



MAGIC NEWS

HEART OF THE RING

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

Upcoming

Events

Thurs. September 2, 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
 September 23, at**

Magic Supply Company

The Board Meetings are open to all members of Ring 129. Come along and see how it's done. *Come To The Board Meeting And Earn Sorcerer's Circle Points*

Check www.ring129.com for details.

Lecture on Thurs., September 9th at U.S. Toy. Lozander & Ezell Lecture at 7:00pm. \$5.00 Sorcerer's Circle members, \$6.00 regular members, \$15.00 visitors.

Thursday, October 7th, regular Ring meeting.

Friday, October 8th, Flea Market. Roeland Park Community Center.

Thursday, November 4th, regular Ring meeting.

Saturday, November 6th, 2004.
 Sorcerer's Circle Sponsored Roast of David Sandy.
 V's Italian Restaurant.
 Independence, Mo.
 Details to Follow.

YOU ASKED FOR IT, NOW YOU'RE GOING TO GET IT!

What is it that IT is? A FLEA MARKET!

For some time now members have been asking us to put together a FLEA MARKET and so we did. Mark your calendars for Friday night October 8th at the Roeland Park Community Center. Search your cupboards, clean out the basement, get all your stuff sorted and priced and bring it to the FLEA MARKET. Tables will be available for \$10 each no matter where you're from. Set up will be from 5:30 to 6:30, general admission 6:30 pm. If you don't have anything to sell you can still come and see what goodies are up for sale. Admission is free to club members, \$2.00 for guests or \$5.00 for your whole family. Food and soft drinks will be available for a small fee. Stay tuned because details are still being worked out.

KYLE SCHEEL PERFORMS !!!

Our very own **AWARD WINNING KYLE SCHEEL** is performing a full stage Magic Show for the benefit of Belton High School Debate and Forensics Team. The show runs an hour and a half to an hour and forty five minutes with intermission. You have three shows to choose from Saturday September 11 at 2:30pm and 7:00pm or Sunday September 12 at 3:00pm. Admission is \$7.00 with all seats reserved. Get your tickets by calling Belton Debate 816-348-2774. Or charge your ticket at krsmagic.com.

RING 129 IS GROWING AND GROWING

Ring 129 is getting bigger because you are telling people about what we do and then you're bringing them to meetings. We have more young people coming on board and that is really good to see. We have collectors and hobbyists and beginners and semi-pro's and working professionals all sharing information and helping each other. The meetings are filled with all kinds of magic from "Teach a Trick" through the close-up and stage contests and then there is the "open" section where you can try out new material or polish a new routine or shake off the cobwebs on a routine you might be bringing back into your show. But it doesn't end there. After the meeting there is the next meeting upstairs at Applebee's where new ideas are being explored or new moves are being shared. But most of all is the fellowship that can be seen everywhere you turn. Current membership is 102 members.
 renaissance

PRESIDENTS COLUMN

The other day I was out looking for something (as we Magicians do) for a new routine I'm working on. I went to several "Big Box" stores as they are called in the trade. You know them, Home Depot, Lowe's, Michaels, Hobby Lobby, Target and so on. The "Big Box" approach is supposed to lure you in because of the sheer size of the store. You are supposed to believe subliminally that because of the size of the store they surely must have what you're looking for. And, they might have what you're looking for if you could find it. You see the flaw in the "Big Box" theory is that you also need people to fill the shelves and take care of customers. In most cases filling the shelves is more important than helping the customer.

Obviously you cannot paint the whole industry with one brush and yes there are exceptions to every rule. In Lowe's we asked a question and were immediately led to the spot where the item should be. "Should", being the operative word, the comment we heard was; "We must be out, we sell a lot of those." (Kinda like being out of rope when you do a lot of rope tricks). Being an ex-merchant my thought was; "If you sell a lot of them you should never be out of stock." But that's just me.

At Target I found something that intrigued me. There were no store people to be seen so we picked up a store phone and a voice said; "Someone will be there to help you in one minute." Needless to say I was a little skeptical. That is until I saw a young lady hurrying down the aisle in our direction and a voice coming out of a contraption she was carrying telling her that she had 15 seconds to reach the customer. I was impressed, here was a store that cared enough about it's customer that it had developed a method to insure they were taken care of.

Why did I tell you all that? Because we have a "Big Box" club and like Target we want to serve you the very best we can. We have a club that is now 102 members strong and like the "Big Box" there are roughly 15 people doing all the work. We need more of you to step up and help or the programs we have planned aren't going to happen. This is an active club with many things going on. People have been asking for a Flea Market so we have one in work but we need help. There will be officer elections coming up very soon and we need people to be on the election committee. Sorcerers Circle will be Roasting David Sandy in November and they need help. We want to completely revamp the Magician of the Year Banquet to make it more in keeping with what we do for Stage Magician of the Year and we need a committee to attack that. We are trying to put together a survey of members to see what activities you, the members, would like to see us do that we are not already doing. We want to know what you all are thinking about the way the club is being run or the way the meetings are being run. This is your club and we want you to be so happy with it that you won't want to miss any activity. BUT WE NEED HELP!

If you're planning to go for Sorcerers Circle this year and you haven't served on a committee you aren't going to make it. "Must serve on a committee" is one of the criteria this year so here is an opportunity to take care of that requirement. If you will contact me either by phone 913-268-8187 or email telton@kc.rr.com we'll make sure you get on the committee you are interested in but it's on a first come, first served basis. Join a committee and give us your ideas we want you to be the Happiest Campers in all of IBM and we can do that if you'll just get involved.

LECTURES

The Board has been working very hard to save you money and as a result from this point on all LECTURES held at US Toy will be: \$5 for Sorcerers Circle, \$6 for regular club members and \$15 for non-club members. That's half the price you are paying now.

CHILDREN AT LECTURES

Unless otherwise stated in the newsletter or on the website, members are discouraged from bringing children to any lecture. The exception would be in the event that the lecture is on children's magic. In that case it would be advantageous to have smaller children there for the lecturer to work with. In these instances admission for the children would be No Charge.

In all other circumstances non-member children will be charged the \$15 non-member price.

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
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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

August, 2004

Stage
Harris Deutsch

Close-up
L.C. Collier

GOODBYE JASON DEAN

Jason has been so successful with his magic that his business is flourishing. He is working so much that he asked to step down as Sergeant At Arms for the club. Jason will continue to come to the meetings as his schedule allows. We will miss his charm and wit as the club MC—but we have a member who has agreed to fill this post who is equally charming, witty and just as handsome — the Nearly Normal Magician, Harris Deutsch. Harris will fill this position until new officers are elected.

NEW OFFICERS

September is the month to form an election committee. So now is the time to perform a service for the club. President Elton suggests strong consideration be given to serving on this committee. *Josh Stiles* It will provide points toward membership into the Sorcerer's Circle. More about this will be discussed at the meeting.

Nearly Normal Ramblings Magic is alive and well during the summer here in the Kansas City Metro Area. Wow, what a great resource we have in being members of Ring 129. My thanks, to all those involved in making the Ring 129 Picnic happen. It was definitely nearly normal, as it was held inside. The regular meeting was extremely well attended for a Summer Meeting. Congratulations to Chris and J.C. Chris remember to put your family first. Magic is great, but you can't hug a deck of cards, The real magic comes between family and friends. If you are not checking out the before or after the meeting, meeting you are missing out on some great fun. During the summer and other school break, I try to take advantage of being able to stay up a bit later than usual. After the meeting, I was able to fellowship and learn from a wide variety of Ring 129 members. At our table were Julie, Terry E., Al, Kyle and Rob. Our discussion ranged from illusion construction to getting over the fear of invisible thread. Don shared with us some of his great creations. Although he is a fairly new member, he has some great ideas to share. Although I was a little tired this morning, staying up a bit later was worth it. Across the restaurant, L.C. was charming a table of birthday celebrants. I was making my "Cowboy Burger" disappear. **Nearly Normal Tip.** Don't play "Old Susanna on your harmonica, after eating". Cue the music..... Shane.....Shane.... (Sorry if you were not at the meeting. During Roger's History, he asked about a past member named Shane....)Of course our regular meeting time was very enchanting as well. It is great seeing new and younger members get up and show their creativity. Rachel, a S.Y.M. member was one of the highlights of the night. Special thanks to our "wordsmith", Stu Lewis for helping come up with an ending for my improv blues number on my harmonica. I am proud to be a member of Ring 129 with such a diverse group to inspire me, and go to for help and guidance. Special thanks of Laird Wilcox for creating part of my Extreme Magic .(Black Bicycles) The future looks bright for our group. Harris Deutsch.

SPECIAL ATTENTION

User Name: ring129

*****NEW PASSWORD***
alabama**

www.ring129.com

WEBMASTER**Ken Reedy**

Go to **www.ring129.com** and see all the new changes that have been made and all that you can see and download!! Contact Ken at **816-734-1484** or email him at **magicbyken@kc.rr.com**.
webdesigners@kc.rr.com.

**Stage Winner
Harris Deutsch**

**Close-up Winner
L.C.Collier**

MAGIC NEWS RING 129 NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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Ring 129

Lecture Fees

Unless listed otherwise,

At U.S. TOY

are as follows:

Non-Members \$15

Members in good standing \$6

Sorcerer's Circle Members \$5

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!!**

RING REPORT FOR MONTH OF AUGUST

On July 30 about thirty members and guests gathered for a summer pizza party. Of course, it wouldn't be a ring function without some magic, and for the occasion we revived an idea we had used previously at club picnics: a magical grab-bag, where each participant drew a set of props at random—such as silks, sponge balls, linking rings, napkins, rubber bands—and was challenged to perform a two-minute routine with about half an hour's preparation. There were six performers in the stage division: Alan Goodheart, Walt Mitchell, Keith Leff, Terry Davis, Dale Huffman, and Jason Mastin. Their performances were followed by six similar presentations in close-up: Harris Deutsch, Eric Woods, Terry Elton, Chris Black, Julie Clark, and Roger Miller. Without the pressure of high audience expectations, everyone had a good time. Thanks to Julie Clark for organizing the event. (On a personal note: I missed the event because I was on a Caribbean cruise, but I did not get away from magic entirely. I had the chance to see two hilarious comedy magic shows by ship-board magician James Michael.)

We kept up our momentum at our August meeting, with about fifty in attendance. L. C. Collier got us started with the teach-a-trick segment, demonstrating a sponge-ball vanish and showing the "ten count" routine. He passed out a number of sponge balls, turning his brief presentation into a hands-on demonstration. *Lenny Hershman*

Roger Miller led off the close-up contest with a topological paradox, followed by a card effect which climaxed with a deck in which several pairs remained intact despite a number of apparently fair shuffles. Harris Deutsch produced several coin-like disks, showed some multiplying wands and an ambitious-card sequence, and performed an amazing two-coin muscle pass.

Joe White opened the stage competition with the production of a cloth rabbit and a toy skunk, which he proceeded to vanish. L.C. Collier returned to perform an extended rope routine, including a cut-and-restored sequence and a version of Professor's Nightmare. Chris Black did an amusing three-ring routine which climaxed with an unlink in a spectator's hand.

Five magicians took part in the open, non-competitive session. Dan Jackson did a miniature link-ring routine with key rings. Junior magician Rachel Franklin showed us a floating piece of candy, which she ate at the conclusion. Dale Huffman did some mind-reading with a group of cards and a frame. Duane Fields performed his own rope routine, a sort of impromptu Professor's Nightmare with removable sliding knots. And Chris Black demonstrated some additional ring moves that he is working on, with some truly impressive links. Before we adjourned, an announcement was made that Harris and L.C. had won their respective contests. That's all for now. --Stu Lewis, ring reporter

