



MAGIC NEWS

HEART OF THE RING

IBM Ring 129 - "The Heart of America Ring" - Kansas City

Upcoming Events

June 6, 2002

Very Special Meeting!

Regular Meeting 7:00 pm

Johnny Thompson Lecture

8:00 pm

FREE for Paid Regular and

Associate Members

All Guests \$15

Holiday Inn

95th and I-35

Lenexa, KS

June 15, 2002

**Close-up Magician of the Year
Contest**

Cash Bar 6:30 pm; Contest 7:15 pm

Dessert Bar following contest

Holiday Inn

95th and I-35

Lenexa, KS

See Carl Macan For

Reservations or Call at 913-648-1465

June 20, 2002

Board Meeting

Dr. Mike Blum's house

8217 West 100th Terrace

July 3rd thru 6th, 2002

75th Annual IBM Convention

San Diego, CA

July 11, 2002

Regular Meeting 7:00 pm

(One week late due to IBM Convention)

Holiday Inn

95th and I-35

Lenexa, KS

July 25, 2002

Board Meeting

Time and Location to be Announced

Close-up Magician of the Year Contest Changes Venue

Special Evening Planned for June 15th



Get out your Magic Markers and circle your calendars for this month on Saturday, June 15th. That's the day of Ring 129's famed Close-up Magician of the Year Contest.

This year's contest is easy to find. You can come to the same location where we hold our monthly meetings at the Holiday Inn in Lenexa. The event starts at around 6:30 pm with a cash bar in Salon E (our regular meeting room). Then around 7:15 pm, we will adjourn to three meeting rooms next to Salon E for the actual Close-up contest. The contestants will make their way from room to room performing their special style of magic. Then after the contest ends, we go back to Salon E for a very special part of the evening – to experience a wonderful dessert bar where you can customize your own ice cream sundae, with cookies, cake, fruit and flavored coffee, and for those that wish, the cash bar remains open for further libations. (*There is no dinner this year*). There will be prizes raffled off, and the selection of the winner the paid fees for the Workshop Reunion in St. Joseph in October will be selected as well. And of course, we will announce the winners of the contest as the results are calculated.

We know this year's affair is different than in years past, but this is going to be done the way close-up magic deserves to be seen. There will be no bad seats in the house. And you can be part of one of the best events of the season. *So do not hesitate – make your reservations* as soon as you can to reserve your spot. Contact Carl Macan at 913-648-1465 or Alan Goodheart at 913-648-0331, or bring your check or cash to the June Ring meeting on Thursday, June 6th. Prices are \$14 for guests and regular members, and \$12 for Sorcerer's Circle members.

Please be sure not to miss this great event!!

**FREE LECTURE FOR
ALL PAID MEMBERS!!**

SEE DETAILS ON PAGE 3

Ever Offered A Dacri?

Not The Drink, But

The Chance To See

If you were there, congratulations! If you were not there, BOY, did you miss a really great teaching lecture! I'm talking about the Steve Dacri lecture held at the Holiday Inn in Lenexa, KS on May 29th. This was one of the best magicians we have had the honor to having performed in a while. Steve's easy going style and his basic explanations of his routines made for a very educational evening.

He started by actually doing his 18 minute act that he performs at Caesar's Magical Empire in Las Vegas. Then he went into his explanations of his Silk Blendo, Color Changing Deck with a Ace Triumph kicker. He then showed his workings of sponge balls, 6 coins and a ring, Chink-A-Chink with dice, and finished with a coins through the table using several "lapping" methods.

Because of his limited time, there were other fantastic effects that you could get from his lecture notes or videos. And his selection of items for sale was excellent for magicians of all skill levels.

A premier lecturer! Whether you attended Steve's unique style, or not, you can contact him at: steve@magicwebchannel.com or visit his website at www.SteveDacri.com

GOING TO SAN DIEGO??

If so, please contact Carl Macan at 913-648-1465 so we can plan a get-together with all attending the IBM convention!

Letter From The Editor

By Alan Goodheart

Check your calendars. Notice the thermometers. It's getting warmer, days are longer. Must be the start of summer. Picnics, fishing, baseball, gardening, lemonade, mosquitoes and watermelon. With these things come time spent with family, vacations, and opportunities for many gatherings. As magicians, summer means one thing – our annual IBM International Convention – this year being held in San Diego from July 3rd to July 6th.

This year is very special. It marks a kind of benchmark – that there is but about a year until our own Ring 129 plays host to the IBM convention. How that time will fly. For it will seem only weeks from reading this that we will all be walking through the streets of downtown KC welcoming our brothers from around the country and the world. There are several people that plan on attending in San Diego; some are obligated due to their affiliation with the current IBM Board. And a few others want to be a part of the excitement and fun of what a convention brings. What can we as future hosts do now? If you haven't made plans yet, you could still get to the Convention by seeing your local travel agent. Or if you can't go for whatever reason, then talk to those that are attending. If there is something that you think they should bring back information about, let them know. All those that are going will be very valuable assets for our Ring. We are dependant on those attending to also help promote our KC convention in 2003. So it's really not a summer vacation they are taking, but an exercise in idea cultivating and how we can make *our* convention the biggest and best ever!

So convention attendees – have a great trip, and we here in KC await hearing all about it at the July Ring meeting.

*I recommend mind over matter:
"I don't mind because it doesn't matter !"*

Ring 129 Officers

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Ring 129 Website

<http://www.ring129.com>

Magician of the Month

MAY 2002

Stage

Harris Deutsch

Close-up

Brent Ahsmuhs

Society of American Magicians Events

SAM Bar-B-Q and Magic Show, June 9th, 2:00 pm. \$15 advance reservations, at Fairmont Community Center, 608 Ash, Independence, MO. 816- 461-4595

GET INFO YOU NEED ON OUR WEBSITE!!

Web address: www.ring129.com (all lower case)

To download your newsletter in full color
use the following:

Login: **ring129** (all lower case)

Password: **microman** (all lower case)



President's Column By Mike Blum

I don't care to discuss it! No, do not even ask a second time. Even if you beg me, I will not reveal my feelings.

Okay, you win...I will be happy to explain.

We are really lucky to be part of Ring 129. It is not the fact that we are part of the bigger IBM, but really the fact that we have our own superb club here in the Kansas City area. It is not a little club. We are approaching 100 members. We will hopefully hit over 120 members by the time the International Brotherhood of Magicians has their, actually OUR, big event in July of '03.

Okay, here it is. Over the last month and including the meeting Thursday, we will have had four good lectures in magic. What is amazing is to see not only our regular members, but some of the members we wish we would see more often. The lectures have been fun. They have presented new and different approaches to the interest of stage and close-up magicians in our club.

Special this Thursday. A FREE lecture for our active and associate members. The board is happy to be able to offer the club a combined short meeting and a great lecture in magic (see the announcement in this newsletter).

So what did I not care to discuss? I have had a significant number of members ask me how our ring can be so active, bring in such good lecturers, plan good meetings, have a super close-up contest and meet in such a nice location. It is an easy answer...it is because of the hard working members. The board meets and discusses opportunity for the club. We query some members and try our best to get participation from everyone. It seems to be working. Most of the meetings are fun, not because of me, but because members, such as yourselves, are willing to help perform at meetings, talk about issues, mentor others needing advice and even help to fold tables and move chairs.

So go for it...read the web page, the newsletter and come to all the meetings, lectures and have fun. What don't I want to talk about... the best kept secret in the IBM... Ring 129.

Thanks to everyone!

Personal Appearance by Johnny Thompson Thursday June 6th *FREE LECTURE! You've Got to Be There!*

If you haven't been to a meeting lately, or if you attend every event the Ring puts on, this time you need to make sure to attend a truly grand event on Thursday, June 6th, when the world renowned Johnny Thompson brings his exciting lecture series to Kansas City.

Our ring meeting will be an abbreviated one. A little business, and our monthly stage and close-up contests begin at 7 pm. Then at 8pm, Mr. Thompson takes the stage to show us his famous Las Vegas act, what goes into it, and other tips and hints to make your act the best it can be. He has appeared in many major cities around the country as well around the world. His personal blend of comedy and magic is what we all should be striving towards in our own acts.

This special event is FREE to all paid regular and associate members of the Ring. All guests will be charged \$15. Be sure to be there early and get your choice seats to get the best view of extremely good magic.

"I Have A Magical Dancing Duck"

A circus owner walked into a bar to see everyone crowded about a table watching a little show. On the table was an upside down pot and a duck tap dancing on it. The circus owner was so impressed that he offered to buy the duck from its owner. After some wheeling and dealing, they settled for \$10,000 for the duck and the pot.

Three days later the circus owner runs back to the bar in anger, "Your duck is a ripoff! I put him on the pot before a whole audience, and he didn't dance a single step!"

"So?" asked the duck's former owner, "did you remember to light the candle under the pot?"

TEACH-A-TRICK REMINDER

Don't be late to the beginning of our regular meetings. Because that's when **Teach-A-Trick** is happening! (Meetings start at 7:00 pm) Come early and learn some new and fun magic! (Mini-lectures will take precedent over Teach-A-Tricks).

**MAGIC NEWS RING 129 NEWSLETTER EDITOR
8803 WEST 102ND PLACE #1
OVERLAND PARK, KS 66212**

**Ring 129
Lecture Fees**

Unless listed otherwise,
are as follows:

Non-Members \$15

Members in good standing \$12

Sorcerer's Circle Members \$10

SPECIAL NOTE:

June 6 Johnny Thompson Lecture

FREE to Paid Members!!

(See article inside)

**Stage Winner
Harris Deutsch**



**Close-up Winner
Brent Ahsmuhs**



It all started out in show and tell. A giggly and shy 5 year old found nervous excitement when sharing magic with others. Two of his earlier influences were Albert Goshman, and Slydini. When he lived on the west coast he was able to take a few lessons from the latter. The real magic in his life is friends and family. (He and his Nearly Normal Wife, Annie will be celebrate their anniversary on June 9th). Another positive influence has been his theatre and improvisational background. He was one of the first cast of the improvisational group Comedy Sportz. Harris currently has several working opportunities booked, including two stage shows at the KC Spirit Festival. This summer and fall he is booked throughout the Cass, Johnson, Jackson, and Wyandotte County Area. Along with his teaching career, he does his regular shows, as well as "Magic with a Message", such as his Conflict Resolution Program. Harris has scheduled a show for the Penn Valley Community College. His mission in the magic arena – "Bring Magic and Laughter to the World, One Group at a Time" (Trademark saying). Harris never fails to send smiles to the faces of all he touches. A wonderful choice for our Stage magician this month. Our best for your choice in the contest next January.

Many of our members continue to amaze us all Brent Ahsmuhs is no exception. We all know it takes a dedicated person to arrive at the level of expertise we have. He began his interest in magic with a friend by heading to the library and checking out books on the subject, then helping each other perfect their moves. Maybe it wasn't the first trick he did, but Brent remembers making a glass vanish from behind a menu. He was taken back by that accomplishment. He likes doing all kinds of magic, but there is a special sensation when you have hundreds of people "with you" in a show, enjoying themselves and perhaps learning something worthwhile. When asked the "tree" question, he said - Oak. It's in no hurry, it does it's job well, it lasts a long time, and well, it helps others about as much as any tree - kind of hard to fit that into this analogy. Brett is a member of both the IBM and the SAM, and performs at many types of places and venues. We truly enjoy the fresh, new style that Brent demonstrates. Good luck in the upcoming Close-up Magician of the Year contest!

