



MAGIC NEWS

HEART OF THE RING

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

Upcoming Events

August 1, 2002

Regular Meeting 7:00 pm
 Holiday Inn
 95th and I-35
 Lenexa, KS

August 14, 2002

**Jim Cellini Street
 Performing Lecture
 (See article)**
 Holiday Inn Lenexa
 95th and I-35
 Lenexa, KS

August 15, 2002

Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.

September 5, 2002
Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.
 Holiday Inn Lenexa
 95th and I-35
 Lenexa, KS

September 17, 2002

**SAM Dick Barry
 Lecture 7 pm**
 Fairmont Community Center, Indep.
 \$10 to Non-members

September 19, 2002

Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.
 Time and Place To Be Announced

October 3, 2002

Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.
 Time and Place To Be Announced

October 9 – 12, 2002

Workshop Reunion
 Kamada Inn; St. Joseph, MO
 (See related article)



Charter members of Ring 129 Steve Bradbury, Imogene Patchen,

Ring 129 Hits Middle Age Celebrating 40 Years of Magic and Fun

What a great way to celebrate our history by remembering our roots. At July's meeting, we had the pleasure of hearing about our heritage from Kevin Kirwan, Imogene Patchen, and Steve Bradbury. Kevin and Imogene began by performing the "Bus Stop" routine. Then Steve joined them to reflect on where the Ring used to meet, what kinds of things they did, and who was involved back then. The list of the original charter members is (Chartered: 1st day of July 1962) - A.J. Stephens, Carr

M. Glendening, Danny J. Bradbury, Morris Tobbs, Robert K Williams, Clyde E. Glandon, Clyde C. Glandon, Kevin Kirwan, Claudia N. Kirwan, Jack V. Patchen, Imogene Patchen, John H. Young, James P. Lynch, Sr., Charles F. Van Osdol, James C. Morris, Dr. John L. Feeney, Edgar F. Stephens, Dr. Guss C. Salley, and Thomas M. Comeau. Others like Joe White and Roger Miller added their own flair to the discussion. We all came away with a respect for what our forefathers (and mothers) went through to advance the cause of promoting an enjoying magic in Kansas City. Thanks to Kevin,

DON'T MISS OUR NEXT MEETING!!
 You will get "Rubbed" for FREE just for

IBM Convention in San Diego Gets Us Ready for Our Shot in 2003

This year's IBM convention was a great experience – a beautiful setting, world-renowned entertainment, a chance to exchange ideas and queries, make new friendships and renew old ones. It was a glorious 4 days.

This year seven of our Ring members attended. David Sandy was installed as Int'l Vice President in preparation of his taking the Presidency in 2003 here in KC. Other exciting news for our ring – the IBM Board nominated Roger Miller to become the Int'l President in 2005, two years after David. What a tribute to our Ring and its present and future success!

If you haven't registered for the 2003 convention, contact Mike Blum or Carl Macan for your application.



MAKING MAGIC

USPS Issues Magical Houdini Stamp

On July 3 in New York City, a commemorative stamp honoring Harry Houdini, the great magician and escape artist, was dedicated during the 2002 Centennial Convention of the Society of American Magicians (SAM). David Copperfield joined New York Metropolitan Area VP David Solomon for the ceremony at the Hilton New York. While the SAM convention requires registration, the ceremony was free and open to the public.

The issuance of the stamp coincides with the 100th anniversary of SAM. Houdini served as its president from 1917 until his death in 1926. "Harry Houdini considered one of the greatest magicians of all time," said actor Tony Curtis - who portrayed Houdini on the screen - when he unveiled the stamp design last year. We've included the stamp on this month's newsletter for all to see. Can you find the secret message? Decoders are available at the Post Office.



President's Column
By
Mike Blum

It was a seemingly short flight to San Diego for the IBM annual convention this past month. Southwest Airlines does not waste any time on the ground. The new check-in eliminated those crazy plastic cards you needed to board the flights. I did not recognize any magicians on my flight. I had plenty to read on my way to the west. I knew that coming back I would be reading the instructions to the new magic I would acquire.

Let me tell you that I had a good time at this convention. Perhaps the best reason for my successful visit was the camaraderie of the 7 magicians from Kansas City. We kept bumping into each other at various lectures, meals or shows. We had a lot to talk about; not just about San Diego, but how could we make the experience of 1400 magicians next year in KC the best time ever. We will talk about this at future meetings and gatherings.

It was an interesting observation on my part that everyone was there to have a good time. I kept seeing magician showing magician tricks, telling stories, exchanging ideas. The overall atmosphere was friendship and fun with magic as the theme. Many of the 'old-timers' were eager to share their experiences with the neophytes attending.

I have known for a long time that we had something special in Ring 129. After being in San Diego, I realized that we have perhaps one of the best Rings in the entire IBM. WE have great attendance at events. WE share ideas. WE have unfortunately had to share a few unfortunate moments, too. The overall theme is magic for our club. Friendship in our ring keeps growing each meeting and event. Please keep the thought of developing new friends and everlasting friendship alive. I very much appreciate the comments that people bring forward to me, good and bad, about the club. These comments show you care.

As we move towards the end of 2002, check you calendar. Come to as many events as you can. Dust off some tricks. Please plan on performing at one or more of the ring meetings. Your friends at Ring 129 look forward to seeing you at as many events as possible.

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 p.m.) Come early and learn some new and fun magic! (Mini-lectures will take precedent over Teach-A-Tricks).

SORCERER'S CIRCLE POINTS SHEETS

If you are not already, you should be keeping track of your Sorcerer's Circle points on our helpful points sheet available on-line at www.ring129.com, or if you do not have internet access, please see a board member to get a copy. Thanks to **Jay Godwin** and the SC committee for making our lives easier to track our SC points. No excuse for more of us getting into this fine group. Show the Ring you care to share!

Ring 129 Officers

- President:** Dr. Mike Blum.....(913) 383-2586
- Past Pres:** Jay Godwin.....(913) 385-0845
- Vice Pres:** Carl Macan.....(913) 381-2972
- Treasurer:** David Sandy.....(816) 233-4177
- Secretary:** Alan Goodheart.....(913) 648-0331
- Sgt. At Arms:** Larry Warshaw.....(913) 381-8829
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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

JULY 2002

Stage

No participants this month

Close-up

Harris Deutsch

MAGIC "RUBBING" YOU THE WRONG WAY LATELY?

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Jason Dean and Larry Warshaw for performing for the Kansas Business Association Meeting as remuneration for our hosting our Close-up Contest at the Holiday Inn Lenexa. Their efforts and commitment are very much appreciated.

Learn Street Magic From The Master

*Cellini Teaches You The Secrets and Skills of the Street
Coming to Kansas City September 14th*



Cellini is known as The King Of Street Performers. He is truly a legend in his own time. Cellini will perform his street set as his famous Gypsy Character. He will also perform a set as his Old Man Character. Cellini will lecture on Ropes, Balls, Cards, Slydini Knots, Coins, Cups and Balls, and his fabulous Two Ring Linking Ring Routine.

Cellini shows the pouches he wore and demonstrates how he used them on the street. He shows how he incorporated the pouches into his suit, which has all the advantages of the pouches, but still looks like a suit.

You will see the following effects demonstrated by a true expert. Vanishing Silk Sequence, Cups & Balls, The Miser's Dream, The Diminishing Deck, A Multi-Phase Rope Routine, A Cigarette Routine, Magic With A Loop Ball, an impromptu Devil's Handkerchief, and an absolutely incredible Linking Ring Routine.

Cellini also discusses Color, Sound & Movement; Working Surrounded; and Working The Street. You will learn "The Pitch" as well as some one-liners to keep the performance moving. As the "boys" say, "Now, this was a REAL lecture!"

"Jim Cellini is charismatic and attention-getting. You are walking down the street and a friendly voice invites you to "watch this one." You stop dead in your tracks as you watch a full sized magic wand instantly vanish before your eyes. Almost immediately, he pulls out a small purse from which he, incredibly, extracts the same wand!

You stand rooted to the spot as cigarettes suddenly appear and disappear...then coins...suddenly you are aware that a small crowd has gathered to watch with you. A rope appears. It's cut in half and restored a few times.

You are aware that this man, dressed in a gypsy outfit, might be from another time and space dimension. You know that he is special! His smile charms the hardest heart. Already he has transformed you from adult to delighted child (easily his greatest trick). You laugh and applaud with everyone else as chosen cards are found, and rings are linked and unlinked. By the time he's half-way through the cups and balls you've already made up your mind that this man is the greatest magician you have ever seen; that he's traveled in time to be here; and, most of all, you feel honored and lucky to witness him in action..."

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BE SURE TO MARK THE DATE – WEDNESDAY, AUGUST

HOPPING TABLES:

The Art and Science of Restaurant Magic

A SERIES OF SIX ESSAYS BY KEITH LEFF

Article One: Approaching the Restaurant

Typically, there are four ways to approach a restaurant.

1. Be asked to perform by the manager.
2. Call the General Manager (get a day and time for an interview / appointment)
3. Cold-call visit with the appropriate materials.
4. Write the restaurant (not typically used) When going to the restaurant, have the attitude that you don't need the job, that you would be doing them a favor by helping out the restaurant. Think to yourself, "You need me, more than I need you."

Be confident, but not cocky.

Be sure to pitch live, yet intimate entertainment. Ask yourself which type of restaurant you want to work in. Kids? Family? Upscale?

Do not work in competing restaurants. Different restaurants provide a change, and broaden your reach to obtain private party engagements, but don't step on any toes. Also, do not approach any restaurants that already have a magician working for them.

When talking with the restaurant, consider:

1. How far away they are.
2. Do they have a banquet room?
3. What is their primary customer demographic?
4. Do they cater to kids?

Have 3 things with you besides your best effects: business cards, a portfolio, and an 8 x 10 picture. These are necessary investments. The best time to cold call on restaurants is between 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm or 5:00 pm Tuesday through Thursday. Wear a suite and tie and make sure you are well groomed, with your nails trimmed and shoes shined. Always be sure your hair is neatly combed and your clothes pressed and ironed.

Talk with the General Manager, not the manager. If asked by another employee in the restaurant the nature of your visit, just say, "I want to talk to him or her about increasing his or her business." Only take just a few minutes and bring your promotional materials.

Offer to do a free evening so he or she can see first hand how this will work in his or her restaurant. Offer him or her two choices. Say, "Would you like for me to come in on Friday or Saturday night?" This is a proven sales technique that leads them to decide "when" rather than "whether or not" to have you come in. By offering a free demonstration, it is a measure of the manager's true feelings. If he or she does not like the idea, he or she will decline the offer. If however, he or she does like the idea, he or she will agree to it. And chances are if he or she agrees to it, you will ultimately end up with the job.

Stay tuned next month for article two: Types of Effects to Include and Things to Consider. If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.

Keith Leff of Magiccreations (913) 220-MAGIC (6244)

keith@magiccreations.net , <<http://www.magiccreations.net/>>

Keith performs at the Pizza Shoppe at 61st and Nieman in Shawnee, on Fridays from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. as well as Callahan's Pizzeria Pub and Grill at 12843 W. 87th. St. on Saturdays from 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm.

THE REUNION'**WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY****OCTOBER 9, 10, 11 & 12, 2002**

The WORKSHOP Reunion, now expanded to three full days plus one evening, will be held October 9, 10, 11 & 12, 2002 at the Ramada Inn in St. Joseph, Missouri (greater Kansas City area). This fabulous learning event will feature the best of the last 5 years of WORKSHOP events, plus some brand new performers and special surprises.

You'll get hands-on teaching from a faculty of professional magicians and entertainers. Limited to an exclusively small number of participants, this four-day gathering includes numerous intimate small-group workshops, learning sessions, a close-up show, a banquet and dinner theater style show, plus a fabulous full-evening stage show held at the beautifully restored Missouri Theater.

HERE'S A PARTIAL LIST OF FACULTY/PERFORMERS:

**MICHAEL AMMAR BOB SHEETS ALI BONGO
DOC EASON TOM MULLICA KERRY POLLOCK
ALDO COLOMBINI DAN HARLAN RICH BLOCH
DALE SALWAK TOM BURGOON
STAN ALLEN DANNY COLE JOHN SHRYOCK & MARI LYNN
PLUS MORE TO COME!**

SPECIAL GUEST OF HONOR:**MARK WILSON & NANI DARNELL****THE WORKSHOP REUNION WILL BE THE BEST YET!**

**TO REGISTER GO TO WWW.RING129.COM, OR CONTACT
DAVID SANDY AT 816-233-4177**

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

By Al an Goodheart

It finally happened! I got one of my wishes! This is the start of something very special!

Remember as I took over the newsletter, and one of the things that I wanted to bring to you was the open exchange of ideas and information that would benefit us all well, it has begun. This month, we are honored to have both Keith Leff and Todd Lamanske offer us their insight and experience so that all of us can become better at our craft. It is exciting to have the feeling you are standing besides them as they perform. This is what I have envisioned this newsletter to be – a vehicle to create the Best and Finest magicians around! And that could happen. I encourage those of you that have a vast array of experiences to share to do just that. Email or call me and tell me your thoughts – what you want to bring to the table and we can see where this might go.

I don't want you to think that I am shirking my responsibilities as Editor – Au Contrere! I am driven to make myself and many others better, sharper, funnier, and classic magicians than we are today. Our resources are vast. Let's try and make the effort to do what we can to take us to that next level. Please help me and the Ring in my cause.

COULDN'T MAKE LAST MONTH'S MEETING?

You Didn't Miss Anything (Just Kidding) You Actually Missed A Great One!

Thanks to Larry Warshaw For This Ring Report

Our July meeting was very special indeed. First, for the benefit of those few members who were unable to attend our annual Col. Boone Close-up Magician of the Year Contest (more on this event in a future issue), we announced the final results: Jason Dean, First Place; Larry Warshaw, Second Place; Brent Ahsmuhs and Matthew Grunwald, tie for Third Place. Dennis Burks presented each contestant with a photo collage from the contest. Also at the contest, we concluded our drawing for a free entry for the upcoming Workshop, and the lucky winner was Ken Reedy. Members earned a chance in the drawing each time they participated in a meeting by performing, giving a mini-lecture, or doing a Teach-a-Trick over the past year.

Then, Tim Zager did a wonderful teach-a-trick wherein he explained how to use an ordinary soda straw to psychokinetically cause a vertical cigarette to fall over.

Clearly, the highlight of the meeting was "A Tribute to Jay Vincent," masterfully presented by Kevin Kirwan and Imogene Patchen. Kevin and Imo stood at a bus stop, with Imo holding an umbrella and Kevin reading the paper. The torn and restored paper and mutilated parasol routine that ensued fit perfectly with the theme. The presentation was

part of a very special celebration -- Ring 129's Fortieth Anniversary! President Michael Blum handed a copy of the July 1, 1962 Charter to all in attendance, and Kevin Kirwan, Imogene Patchen, and Dan Bradbury, the founding members in attendance, shared their recollections of the Ring's early days.

Several of our members who attended the annual convention in San Diego shared some stories, and we discussed some great ideas on how the 2003 Convention in Kansas City will be the best ever!

Our Ring historian, Roger Miller, read the Ring Reports from 5 and 10 years earlier, which is always amusing. Finally, we conducted our monthly contests and open performance segments. Kyle Scheel and Harris Deutsch entered the close-up contest. Kyle did a very clever 2-in-the-hand, 1 in-the-pocket routine using tiny Coca-Cola cans that transformed into a Coke, Pepsi, and 7-Up can, with a finale of a miniature Coke bottle. Harris deftly changed a silver dollar to two halves, which then changed to four quarters. He then produced the 4 Queens, with the red and black queens then changing places, and then changing to kings as a finale. Congratulations to Harris Deutsch on winning the monthly contest!

Magically yours,
Larry Warshaw

Close-up Winner Harris Deutsch



Thanks for helping me on my continuing mission of: Bringing Magic and Laughter, to the World, One group at a Time."

During the summer of 2002, I have been busy with a new program which I call M.A.G.I.C. It stands for Making A Good Intelligent Choice.

I have been busy daily, doing singles, doubles and triple shows in schools, mental health organizations and youth centers. During the show, I share my Nearly Normal Brand of Magic, mixed with a message, (without preaching) on how one's choices effects ones life. The more we take control of our life the less others have to jump in.

Those others include: parents, teachers, principals, correctional and probation officers. I am also continuing, my Nearly Normal Life Skill Classes at the Gardner Adult and Olathe Detention Centers.

If you would like more information call me at 913-962-4045 or email me at earlynormalmagic@yahoo.com

Just as I would like to share a tip on a new (to me) website/digest at www.themagiccafe.com I hope this works for the "You may already be a weiner, er ah winner, column.

Harris

Jay Scott Berry Teach-in

Recently I had the opportunity to take two classes with Jay Scott Berry at the Magic Castle. The first was with the Eclipse tip and the second covered the Sonada gimmick, the Cloaking Device and Sonada 2000. I was so impressed with his Eclipse tip work and the pure magic created with the Sonada gimmick, the Cloaking Device and Sonada 2000 that, together with Carl Macon we decided to try and bring the class to Kansas City.

If you liked my thumb tip work before, wait till I finish practicing what I learned from Jay Scott Berry. Would you like to be able to do a 20th Century silk, or a cut and restored ribbon with just a thumb tip, or, a billswitch - without a thumb tip? These are but a couple of things you can learn in this class.

The date is September 4th at my home and the price is \$25. In order to maximize the hands-on aspect of the class there is limited availability (20 people) and it will

ERS MAGIC presents

A Special Magic and Illusion Show to benefit
Word of Love Lutheran Church's Women's Group
All proceeds benefit the W.O.E.L.C.A.

Starring Award-winning Stage Magician Kyle Scheel

Seating is limited

All seats General Admission

Cost – \$5

Word of Love Lutheran Church

306 East 171

Belton, MO 64012

For Tickets call

16-331-2957 OR 816-779-5774

Or Contact Rob Scheel

16-726-6274

Concessions Available



Remember to visit our Ring's website at:

www.ring129.com

HOW DO YOU LIKE IT? PLAIN OR SPICY?

No matter how you "slice it", you won't be disappointed. Be sure to be there at the August meeting. Trust us – if you miss this one, you'll miss your chance to get to "rub it in" for FREE. So spice up your life, and your palette and don't be late! You will be "grilled" if you don't

**Ring 129
Lecture Fees**

Unless listed otherwise,
are as follows:

**Non-Members \$15
Members in good standing \$12
Sorcerer's Circle Members \$10**

Thinking On Your Feet

by
Todd Lamanske

Last Wednesday, at Tommy's Bar & Grill, I was doing my regular thing. I had put John Cornelius' Thought Transmitter in my pocket and was doing it at a few tables. In case you don't know what that is, it's a wallet that let's you secretly glimpse information written on a post-it note. I approached a table of 3 girls that were around 18 to 20 years old. Young and cute. I had one of the girls think of the name of a pet that she had as a child. I had her write it on the post-it note and I did the standard glimpse of the info. After some byplay and build-up, I revealed the name of the pet. They of course freaked out and the girl said "Do that again" By the way, if you do any mental magic, this pet thing is strong because of the personal connection.

The other two girls both said "No, do it with me". A request that is hard to say "no" to.

As I started to do it with the other 2 girls, one of them said, "Oh, I know. When you write on this wallet, it makes a copy". I told them that it didn't and the

other girl said "Can you do it without the wallet?". I said "Sure". As soon as I said that, one of the girls had removed the post-it note and was ready to write.

Oh crap. What do I do now?

Now before you read on, stop and think about it. What would you have done? Really stop and think about what you would do to get out of this situation before you read what I did. Put yourself in that situation; in that moment and think about it.

O.K., here's what I did.

I told them to both use the same post-it note and I asked one girl to think of a movie star and the other girl to think of a date that means something to her (month, Day & Year).

I asked them to write both things on the sticky side of the post-it note. As they were doing this I had my back turned so that I couldn't see what they were writing. While my back was turned, I took another post-it note and folded it into quarters and put it in a loose left finger palm. When they were done writing I asked one of the girls to fold the paper in half and then in half again (in quarters).

As soon as they had folded the paper in quarters, I turned to face them and asked them to hand me the paper but I never really let my eyes focus on the paper. I took it in my right hand and did a shuttle pass into the left hand exchanging it for the dummy paper. I then immediately handed it back to one of the girls and said "Oh wait, take this and hide it somewhere on your person. In fact, I don't even want to know which one of you has hidden it". As I said this, I turned around and opened the post-it note and read the info that they wrote. Pretty simple.

After they had hidden the paper, I turned around and first I revealed the date, which, by the way, was the girls birthday and before revealing the date I said "The date you're thinking of; it's you're birthday isn't it?". Very strong, because that's information that wasn't even on the paper.

Before revealing the movie star, I told the 2nd girl that the movie star she was thinking of was no longer living. She said "Yes, that's true". Of course I already knew it was Marilyn Monroe. I said "Oh in that case we will need the paper". I took the paper from the girl and took a lighter and burned it in the ashtray

