



# MAGIC NEWS

## HEART OF THE RING

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

### Upcoming Events

**Thurs., April 1, 2004**  
**Regular Meeting 7:00 PM**  
**At Best Western Inn**  
**and Conference Center,**  
**Southwest Blvd.**  
**(IN KANSAS – I-35 AND**  
**RAINBOW BLVD. EXIT) At**  
**Rainbow**  
**501 Southwest Blvd.**  
**behind the Applebee's on North**  
**side – lower level**

**Board Meeting**  
**April 22, 2004**  
**At Terry Elton's**  
**Check [www.ring129.com](http://www.ring129.com) for**  
**details.**

**Thurs., April 1, 2004**  
**Regular Meeting 7:00 PM**  
**At Best Western Inn**  
**and Conference Center,**  
**Southwest Blvd.**

**Come see the excitement, sense**  
**the creativity in the air, see and**  
**hear your elected officers in full**  
**action..oh, what a thrill --**  
**and earn Sorcerer's Circle**  
**points.**

***Come To The***  
***Board Meeting***  
***April 22 ,2004***  
**Check [www.ring129.com](http://www.ring129.com) for**  
**details.**

### I DIDN'T KNOW THAT...

Edinburgh, "fortress of the hill slope", Scotland was founded in 626 by Edwin of Northumbria. The tallest structure in the world, until 1889, was the pyramid of Khufu. What structure was built that year that was higher? We'll tell you the intriguing answer in the next exciting issue.

### HELP WANTED

The Magic Supply Company is looking for one good man, or woman, who can display magic and really sell. Computer skills would be a definite plus. Call Kirk DeWeese. Find his telephone number under listing of officers.

\*\*\*\*\*LECTURE NEWS\*\*\*\*\*

**John Carney** will present at lecture on **Tuesday, March 30th** at the Best Western, our regular meeting place, in Room B. The lecture begins at 7:00P.M. The fee for this lecture is \$25.00. John booked this lecture as one of many he is doing in the mid-west. There are no costs to the club for having this very fine talent provide this lecture. John's two hour lecture includes original stage and close-up magic using cards, coins, cigars and a variety of everyday objects. Each routine is a lesson in itself, containing the insights and ingenuity's that have made John one of the premier teachers of magic today. Topics include routining, misdirection and creativity.

**Michael Ammar** will lecture at the US Toy Magic Shop on **Saturday, April 3rd beginning at 7:00pm**. The admission fee is \$10.00 at the door. This lecture is not a function of Ring 129. Nonetheless, **Michael Ammar** is a superb magician who has introduced innovative thinking and handling in many effects. This lecture is certainly worth ten bucks.

**Magic University:** You will learn basic handling with sponge balls, coins and thumb tips. The first part of the presentation will be the "how to" followed by hands on assistance. The classes will be in 3 rooms. Each class will be approximately 1 hour. You will be able to use these skills immediately upon completion of the classes. Remember, the presentations will be on basic skills. For all 3 classes, the cost is \$10.00 for ring members, \$15.00 for current members of other Magic societies and \$30.00 to non-members. **Be sure to sign up at the April meeting to assure your spot.** **WHERE:** Meadowbrook Country Club, 9101 Nall, Prairie Village, Ks. **WHEN:** Saturday, April 24th. **TIME:** 12:30PM to 5:30PM.

**PRESIDENTS  
COLUMN  
Terry Elton**

If you missed the March meeting you missed some really good magic, a lot of fun and the after-meeting camaraderie. More importantly, you missed spending time with some great people. Our younger members are bringing a sense of excitement to the club and you can feel their energy. They want to learn and compete and share. Our older members can be seen sharing their knowledge or teaching a move or a sleight and I think it's a very positive atmosphere. There seems to be a lot of questions regarding the new standards that were initiated for the Magician of the Month contest. The main question seems to be; "What constitutes "Appropriate Attire?" Appropriate Attire simply means that you wear what you normally wear when you perform for the public. In my case I have several outfits that I wear based on what kind of job I'm doing. Larry Warshaw stated it well when he said he always tries to dress one notch above the audience. If they are in suits maybe a tux is appropriate. If they are in casual wear, maybe a vest and a nice shirt are appropriate. Dennis Burks won Magician of the Month for stand up last month with some very original material and what he wore was appropriate. I can picture Dennis at work giving a Safety lecture dressed in sports shirt and slacks. Jason Dean wore a loose shirt and for Jason that was appropriate because it fits Jason's persona and the audiences he works for. Danny Mahar performed at a meeting a while back wearing a lab coat and a wig because it fit the routine he was performing.



We are not saying you have to wear a tuxedo to perform, all we are asking is that you think about your appearance when you plan to perform for the Magician of the Month contest.

The new voting ballots created confusion and after much discussion at the last Board meeting we decided to go back to the old ballot. *Dale Huffman*

It's a learning process and if we all work together we can raise the bar a little at a time for the Magician of the Month contest as well as for the Magician of the Year contest. It won't happen over night, we know that, but with your help and input . . . it will happen.

If you have other questions please call me 913-268-8187 or ask me at the meeting. Oh, and speaking of meetings, do you know what's going to happen at the next meeting? If you attend you'll find out.

**Ring 129 Officers**

- President: Terry Elton.....** 913-268-8187
- Vice President: Alan Goodheart....** 913-648-0331
- Treasurer: Kirk DeWeese .....** 816-224-5000
- Secretary: Don Douglas.....** 913-888-9236
- Sergeant-At-Arms: Jason Dean.....** 816-364-4241
- Board Member: Mike Blum.....** 913-383-2586
- Board Member: L.C. Collier.....** 913-268-7388
- Board Member: Dan Bradbury.....** 816-931-5027

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*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. Articles must be in the Editor's office by the 20th of the month. Members are encouraged to submit articles and comments for publishing.

**Ring 129 Website**

<http://www.ring129.com>

**Magician of the Month  
Winners**

**March 2004**

**Stage  
Dennis Burks**

**Close-up  
Terry Elton**

## If You Missed Last Month's Meeting – Here's What Went On.

*Ring Report as submitted by our very own Stu Lewis*

Following our rare cancellation last month, March found us eager to get back into performing for our fellow magicians. Three competitors took part in each monthly contest. Dennis Burks led off the close-up contest with some card work, showing a version of "Cardtoon" and a routine with a card frame that located a selected card. Terry Elton took first place, beginning with his trademark salt routine, in which a handful of salt continually disappears and reappears. He followed this with a two-in-hand, one-in-pocket coin routine and a card routine involving several false counts to tell a humorous story about a royal family. Jason Dean performed a card triumph routine with multiple climaxes, including having all of the spades turn face up except for the selected card, showing all the spades as the only blue-backed cards in a red-backed deck, and finally showing the rest of the cards to be blank-faced.

L. C. Collier led off the stand-up contest with a sponge-ball routine. Dennis Burks, a safety consultant by profession, used various props to give a lecture on safety, including a transposition of silks to oranges to discuss the "juice" in electricity and the change of a bubble to a glass ball to demonstrate the chemicals that create hard water and cause pollution. Terry Elton performed a hilarious blindfold card-stab routine (more on this in a moment). Dennis' clever integration of theme and effects gave him first place.

Terry Elton then gave a mini-lecture on the ethics of magic, explaining that he is, at least for the time being, removing the card-stab routine from his act while he negotiates performance rights with Mark Kornhauser. It turns out that he mistakenly believed he could perform this because it was included on a video he had purchased, but he subsequently learned that it was off limits because it was only performed on the video and not explained. See David Sandy's column in the March *LR* for a further discussion.

Seven performers took part in the open performances. Chris Scudiero changed a balloon into a rabbit; Jason Massey gave his inaugural performance, revealing a selected card in a comical manner; L. C. Collier showed us some fake knots; Ken Reedy did a card location; Chuck Macon did "Hot Rod" (a paddle-move effect); Terry Elton did some gags with a hand-chopper; and Jason Dean taught a routine with card selections, playing off the fact that his audience was made up of magicians and that he had to eliminate the obvious methods of discerning card locations. *Jay Steffen*

Terry Elton provides us with the following review of the Joe Givan lecture, which I had to miss: On Monday March 8th Ring 129 gathered for a lecture by Joe Givan. While many different routines were shown, the real benefit from the lecture came in the form of lessons on technique, timing, misdirection and simplicity. The material used basic things such as four Jacks (cards) turning into four Jacks (children's jacks). Joe explained that while the props were simple the whole routine was fully orchestrated and every movement had a reason. He showed the gimmicks he had designed to ditch the children's jacks so they wouldn't talk on the way to the toppit. In another routine he did a simple Matrix routine with buttons on a handkerchief and when he was finished, the buttons were sewn to the handkerchief. There were other routines with cards and Band-Aids and each routine was dissected to reveal the how and why of the presentation.

It was a fun evening that passed too quickly, and our members walked away with more than just a few new tricks. They walked away with more insight on the where, when and how for developing their own routines.

--Stu Lewis, ring reporter

**Ring 129 dues are still due. If you have not paid bring your \$20.00 to the April ring meeting and pay Kirk Deweese.**

***www.ring129.com***

### NEW WEBMASTER

Congratulations to Ken Reedy for being named our new Webmaster

Go to [www.ring129.com](http://www.ring129.com) and see all the new changes that have been made and all that you can see and download!! Contact Ken at

**Stage Winner  
Dennis Burks**

**Close-up Winner  
Terry Elton**

**MAGIC NEWS RING 129 NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

10112 West 99th Terrace

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**

**HIDDEN WORD CONTEST**

**IS BACK**

**Look for your name in italics  
somewhere in the newsletter,  
and just let Don Douglas  
know you saw it, and claim  
your prize!!**

**SO START READING!**

Letter from Harley Manker.

"I have made a discovery that I am very excited about and would like to share it with my friends in Ring 129.

These are really great spring production items—rabbits, ducks and frogs that look solid, but fold very small(flat).

These items do not sell for \$10.00 (or more) in a magic shop, but are \$1.17 in your area Wal-Mart store. They are in the Easter section and are sold as a "collapsible Easter Basket" and they are very well made. *Todd Crippin*

I have tried producing them from a very small brief case, a duck pan ...and I am thinking of using these as a running gag, ala lotto bowl, where I go back to a small container and produce a new one every so often. I love these little guys and hope that all of you will enjoy them as well."

Harley sent a couple of pictures demonstrating these items in use. No room for them.

**\*\*\*COME THE APRIL MEETING PREPARED FOR "TEACH-A-TRICK"\*\*\***

How many times, on the spur of the moment, has a friend or fellow employee said, "Show me a trick" and you can't because you're not prepared. Well, no more. Our own Jason Dean has offered to teach his sure-fire impromptu card miracle. Be sure to bring a deck of cards to the meeting. Jason has said that this one will require no difficult sleights. So bring a deck, learn a trick, and be amazed.

