

# MAGIC NEWS

## HEART OF THE RING

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

### Kyle Scheel Crowned



From left, Int'l President Dr. Bob Escher, Magician of the Year Kyle Scheel, and Ring 129 President Dr. Mike

It has been many years since Ring 129 has seen such a stellar performance as we witnessed on Saturday, January 19th when **Kyle Scheel** worked his magical prowess to come away with the H. Claude Enslow Stage Magician of the Year Award. This year's banquet and show seemed to have excitement buzzing about even before the curtains opened. We were honored to have our **International President Dr. Bob Escher** and his wife, Sandy in attendance. Maybe this added to the intensity that you could feel in the audience that told you it was going to be a really special night. But Kyle could not be denied. He and his Dad, Rob, attended the MOYB last year,

and Kyle told his Dad then, "Next year I am going to be up there performing, and I just might win." Kyle is 12 years old, and began his interest in magic seriously 3 years ago, practicing and honing his craft for many hours. He performs at parties (indoors and out), picnics, birthday parties and had a great time performing this past New Year's Eve. He loves performing in almost any venue! For the contest he made canes appear, dance, and disappear, produced paper rabbits and made several streamers appear from silks and hats. He produced other colorful silks, as well as his doves, followed by the climax of the appearance of his beautiful blue and gold macaw named "Merlin", of course.

Kyle was not the only magician showing his talents at the banquet. There were six other members of the Ring that took the stage. **L. C Collier** led off the evening, followed by (in no particular order) **Brent Ahsmuhs, Keith Leff, Israel Rivera, Terry Davis, and Dennis Burks**. Second Runner-up in the MOY contest was **Brent Ahsmuhs**, while **Terry Davis** took the First Runner-up honors (should Kyle not be able to fulfill his obligations as MOY, then the Runner-up will fulfill that position – sound familiar??). Special thanks go to many others that helped make this a really memorable event. **Larry Warshaw** was responsible for the judges and the scoring. **John Hicks** took reservations and arranged seating. **Kirk Deweese** from Magic Supply Co. ran the sound and music, and **Chris Bruch** tended to the spotlight. Also **Rob Scheel** helped keep the show moving backstage. We appreciate what you all did to make this a memorable evening for us. And good luck

## GOING ONCE...GOING TWICE...SOLD!!!!!!

Ring Auction Happening March 2nd at Roeland Park Community Ctr.

It's time to go through all your magic – props, cards, books – close-up items or full blown stage illusions. Pack them, ship them, or just bring them to the Annual Ring 129 Auction to be held on **Saturday, March 2nd**, at the Roeland Park Community Center. With the Ring putting on a Kids Show at 1:00 pm earlier that day, you can experience a full day of magic. Sellers can start bringing their items into the venue about 4:45 pm and the auction itself will begin tentatively at 5:30 pm. We have included a sheet with the details and rules for the Auction, as well as a Seller's Item Sheet. If you have further questions please call **Kirk Deweese** at 816-224-5000 or **Mike Blum** at 913-383-2586. Don't be late to a fun and entertaining event, and pick up some great bargains on lots of magic!

### Upcoming Events

#### February 7, 2002

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

#### February 21, 2002

Board Meeting  
Time and Place to be Announced

#### March 2, 2002

**Children's Magic Show and Ring Auction**  
Roeland Park  
Community Center  
Kid's Show– 1:00 pm  
Auction– 5:00 pm

#### March 7, 2002

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

#### March 21, 2002

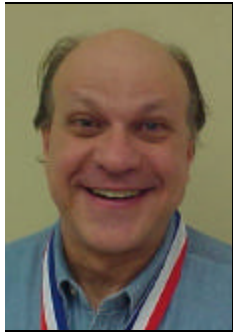
Board Meeting  
Time and Place to be Announced

#### April 22, 2002

(Tenative)  
Mystery Lecture  
Holiday Inn  
95th and I-35  
Lenexa, KS  
More details to follow

#### May 9, 2002

Charles Gauci Lecture  
(See Page 4)  
Holiday Inn  
95th and I-35  
Lenexa, KS  
More details for follow



**President's Column**  
**By**  
**Mike Blum**

It was cold and rainy when I was visiting New York City in early January. We were having a great time seeing the sites, chatting with the natives and, of course, eating lots of food. The day of the rain and cold was when we decided to visit "Ground Zero". We spent about 40 minutes in a line, with umbrellas raised, waiting to get our turn at the newly opened viewing platform.

The memories and memorials in front of St. Paul's Chapel were impressive. As I reviewed my pictures, I played in my mind the words of praise written on the memorabilia that I saw that morning. As we started up the ramp to the viewing area, I was very nervous. I was not sure what to expect when I reached the top. I had previously been to the World Trade Center. I thought I was prepared for the "view". I was not! The symbol was gone.

A lot of preparation went into the design of the viewing area. The ramp, the platform and the exit all had to be carefully planned and built. It is simple, accessible, and practical.

Two things about the visit made me appreciate the members of Ring 129. This is not a "bring out the crying towel" story. It is very simply some thoughts I had about my fellow magicians. One is the caring most of the members have about fellow members. We have had members lose a family member, go through surgery, suffer an illness or even have family problems. A reoccurring theme has been..."what is their address?...let's send them a card, or what is the phone number, let's give him or her a call". Keep it up friends...that is what makes us a fun club! A caring club! Please remember to let any board member know if any of our members are in need of support.

The second thought I had was one of preparation. Just like the ramp. Every performer has prepared before the show. Thanks for performing. Thanks for preparing. Thanks for participating. Please make 2002 a year you want to make magic and Ring 129 a regular part of your monthly

**Your Joke Of The Month**

A guy is feeling depressed and goes for a walk on the beach. He finds an old bottle on the shore, and when he picks it up a spirit comes out and says, "You look tense. Would you like a good back rub?"  
 "Well, actually, I'm depressed because I'm so broke. I wish you would give me a million dollars instead."  
 "I can't do that, but I can give you a back rub."  
 "Aren't genies supposed to grant wishes?"  
 "I'm not a genie. Does that look like an oil lamp? And you call what you did rubbing it? I'll show you what a real rub is!"  
 "If you're not a genie, what are you?"  
 "Haven't you ever heard of a massage in a bottle?"

**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
- Board Member:** Danny Mahar.....(816) 923-4788
- Board Member:** Kirk Deweese.....(816) 224-5000
- Board Member:** Rod Sipe.....(816) 916-3330

**Newsletter Editor**

Alan Goodheart  
 8803 West 102nd Place  
 Overland Park, KS 66212  
 magicaljewel@hotmail.com  
 (913) 648-0331

*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**

**JANUARY 2002**

**Stage**

Chris Gates

**Close-up**

L. C. Collier

***THIS IS YOU VERY LAST NEWSLETTER!!***

*If you haven't paid your Ring 129 dues in full!*

*Your Ring 129 Dues are NOW DUE! We have reminded all of you about this for two months, and this is our last notice. So if you still owe your dues, then please send to David Sandy, Treasurer, at 3604 Emerald Lane, St. Joseph, MO 64506, or bring with you to the Ring meeting.*

### I.B.M. RING #129 MAGIC AUCTION RULES

- ◆ Doors open at 4:45 PM for set-up. (No Exceptions) Auction will begin promptly at 5:30 PM.
- ◆ Admission fee for Buyers and Sellers is \$2.00.
- ◆ We encourage sellers to group less expensive items into lots valued at \$20.00 or more; items listed at less than \$20.00 will be sold at NO reserve price.
- ◆ Up to 5 items or lots per seller. If time allows, sellers may exceed this limit only after all sellers have had their first lot of five items on the auction block.
- ◆ Tag each item for sale with your name.
- ◆ All items for sale must be placed on the viewing tables prior to the auction.
- ◆ There will be a 10% sales commission for I.B.M. Ring #129 members (dues must be paid). There will be a 15% sales commission for non-members.
- ◆ Private sales before the auction forfeits seller’s rights to participate in the auction.
- ◆ Dutch auctions are prohibited.
- ◆ Be prepared to offer a BRIEF description of the items you plan to sell.
- ◆ Buyers will be provided with bidding cards.
- ◆ Buyers must pay with cash or check before leaving or removing any merchandise.
- ◆ Minimum bids (if any) must be at least \$20.00 or more and shown on the seller’s consignment sheet.
- ◆ You are responsible for your purchase as soon as you are declared the winning bidder.
- ◆ Ring #129 is not responsible for any lost, stolen, or damaged items.
- ◆ All merchandise must be removed from the building by or before 10:30 PM the day of the auction

### SELLER CONSIGNMENT SHEET

Bring this form to the auction along with your merchandise for sale. Photocopy if necessary. Only fill out the name of the item and the minimum bid (if any). DO NOT mark in the last three columns.

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	MIN	SALES	CLUB	AMT.
		BID	PRICE	%	DUE
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					

## Letter From the Editor

Funny as it may seem, we have been part of a Super Bowl of Magic these past several weeks. We kicked off this super month with our Ring meeting where there were many people fresh from the Holidays ready to engage in exchanging magic again. Follow that with the Sorcerer's Circle event at the impromptu comedy venue called Comedy City. Walt Mitchell and Roger Miller planned a truly memorable gathering – great times had by all. I have even heard rumblings of several members wanting to give it a try! Follow that with a great night of performance magic and comradeship amongst your fellow magicians at the Stage Magician of the Year banquet. Then only about a week ago, Tim Ellis and Sue-Anne Webster from Australia broought their lecture to KC and blew us away with their versions of some of the classics of magic as well as fresh new innovative ways to enhance your repertoire.

So why is he rambling on about all this? I'll tell you why. This is an opportunity for each and every one of us to take part in a craft that amazes the minds of laymen – performing magic. These opportunities to mingle and learn from both professionals and friends at both lectures, meetings, and even after hours gatherings is something you cannot place a value on. I personally wish we had twice as much time to spend with lecturers and that we could find more time in our schedules to spend with each other nurturing and learning among ourselves. This is a call to each of us to take that extra effort to connect with a friend, a new member of the ring, or someone you feel you could be a teacher to, or that you could mentor – reach out – take that first step to making each of us better at what we do best – amaze and bewilder everyone we touch with our gift.

Take this challenge seriously; you will not be sorry you did.

"Some people ask the secret of our long marriage. We take time to go to a restaurant two times a week. A little candlelight, dinner, soft music and dancing. She goes Tuesdays, I go Fridays."  
*Henny Youngman.*

## Letter TO the Editor

Dear Alan,

I am sorry that I missed last week's magical activities. I hope all went well and that everyone had a great time of magic and fellowship. A couple of errors were printed in the last newsletter that should be cleared up just to keep the record straight.

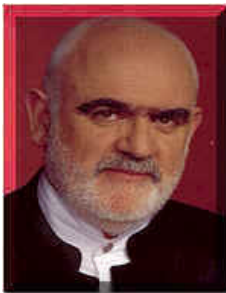
H. Claude Enslow was not an "inaugural member of the Sorcerer's Circle" nor was he responsible for its name. In fact Claude never was a member and never was an active member in the Ring other than to attend meetings and serve as stage manager for one of our stage shows and as emcee at another show. His forte was not close-up magic and if memory serves me correctly, I never saw him perform any close-up magic.

His background was in stage productions. He did perform professionally and even had his own radio show many years ago on which he appeared as the fictional character Tim West. Claude built some excellent magic and some of the members still have some of his magic items. Claude had a rich history in magic and was always ready to "spin a yarn" about the past or give advice- a real delight to listen to.

You must have gotten Claude mixed up with Clyde Glendon AKA Col. Boone. Clyde and his son were charter members of Ring 129 and loved close-up magic. Clyde was very active in the Ring and served in several offices including president. He actively supported the Sorcerer's Circle and suggested the name at a planning session with Duane Fields and myself. Because of his love for Close-up magic, the Close-Up Magician of the Year Award is named after him. Claude has been likewise honored for his love of stage magic by having the Stage Magician of the Year competition named after him.

Next item: L.C. Collier has served as board member and vice-president of Ring 129, but never as president. He did serve as president of SAM assembly in Topeka, KS.

You are doing a fine job as newsletter editor---keep up the good job.



## GREAT LECTURE COMING SOON!

Charles Gauci Brings His Unique Style Of Magic To Us

Charles Gauci has been practicing hypnotherapy for the past forty-eight years.

He is constantly in demand presenting "The Power Within" seminars to some of Australia's largest corporate companies. These companies have now come to the realisation that product knowledge and sales training can only go so far. For example, within six weeks of attending a sales seminar most people will revert back to their normal selves again, We are unfortunately creatures of habit, and all habits die hard. Each individual's beliefs, expectations and ambitions vary from one person to another. Some people are simply happy to be earning

\$40,000 per annum when the company gives them the opportunity to be earning \$100,000.00.

The only way that these people can be moved up the success ladder is to reprogram their subconscious mind.

For 3 years he toured Australia with the famous Reveen show, and has also made numerous appearances on T.V. and mystified audiences all over Australia and Europe. Some of his performances include demonstrations of:

- \* Hypnosis
- \* Telepathy
- \* Premonition
- \* Precognition
- \* Psychometry
- \* Sightless Vision

He is an avid creator of new and innovative thinking in magic, and was recognized at the SAM Convention and FISM for his creation of the element of magic named "Diabolical". You have to see it in person to believe it!! Please do not miss this golden opportunity to

## Two of Australia's Best Magicians "Rock & Roll" Kansas City With Their Magic And Humor

Several weeks ago one of the premier lectures of the season took place at the Holiday Inn in Lenexa – **Tim Ellis and**



Tim Ellis lecturing with the help of Jay God-

**Sue-Anne Webster** from Australia, opened our minds to ways we can improve our magic and presentations. Tim has been performing for years, doing corporate events, close-up and comedy magic, illusion shows, and new product launches. He performed and then explained his justification behind several of his routines. He started with his razor blade eating routine, where several razor blades are placed in his mouth followed by some dental floss, then after a few seconds, producing all the blades strung onto the floss. Tim explained several routines using card forces,

cell phones, sleeving, the use of varying music as background for the same linking rings routine, and ended the session with his version of cups and balls using milk shake cups and a 1950's jukebox. And what a surprise production at the end!! And Sue-Anne Webster interjected her wit and humor as well as assisting in the explanations behind what we witnessed. A very memorable evening had by all!



It's back to the 50's with Tim Ellis (Left) and Sue-Anne Webster doing their version of a 6 card repeat

## A Trick-by-Trick Account Of What Goes On At Our Ring Meetings

*Special thanks to Stu Lewis for his notes from the Linking Ring Report*

About forty magicians and guests filled the meeting room for our January 3 meeting, encouraged by the unseasonably warm winter we are experiencing. Following a brief business meeting, L. C. Collier, who recently returned to Kansas City after a lengthy sojourn in Alabama, presented a mini-lecture which probably had more practical information than many of the full-length lectures I have seen. His subject was how to set up a magic case. He showed us the several clever touches he used in order to have his birthday-party act all set up in his suitcase and ready to go. He emphasized the fact that a methodical approach to organizing one's apparatus can aid the flow of the show. He also showed how he built a shelf that enabled him to create a small impromptu table. The point is, when he goes into a show he does not have to wonder where each prop is and can avoid turning his back on the audience. During the break after his mini-lecture, he invited those in attendance to look at his close-up case as well.

We then continued with the stage contest. Walt Mitchell led off with vanishing ketchup bottle. His routine was based on the premise that the ketchup could be broken down into its components. He put a ketchup bottle into a paper sack and pulled out a glass of water, an empty bottle, and a small container of ketchup, finally crushing the sack to show it empty. Harris Deutsch and Dale Huffman joined forces for an act that consisted of linking two ropes whose ends remained in view the entire time and a magic coloring book. Chris Gates performed a fast-paced silent act in which he produced some silks and had them tie themselves together. He followed this with some fire-eating. Kyle Scheel also did a silent act, producing silks and transforming them into a multi-colored feather duster.

Harris Deutsch returned to lead off the close-up contest, saying he would perform in the style of Marcel Marceau (a silent coin routine while wearing two gloves, including the difficult muscle pass); Michael Jackson (a one-handed oil-and-water card routine, wearing one glove); and himself, bringing several torn pieces of newspaper to form a single page, which had a previously selected card glued to the front. L. C. returned as well to perform his sponge-ball routine, based on the premise of an invisible ball. Israel Rivera concluded the close-up contest with a two-deck "you do as I do" routine.

The open, non-competitive session had two performers-Keith Leff and L.C. (again)-each doing the same basic routine, in order to demonstrate how two magicians can take totally different approaches to the same basic effect, in this case "What's Next?" (the one where a card is shown to have one dot on one side, four on the other, three on the other, etc.-unless you are a total newcomer to magic, you probably know what I'm talking about). L. C.'s routine was closer to the standard one, whereas Keith's children's-show routine was based on the premise that the magician did not notice that the dots kept multiplying, leaving it for the kids to shout it out. It will almost certainly be stolen by many of those in attendance.

All that was left was to vote for the winners of the contests-Chris Gates (stage) and L. C. (close-up)--and we went home to get ready for our annual stage contest, which will be too late this month to report in this edition. See this space next month for the results.

### **Ring 129 Lecture Fees**

Unless listed otherwise,  
are as follows:

Non-Members \$15

Members in good standing \$12

Sorcerer's Circle Members \$10

**See Article on PAGE 4**

### **Stage Winner Chris Gates**



We should encourage many youth to explore their interest in magic much like **Chris Gates** has done. Even though he only began taking his craft seriously just 5 years ago, he has been a fan for years before that. He was inspired when he saw Ricky Jay and his 52 assistants.

When asked if he preferred close-up versus stage performing, he responded "both". He loves the intimacy that close-up magic provides, and but uses stage for the thrill and the pure adrenaline rush. He enjoys performing close-up in night club venues, and uses stage for competitions.

If he could be any tree at all, he chose the Virginia Dogwood, the State flower and tree of VA. Because it was in the movie "American President" and it stresses such a patriotic theme.

He has performed at churches and shows in Northern Missouri, and is most excited by his recent gigs in New York City at clubs known as Session 73 and the Underground Lounge. He is a member of IBM Ring 129 Heart of America, and the Fellowship of Christian Magicians, and a former member of SAM. Congrats on a remarkable performance and we look forward to next January at the MOY con-

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



Being **L.C.**'s profile appeared only last month when he won the monthly contest for Stage Magician of the Month, we decided to describe to you what L.C. did to win his monthly award.

**L.C.** presented a two ball sponge ball routine using a marvelous audience assistant (pictured above). It is so very important to involve the audience and treat volunteers with respect and dignity.

He began by making a invisible ball become visible in a most unusual way (had to be there). The astonishment was really visible in the assistant's face. He then got a second ball out of his pocket and made it vanish from his hand and appear in her hand.

Using her hands as end tables, he proceeded to do a standard ten count routine. He finished with one ball in his hand, and the other in his pocket., magically ending clean with nothing in either hand! He built final applause into the routine to the delight of all present.

A true example of showing how to set up a winning routine and carrying that through to its conclusion. **L.C.** – good luck in



