

MAGIC NEWS

HEART OF THE RING

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

Repeat performance! Kyle Scheel selected Magician of the Year



This has been a very interesting year. Each month we watch the progress of our members as they hone their craft. One member showed us what makes for great magic. It just so happened that he also was selected at the H. Claude Enslow Stage Magician of the Year Banquet on Saturday,

January 25th. That person is none other than **Kyle Scheel**.

We were honored to have our **International President Mike Stratman** and his wife, Darlene 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. There was much preparation this year to make this show better than ever! Kyle now 13 years

old, began his interest in magic seriously 4 years ago, practicing and honing his craft for many hours. He performs at picnics, parties, charity events, and birthday parties. He loves performing in almost any venue! For the contest created a very dark and mysterious street scene. He opened by sending a flame through the air and lighting a street lamp, produced numerous coins into a makeshift cannister, then immediately made them disappear. He continued his routine producing colored doves, then following each with an amazing appearance of two lovely assistants with matching colored dresses (one was our very own Tamara Vitale)

Kyle was not the only magician showing his talents at the banquet. There were six other members of the Ring that took the stage. **They were** (in no particular order) **Brent Ahsmuhs, Dr. Roger Billings, Chris Gates, Dale Huffman, Kevin Kirwan, and Roger Miller**. Second Runner-up in the MOY contest was **Chris Gates**, while **Dr. Roger Billings** 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??).

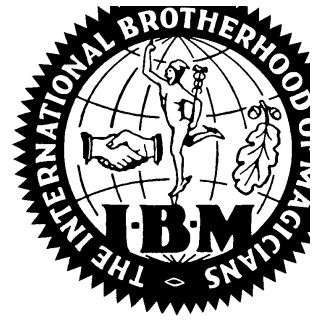
Special thanks go to many others that helped make this a really memorable event. **Dr. Mike Blum** was responsible for the judges and the scoring. A very special thanks goes out to Danny Mahar for all his hard work and time spent in taking reservations. He was assisted by Carl Macan and Alan Goodheart. **Kirk Dewese** from Magic Supply Co. ran the sound and music, and **Ernest Bruch** tended to the spotlight. Also **Chris Bruch and Rob Scheel** helped keep the show moving backstage. We appreciate what you all did to make this a memorable evening for us. Kyle – best of luck in your carrying on the tradition of excellence.

BIGGEST MAGIC AUCTION IN MIDWEST SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 8TH!!

Ring Auction Happening 2/8/03 at Roeland Park Community Center

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, February 8th**, at the Roeland Park Community Center in Kansas. 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 5:00 pm and the auction itself will begin at 5:30 pm. We have included a *Gene Hernandez* 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 Dewese** at 816-224-5000 or **Rod Sipe** at 816-461-3330.

Don't be late to a fun and entertaining event, and pick up some great bargains on lots of magic!



Upcoming Events:

February 6, 2003
Regular Meeting
7:00 p.m.

At Best Western Inn
and Conference Center,
Southwest Blvd.
**(IN KANSAS – I-35 AND
RAINBOW BLVD. EXIT)**

Rainbow
501 Southwest Blvd.
Meeting place located
behind the Applebee's on
North side – lower level

February 8, 2003
Kid's Show at Roeland Park
Community Center – 1:00
pm
Ring Auction –
5:00 pm to 10:30 pm

February 20, 2003
Board Meeting
Terry Elton's Home
6709 Noland Road
IN KANSAS
Directions – 913-268-818

February 27, 2003
Tim Ellis – Sue-Ann
Webster Lecture
At Best Western Inn
and Conference Center,
Southwest Blvd.
**(IN KANSAS – I-35 AND
RAINBOW BLVD. EXIT)**
Rainbow
501 Southwest Blvd.

March 6, 2003
Regular Meeting
7:00 p.m.
At Best Western Inn
and Conference Center,
Southwest Blvd.
**(IN KANSAS – I-35 AND
RAINBOW BLVD. EXIT)**

Rainbow



President's Column
By
Larry Warshaw

First of all, I want to thank everyone for making the Stage Magician of the Year Banquet such a roaring success. The competition was excellent, we had a capacity crowd, and I am confident that International President Mike Stratman and Darlene Stratman were impressed with our club and our hospitality. I am sorry that I will be missing this year's children's show at Roeland Park, and this year's auction, as I'll be out of town on February 8th; however, I hope that you will all take advantage of these two excellent magical opportunities to show off our club to the public, and to share some camaraderie while you pick up a treasure or two along the way. We are looking for people who would like to participate in various committees to help make the upcoming IBM Convention in Kansas City the best ever. Please let Carl Macan, Rod, or me know if you can help in any way. We will be selling ads in the program, selling public tickets, organizing some events, and other stuff we haven't thought of yet. Thanks in advance for your help on this!

For this month's column, I thought I'd share a philosophical moment I had the other day. As I was chatting with a lawyer colleague about magic, he asked "how long does it take to learn a new trick?" Of course, I hesitated to answer, as some are easier to learn than others, and some build on skills already possessed while others require learning a whole new array of moves. After thinking for a minute, and remembering the incredibly polished performances at the recent banquet, my answer came to me: "It takes about 30 percent practice time, and 70 percent rehearsal time." It is, of course, no easy feat to perfect the moves and sleights necessary to accomplish a new trick; thus, we must spend considerable time practicing to smooth out the rough spots to make the magic deceptive. However, the real challenge, and where we must spend most of our efforts, is to make that "trick" and transform it to a piece of entertainment. This is only accomplished through extensive rehearsal. Once the moves are mastered such that they can be done without a second thought, then we can begin designing, refining, and rehearsing how that trick will be performed for real audiences so that our audiences will be left with the desired emotion as well as not knowing how the trick was done.

Ok, I'll get down off the soap box now. It just occurred to me that as people who have such a fascination with the methods behind the magic, we sometimes

THIS IS YOUR 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 three months, and this is our last notice.

*So if you still owe your dues, then please send to **Kirk Deweese, 204 SW Gladstone Drive, Blue Springs, MO 64014**, or bring with you to the Ring meeting. And as always, if you have already paid, we thank you.*

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT –
NEW WEBSITE PASSWORD**

Effective February 7th, we will change the password to the Ring 129 website. If you have not paid your dues, you will not receive a newsletter and you cannot access the website.

Login Name: **Ring 129** New Password: **computer-man**

Ring 129 Officers

- President: Larry Warshaw**913-381-8829
- Vice President: Rod Sipe**816-461-3330
- Treasurer: Kirk Deweese**816-228-7496
- Secretary: Alan Goodheart**913-648-0331
- Sergeant-At-Arms: Jason Dean**816-364-4241
- Board Member: Danny Mahar**816-923-4788
- Board Member: Ernest Bruch**913-341-0705
- Board Member: Terry Elton**913-268-8187

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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**

JANUARY 2003

Stage

Harris Deutsch

Close-up

Ken Reedy

SPECIAL NEW CONTEST

**YOUR CHANCE TO HAVE
FUN AND WIN PRIZES**

This is a new feature for the Ring – a fun exciting contest all can participate in. Here's how it works. Starting this month, all you have to do is **READ THE NEWSLETTER** from cover to cover and look for your name in *italics*. ANYWHERE IS FAIR GAME! It could be on the cover, in the list of officers, or in an article written. If your name is listed in italics, just attend the next Ring meeting to claim your prize. Magic, lecture discounts, food – all are possible prizes. Each month we will have at least 4 or 5 winners, so get ready to find YOUR name *Dean Elledg* and claim your reward! Best of luck to all!

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

- ◆ Doors open at 5:00 PM for set-up. (No Exceptions) Auction will begin promptly at 5:30 PM.
- ◆ Admission fee for Buyers and Sellers is \$2.00. Everyone pays!!
- ◆ 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

It has been several months since I've had a chance or the room necessary to bring my thoughts your way. There has been a lot going on in our Ring lately. For one, we are settling into our new meeting facilities, and adapting well. It seems to work fine for most all members. We recently elected a new Board of Directors and that transition seems smoother than expected. Some old established names leaving, and some fresh new ideas approaching – we are in for a truly fun and exciting year ahead!

I am sure most of us were busy during the recent Holiday season, and I hope we all got to share a little magic with family, friends, and those we wanted to entertain. What a grand opportunity to make our craft shine in the eyes of others.

But what I truly would like to expound on is our most recent event – the Stage Magician of the Year Banquet held January 25th. Most of you know I chaired that event, and it made me proud to be associated with such a great group of magicians AND caring folks that rarely had to be asked, but stepped up to the plate and helped when needed. I need to extend a few special Thank-You's to several of you. I was pleased to have Danny Mahar help take reservations for the event, and Carl Macan joined in that effort. Danny was fantastic in his record keeping and organization. Kirk Dewese provided the sound and lights, as well as his "sound" leadership in helping organize the evening's performances. There are not enough Kudos for our MC of the evening, Terry Elton. His performance was masterful, and his blending of both magic, recognition of guests, and keeping the show flowing on time showed his expertise and professionalism. Thanks Terry!

"The Girls" - Peggy Adams, Jane Fields, and Sheila Miller all really contributed to the beautiful table and room décor we had. A lady's touch we always need! I am also *Eric Vaughn* appreciative for Ernest Bruch running the spotlight, and for Chris Bruch and Rob Scheel for their backstage assistance. And to all those too numerous to mention who pitched in and helped get us out of the room by 10:30 pm, thanks! For your moral support, special gratitude goes to Larry W., David S., Kirk D., Roger M., Terry E., and Mike B.

It was a very memorable event and for those of you in attendance, I truly hope you had as much fun as I did, and for those of you who missed it, you just may have missed one of the most magical weekends in past memory. Knowing this should make you all ready to join in the excitement of our next few months as

BANQUET MEMORIES



Stage Magician Winners: (L to R) Dr. Roger Billings, 1st Runner Up; IBM Int'l Pres. Mike Stratman; winner Kyle Scheel; and



Installation of the New Board: IBM Int'l Pres. Mike Stratman (far right) reads the installation of the Ring's officers: (L to R) -Board members Terry Elton, Ernest Bruch, Danny Mahar; Sec. Alan Goodheart; Treas. Kirk Dewese; Vice Pres. Rod Sipe; and Pres. Larry Warsaw. Not pictured – Sergeant-At-Arms Jason Dean.



Mike Stratman (Center) presents a certificate celebrating the Ring's 40th Anniversary to Larry Warsaw (Left) and Dr. Mike Blum

SAVE THIS DATE!

PAVEL COMES TO KANSAS CITY

Save your Tuesday, April 8th, 2003 for a most innovative lecture by PAVEL, called "How To Invent A Trick". He will amaze you with his unique and special magic and illusions. More details to follow; be sure to reserve that night!

DRIVING U.S. INSANE

Tim Ellis – Sue-Anne Webster Brings New Lecture For All To Witness and Be Entertained



Captivating, exciting, fun...these are some of the words used to describe the lecture last year of Tim Ellis and Sue-Anne Webster from Australia.

Their non-stop pace and professional pres-

entations make this a must see again. They come to our Ring on February 27th at 7:00 pm at the Best Western Conference Center. Lecture fees are on the outside page of the newsletter. But if you paid your 2003 Ring dues by the end of the January 2nd meeting, you can attend this marvelous lecture FOR FREE!!!

This is a whole new lecture with many new effects to see and learn, with a few old standbys or classics that will still amaze and astound!! So bring your checks or cash to this Thursday's meeting and be ready to mark your calendars for a great evening ahead! Lecture fees are on the outside back page.

IBM NAMES DENNIS BURKS

Our Ring member Dennis Burks recently received the honor of becoming our new IBM Territorial Vice President (TVP) for Missouri. For those who may not know Dennis, he has been a member of the IBM since 1986 and is a past president of Ring 129. He is the Safety Manager at Sprint and uses magic in his safety presentations at work and at other various functions. Dennis states that being a member of the IBM and our Local Ring has been very fulfilling in his career and socially. "I have met a lot of great people through my association with the IBM."

One of his goals in 2003 is to attend at least one Ring meeting at each of our Rings in Missouri (Branson, Columbia, Joplin, Springfield, Kansas City, St. Louis). Another goal is to have as much participation from our Missouri members at the 75th Annual Convention of the International Brotherhood of Magicians that will be held in Kansas City, Missouri on July 1-5, 2003! The Convention will feature stellar talent, first-rate shows, incredible lectures, and lots of fun activities (more than ANY other convention). Over 1,000 magicians convene annually for this magical event. Details about the convention can be obtained on the IBM web page. If you would like to help at the convention, please contact Carl Macan from Ring 129 at 913-381-2972 or at crm130@aol.com. For you that do not know Carl, he is the liaison between the convention committee and Ring 129. However, Carl will be in Florida during Jan-March, but will be online and can answer your questions, etc. Carl's Florida address is The Dunes Towers, 5480 N. Ocean Drive, Bldg. B, 8A, Singer Island, FL 33404 and phone 561-863-0510. This is a great opportunity for all of us in the Missouri Rings.

If Dennis can be of any assistance, as a member of the IBM, please feel free to contact him at dburks8349@aol.com, home number 913-492-9860 or work number 913-315-8602. Dennis believes this will be another great year for magic and hopes everyone gets to participate in the IBM as much as possible. We all wish Dennis well in

Don't Come To The Meetings Lately? Here's What You Are Missing!!

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

ough the holiday season was not really finished, about thirty-five magicians gathered for our January 2 meeting and were greeted with the good news. Two of our members, incoming ring president Larry Rshaw and long-time close-up maven Todd Lamanske, have been invited to perform at the Magic Castle. This should give our Ring some additional visibility, as if we needed it this year, with the International Ring up in our own backyard. Another item of note in our business meeting is that Terry Elton was appointed to an at-large Board position. If Norris led off the magic by conducting our monthly teach-a-trick session, demonstrating a packet-style effect in which a selected card is only odd-backed card in the packet. We then moved on to close-up. Helmut Vitale did a variety of effects with four aces, including a cutting routine and the production of the cards from thin air. Stu Lewis performed Michael Close's "Date Book" routine, in which a spectator selects a card at random that just happens to match the card written to a date chosen by another spectator. Ken Reedy did an impressive coins-across routine. It was good enough to win first place despite a amusing gaffe when his own cell phone started ringing mid-performance. Usually that is left to the spectators.

Harris Deutsch led off the stage competition with a themed routine involving facing our fears and keeping our eyes on the future. Among the effects employed were spellbound and a cut-and-restored rope sequence. He also, as usual, managed to incorporate some vent work into the routine. This was strong enough to win *Frank Laplaca* over the only other competitor of the evening, Eric Price, who did a jumbo three-card monte routine in which cards were "snuck in and out" through various transformations.

The open segment focused on close-up. Kyle Scheel did a "marked card" effect in which the backs of the cards suddenly had visible marks and changed colors as well. Tamara Vitale showed that a selected card was the only one with a hole through it. Duane Fields did a torn-and-restored napkin effect based on Gene Anderson's methods. Dale Huffman concluded the performances with a card-stab location.

The number of performers was actually down a bit from our usual output. Maybe people are focused more on our upcoming annual banquet show, which you will read about next month.

--Stu Lewis, ring reporter

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

See Article on PAGE 5

Stage Winner Harris Deutsch

Harris Deutsch, also known as the Nearly Normal Magician was our January Stage Magician of the Month. That day was a very Nearly Normal Day. Written out the date was 1-2-3. (January 2nd, 2003) Harris' entry showed a lot of what has influenced his Nearly Normal Approach to magic. If you watched closely, you would have seen things influenced by the great lectures sponsored by Ring 129. Starting off was his fly from the Ali Bongo Lecture. The coins to eyes was highly influenced by our own Tom Burgoon's Workshop Presentation. The rope routine was from Ropegicians such as Darryl, and again our own ropeologist. The overall patter came from Harris' work as a Nearly Normal Substance Abuse Prevention Specialist. The idea to bring himself more into his routines was from Jay Sankey's thoughts on performance. Jay suggest risking letting the audience get to know you. (Zen and the art of Stand Up Comedy) The theme of the program was Fear. Harris is very appreciative Ring 129's help in his mission of "Bringing Magic and Laughter to the World, One Group at a time." Harris asked for a special thanks to be written to Stu Lewis. Stu inspired Harris, to get articles on his Nearly Normal Ideas published (2002) in both the Linking Ring and the Society of American Magician's MU-M. Harris' recent programs included a return engagement to the *Terry Magelssen* University of Missouri at Kansas City. He has been the featured speaker/entertainer at the International Student Welcome Back Party for the last 3 semesters. He also shared his Making a Good Intelligent Choice (M.A.G.I.C) Program with the youth at the Johnson County Youth Detention Center. Upcoming events include his Nearly Normal Programs at Libraries, Schools, Community Centers and Private Homes. He

Close-up Winner Ken Reedy

It's always a treat to have Ken Reedy at our Ring meetings and we are proud that last month saw Ken win the Close-up competition. Ken has been around magic for quite some time, nearly 30 years. He enjoys close-up over the stage because you get a true reaction from your audience and performing close-up is a more "perfect" magic – it's harder to do. When performed well, you have overcome tremendous obstacles. Ken, when asked to identify an animal most like himself, said he seemed like a "fly on the wall". Unusual until you know that Ken really watches and absorbs all that goes on around him and continues to learn from those experiences. He began watching magic in his formative years seeing Mark Wilson's World of Alakazam. Ken has been loyal members of both the IBM since 1974 and the Fellowship of Christian Magicians since 1975 or '76. He is currently working on several shows, but his love of magic carries him into the business aspects, where he has focused his efforts of such things as his Square Circles illusions and his PK tables. Good luck to Ken in the upcoming C/U contest this summer.

