



Heart of the RING

“Quality Ring Award Winner”

July 2006 Newsletter

Wish Upon a Magical Star
June 24 — 2PM & 7PM
Roland Park Community Center
4850 Rosewood Drive
Mission, KS 66205

Regular Meeting
Terry Magelssen Mini-lecture
July 6 — 7 PM
Best Western

Board Meeting
July 20 — 7 PM
Denny's Restaurant
9001 Shawnee Mission Pkwy

Close Up Magician of The Year Contest
July 29 --- 6PM
Roland Park Community Center
4850 Rosewood Drive
Mission, KS 66205

NEXT MEETING

July 6, 2006 7:00 P. M.
Best Western
Rainbow & Southwest Blvd.
(directly behind Applebee's Restaurant)



Jason Dean
2005 Close-Up Magician of the Year.

OFFICIALS

President

Chuck Macan 913-681-0368

Vice President

Matt Gurley 913-422-3596

Secretary

John Hicks 913-334-1392

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Eric Woods 913-709-1606

Past President

Alan Goodheart 913-648-0331

News Editor

Eric Woods
5738 Long Ave
Shawnee, KS 66216
ewoods20@hotmail.com
913-709-1606

Come Clooosser.....Clooosserrr! Can You See It Yet? By Alan Goodheart

When you tell someone you are a magician, the first thing out of their mouths is - "Well.....Show me a trick!" This intimate request is not on stage; it is up close and personal, right under their noses. The best way to see magic. So it is only fitting that we celebrate this special arena with this summer's annual BIG event - Ring 129's Colonel Boone Close-up Magician of the Year Show and Banquet.

And what a great venue as we have experienced in the past. Come join us on **Saturday, July 29th at the Roeland Park Community Center**, located at 4850 Rosewood in Roeland Park. The doors will open at 6:00 PM, with dinner served at 6:30 SHARP, followed by adjourning to three rooms to see some of the BEST Close-up magic our Ring has to offer. After the competition, we will return to the Social Hall for a short program and awarding the winners of the contest.

Our Ring members that have qualified to participate in this year's event are: (in alphabetical order) - **Harris Deutsch, John Hicks, Dale Huffman, Martin Isenberg, Chuck Macan, Mike Melito, Blake Silvernail, Barren Stringfellow, Laird Wilcox, and Eric Woods.**

The contestants will travel from room to room in a pre-selected order sharing with you their unique and entertaining magical prowess. Then after the contest, as the points are tallied, we will adjourn to the main dining area for the BEST part of the evening - a tasty, sweet dessert. We will have a short program, a few

announcements, some surprises, and of course, the announcement of the King (or Queen) and their Court - (the winner of the close-up contest and the runners up).

We will follow nearly the same manner in which we produced the show in the past years, and the way the IBM conducts its Close-up contests.

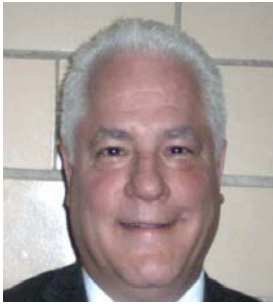
So you KNOW what YOU need to do - make your reservations as soon as you can to reserve your seats for the contest and banquet. Bring your cash or checkbooks to the July 6th meeting to reserve your seats - they are going **FAST!** Or you can call **Alan Goodheart at 913-451-8334 or Chuck Macan at 913-681-0368.**

And this year --- **listen to this!** Even though gas and lots of other things have gone through the roof, **the price of this wonderful evening will only be \$13.00 for EVERYONE!! That's REGULAR MEMBERS, SORCERER'S CIRCLE MEMBERS, AND GUESTS - ONLY \$13.00 per person!!** You get a wonderful buffet dinner with meat choice, succulent vegetables, fresh green salad served at your seat, roll & butter, dessert, and coffee, iced tea and water service for beverages. And an important note - if you make reservations, and do not attend, you will be billed for your reservations.

So don't delay - let us know you want to attend the **BIGGEST** Close-up event of the year!! Please be sure not to miss this **GREAT** evening!!

President's Column

by Chuck Macan



Summer has started. It is hot outside, temperatures are consistently approaching ninety degrees. I just finished performing in an outdoor venue with the sun blazing down on me and the wind was blowing everything around. A lot of things could have gone very wrong if I wasn't prepared but I was thanks to the mentors in the Ring who through their patience and guidance taught me to have a contingency plan and then a contingency plan to the contingency plan. That is what the Ring is all about, helping each other to be better magicians.

At the July meeting I am pleased to announce that **Terry Magelssen is going to give a mini-lecture on fire safety.** Terry is a Captain with the Grandview Fire Department with over twenty five years of experience. He is also a licensed pyrotechnic engineer. This is another one you don't want to miss because Terry's insight can help save you from injury and property damage.

We had our Ring picnic on June 3rd. About twenty eight people come through and a great time was had by all. I want to thank Julie Clark for organizing the event and the creativity to come up with a game of Maginary. You did a great job and thank you again.

With the resignation of Terry Elton as Sergeant-At-Arms due to his work schedule, Julie Clark has stepped up and agreed to be Sergeant-At Arms for the remainder of the year. Thank you Julie for your commitment to the Ring.

What can one say about Jason Dean. If you missed the June meeting you missed a very fine mini-lecture given by Jason. Jason, thank you and I know you will go far in your magical career.

We are one of the largest Rings in the entire IBM. However, the International doesn't necessarily recognize that as not all of our members are members of the International. Please sign up or renew your dues to take advantage of the benefits of the International.

With that, see you all at the meeting on July 6th.

Terry Magelssen Mini-Lecture Promises to be Hot!!



A Ring 129 Welcome to:

Paul Michael "JC Hugo" Grove

1206 B Cherokee Dr. Apt. 90

Liberty MO 64068

816-525-6930

We are glad to have you as new members to one of the largest, and most active Magic Clubs in the World. We wish you the best in your magical endeavors and look forward to seeing you at upcoming meetings.

Free Theatrical Make-up Workshop!!

Held at US Toy Aug 1. Visit the store for details.





Wish Upon A Magic Star!

Benefit Memorial Show for the L.C. Collier Estate & Candy Collier. Sponsored by RPCC and SAM Assembly 38.

Two hour show featuring: **Gene Turner, Bob Klamm, Duane Fields, Dale Huffman, Blake Silvernail, Kyle Scheel, Barron Stringfellow, and more...**

Saturday June 24
 Roland Park Community Center
 Two Showtime's: 2PM and 7PM

Tickets in advance: Klamm Magic
 816.254.0432 or at the door.
 Admission is \$15 (tax deductible).

Sick and Convalescent

If you know of a ring member or their family member who is hospitalized or has passed away Contact:

Carl Macan
913-648-1465

crm130@aol.com (if e-mail is sent please contact Carl by phone to let him know to check his e-mail account)



Sorcerer's Circle Members:
Be sure and wear your Medallion to each event!

Want Ads

Free:
 To all of you that submit articles for the newsletter. Thanks for making my job easier!

Special thanks to Julia Clark for taking over the position of Sergeant at Arms.

Our Web Page

Go to 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.

Ken Reedy

Submit your Want Ads: & 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 ads in the newsletter. This free service to all paid members may include, but is not limited to magic items.

Magician of the Month Winners

Stage		Close-Up		Stage		Close-Up	
01/06	Roger Miller	Barron Stringfellow		07/06	_____	_____	
02/06	Barron Stringfellow	Harris Duetsch		08/05	_____	Laird Wilcox	
03/06	Eric Woods	John Hicks		09/05	_____	Mike Melito	
04/06	J. E. Mastin	Marty Isenberg		10/05	_____	Blake Silvernail	
05/06	Marty Isenberg	Kyle Scheel		11/05	_____	Chuck Macan	
06/06	Steve Steiner	Dale Huffman		12/05	_____	Eric Woods	

Why Did I Join???

Athena Stringfellow

“Mom, why do you join those clubs?” An innocent enough question when posed by my daughter, but one that really made me think. Why did I join? Why these clubs as opposed to others? Why do I stay a member?

I proudly belong to three clubs. This takes up a lot of my time, energy and even money. All these clubs are 501 organizations and help others. Each one is different in the way they work and perform. This is not necessarily a bad thing. Sometimes I agree wholeheartedly with them and sometimes I don't.

When I moved to Kansas almost three years ago, I left behind my entire family and everyone I knew. So the first club I joined was the IBM (International Brotherhood of Magicians) Ring 129. The name says it all. International Brotherhood, that means family members everywhere! Of Magicians, I love magic! It is such a major part of my life. So meeting with like minded people and forming new friendships and family members was a chance I couldn't pass up. There is a lot of formality in this group. Things are regulated and they seem to have very strict guidelines on what happens and by whom.

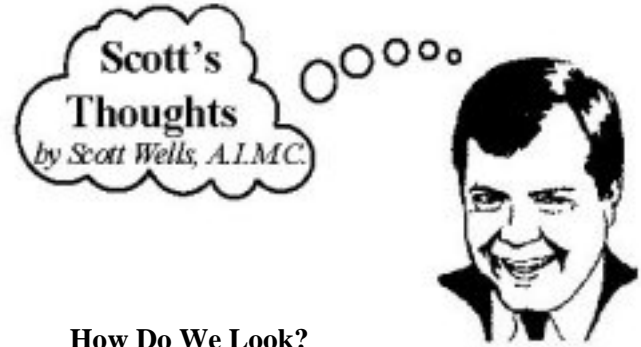
But back to the name. Family is not blood, it is love. My dad taught me this when I was young, and I have followed it all my life. One of the strongest friendship/family relationships I have made here, one I consider a sister, started at the IBM. She was new as well, so we kind of gravitated toward each other. As we talked we found we had more and more in common. We were almost soul-mates. I love this person very much and will proudly be standing next to her this fall as she marries yet another club member.

The second club I joined is the SAM (Society of American Magicians) the R. W. Klamm assembly #38. I was told this was a smaller, more informal group and that more silliness was allowed. This of course is right up my alley. There also seems to be more discussion about magic and sharing of techniques here. There are some of the same members as I met at the IBM, and some new friendships have formed. I've even gained a new set of “parents” in the founding member and his wife. Something I wouldn't change for the world. I love the knowledge I gain at these meetings and the chance to “let my hair down” with the others.

The third club I joined since moving was our local Lion's Club. This is also an International Group. I've found that the other clubs even overlap this one as there are several other Lions in the group. I joined this club to actively “give back” to my adopted community. We are a small town group, but very busy. After only two years, I've even become the Vice President. A title I take very seriously.

These groups make up my new family. Like all families, we don't always agree with each other or even get along. Not everyone will even agree with this article. This is okay. This is even to be expected. Not everyone wants to get new siblings; especially ones as dramatic as most of us are. Changes happen when new equations are added to the mix. But like all families, there should be nothing that cannot be overcome.

This is why I joined these clubs. As to why I remain a member. This is MY Family. I know that should something happen to me or mine (heaven forbid) for the most part, all of these family members will be there. With open arms, open hearts, open doors and even open wallets if needed. Politics aside; I would hope that every single member in each of these clubs would know that I would do the same for them should the need arise. So, in a nutshell, this is the answer I gave my daughter.



How Do We Look?

“Attention to detail is the essence of showmanship.” This quote from Henning Nelms' book Magic and Showmanship is indelibly etched in my mind. I refer to it constantly when fine tuning my routines before going out to perform professionally. But I also think about it as I make one last check in the mirror.

I naturally check for the obvious . . . hair combed, shirt and suit freshly pressed, zipper in the upright and locked position, etc. But there are other things that are a bit less obvious and may not be noticed at a glance.

If you are performing close-up, then you should definitely take care of your hands and fingernails. In a close-up performing situation, your close-up pad is the stage and your fingers are the actors. Everyone's eyes will be “burning” your hands so they should be made of asbestos...and look “as best as” they can. I'm not suggesting that everyone get a manicure every other week (although it wouldn't be a bad idea). What I am saying is that you can do something about those hands. In particular they should never have dirt or grease under the nails or appear to be chewed to the bone.

You should obviously wash your hands and get them as clean as you can before going out to perform. You can nearly eliminate hangnails by using hand lotion every night before going to bed. Perhaps you suffer from the “Vernon Curse” which is dry hands. Some performers who have this problem will soak their hands in ice water before going on stage and others rub in a little glycerin before breaking out the playing cards.

Take care of your nails by clipping them and applying clear nail polish about every two weeks. This will give them a luster and elegance that suits your clever handling of your card/coins/cups and balls or whatever you're using. By taking this advice, your hands will become more visually appealing and your audience will not be distracted by your dirty hands and nails. That's not the kind of misdirection you want.

One last thing on your hands is your jewelry. Are you wearing a wedding ring (recently cleaned) and a watch or do you have rings on every finger and gold bracelets that makes it look like you're wearing a Mr. T starter set? Some magicians prefer not to wear any rings which might distract from the performance or “clink” at the wrong time when you use coins. Others prefer to wear rings because they want the misdirection and they use the sound of the coin hitting the ring to sound like they have more than one coin in that hand. The choice of what jewelry you wear, if any, is yours but be sure that your choice is a conscious decision.

Listen to how you speak. Do you use good grammar? Do you have an accent that could possibly offend someone in your audience? A friend of mine in Tulsa was from Louisiana who had a strong Cajun accent. He knew that it would be accepted in his own land but perhaps not outside the South. As a result of his concern, he chose to perform a silent act with doves and illusions rather than trying to communicate with his dialect. As a side note, the club where he was working in Tulsa made a mistake when they asked him to do some strolling magic. When he opened his mouth, his lack of education was clear and he lost some potential bookings. Consequently, he went back to his silent act. Much has been said and published about studying dance and theater but little has been said about studying and using proper English. This is no less important than other educational endeavors. Perhaps it is even more important since you must speak properly to get the booking in the first place despite how great your promotional material might be.

Along this same line, a whole article could and should be written about dialog with your audience. Does your patter include offensive, degrading, prejudicial, or embarrassing humor or do you put your volunteers in compromising situations? Using such material could cost you a future booking and is generally not good for the magic profession. You should be cautious about what material to use and when to use it. Be sure to know what your audience wants before you prepare your show. You may be able to pick up on the "mood" or "feel" of the audience and what seems to be going over the best. You may be able to insert some effect or joke that you previously thought wouldn't be appropriate or once you're into the routine you may want to take out something that you thought might be acceptable. Here is a good place to remember the old adage “when in doubt, leave it out.”

Since most performances are given in the evening, we need to take one last look at our beard stubble. Be sure to scrape off that 5:00 shadow. If you're going to be talking to people, then be sure to check your breath.

Gargle before you go and you may even want to occasionally take a spritz of a breath freshener or chew a mint throughout the evening. Also be sure that you are freshly bathed and anointed with deodorant. On the subject of smells, is your after shave/cologne/deodorant so overpowering that it leaves more of a lasting impression than your magic performance? It's not necessary to bathe in the stuff before you go out. Besides, your audience may not like its smell as much as you do. A little touch goes a long way. Another thing that may seem minor is to make sure that you have used the restroom facilities before you go. It's better not to have anything on your mind or anywhere else before you suit up to fool the world. Also be conscientious of your posture. This is important on stage when all eyes are on you but equally important as you approach a group to do some close-up magic.

You should appear confident and successful. People want to associate themselves with successful and interesting people. And who better now has that image than you?

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Something to Talk About!!

By Bob Klamm

I just heard, and wanted to share my excitement! My book, **FLY LIKE A BUMBLEBEE**, memoirs of a blind magician, has just been recorded by the Library of Congress for their division of talking books for the blind and physically handicapped. It has also received awards for both adult and youth non-fiction. The book is available through many public libraries, book stores, or autographed through our web site at:

www.klamm-magic.com.

My second book for the general public, and magicians as well, has just been released. It is **GET MORE LAUGHS FROM YOUR LAUGHS**, How to Be Funny, with forward by Aldo Colombini.

Magi-Que 2006

Friday Aug. 25 12PM through **Sunday Aug. 27** ALL DAY!!

411 & 425 West 9th St.
Horton, KS 66439

R.S.V.P. 785-486-3716
Barron & Athena Stringfellow
barronofmagic@yahoo.com

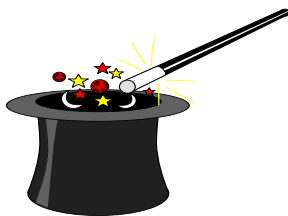
Kirk DeWeese

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



This Month

Regular Meeting

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Best Western

Terry Magelssen Mini-Lecture

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Mission, KS 66205

RING 129 AGENDA

Items in red have firm dates, all others are not yet set or are subject to change.

Jan 28 **Magician Of the Year Stage**
Feb 18 **Kids Show (RPCC.)***
Mar 11 **Magic Auction**
Apr ??
May ??
Jun 03 **Ring Picnic**
Jul 29 **Close-up Magician of the Year**
Aug ??
Sep ??
Oct 13 **Halloween Show (RPCC.)***
Nov 4 **Roger Miller Roast**
Nov ??
Dec ??

*Roland Park Community Center

4850 Rosewood Drive
Mission, KS 66205

Tentative Lecture Schedule

No Lectures scheduled at this time.
Check the ring website: www.ring129.com
for up-to-date info on all lectures.

All lectures held at:

US Toy Magic

2008 W. 103rd Terr.
Leawood, KS 66206

Sorcerers Circle:	\$5
Regular Member	\$6
Non-Member	\$15

