moves. My one caveat: he does not include most of the items taught in a single book or DVD but rather has separate DVD/CD ROM presentations for each routine or sleight, meaning that you have to take good notes or spend a lot of money in order to go home and practice what you learned.

About forty-five members and guests showed up the next night at the Best Western for our March meeting. Ken Reedy gave a detailed report on his work with The Healing of Magic project and asked for more volunteers for this worthy cause, in which magic performance is allied with therapy. Kirk DeWeese, of Magic Supply Co, demonstrated a new effect he has developed called "Weight of the World," which is actually an attractive new presentation of an old prop. New member Barron Stringfellow showed some of his own magical creations, including some mini topsy-turvy bottles.

Two contestants competed in each of our monthly contests. Mark Myers led off the stage competition with an impressive triple prediction (inspired by Larry Becker) that was so im-

pressive that some of us wrongly assumed he had used a stooge. Eric Woods and J. E. Mastin continued the mentalism theme with a hilarious parody of a two-person mind-reading act. Joe White opened the close-up section with some color-changing buttons. Stu Lewis followed with a new routine called "Kansas City Hold-Em," in which a lucky spectator wins a game of hold-em poker despite the fact that she must play the one remaining hand after five other spectators have each selected a hand to play. (If Tony likes it, you'll see it in "Card Corner" some day). In the voting, Mike and Stu were selected as monthly winners.

The highlight of the evening came in the open performance segment, which featured an impressive rope routine by nine-year-old Rachel Franklin. First she produced a rope from a change bag, and then she showed us an appearing knot, a removable knot, cut-and-restored rope, and pop-off knots. She showed remarkable poise on stage, and we look forward to seeing great things from her in the future. At the other end of the magic spectrum, we enjoyed a performance by professional magician Barron Stringfellow, who has recently moved to Kansas and joined our ring that night. Among his effects was a clever use of the rattle-box principle with a toy bunny and a toy pig. Dale Huffman's mentalist act included a date book and the divination of the serial number on a borrowed bill. L. C. involved several audience members in a card routine based on the Hummer principle. Finally, Ryan Fricke did a card prediction and a clever monte routine with three toy frogs.