

CENTER of the RING

Heart of America Ring 129

January 2005 Newsletter



CALENDAR

Stage Magician of the Year

Jan. 22—7PM
Roeland Park Comm. Ctr.
4906 Rosewood
Roeland Park, KS

Regular Meeting

Feb. 3—7:00 PM
Best Western

Children's Magic Show

Feb. 5—1:00 PM
Roeland Park Comm. Ctr.
4906 Rosewood
Roeland Park, KS

Annual Ring Magic Auction

Feb 5—5:00 PM
Roeland Park Comm. Ctr.
4906 Rosewood
Roeland Park, KS

NEXT MEETING

January 6 2005 7:00 P. M.

Best Western
Rainbow & Southwest Blvd.
(directly behind Applebee's Restaurant)



Tony Wilson

OFFICIALS

President

Alan Goodheart 913 648-0331

Vice President

LC Collier 913 579-1506

Secretary

Don Douglas 913 888-9236

Treasurer

Kirk DeWeese 816 224-5000

Sergeant at Arms

Harris Deutch 913 962-4045

Board Member

Dan Bradbury 816 931-5027

Board Member

Ken Reedy 816 734-5094

Board Member

Open

Past President

Terry Elton 913 268-8187

News Editor

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Tony Wilson's Coming to Town!

If you plan on missing a meeting this coming year, we hope that you DO NOT choose this one to miss. It is a special and rare treat for us to have as our guest for the evening our own International Brotherhood of Magicians President Tony Wilson. Currently Tony is the first ever President of the IBM from the Southern Hemisphere. The IBM is the world's largest organization with 13,000 members in 73 countries.

In magic for over 50 years Tony is a Registered Teacher, Registered Educational Psychologist and has been President of the New Zealand Society of Magicians, Brotherhood of Auckland Magicians and the Variety Artists Club of New Zealand Inc.

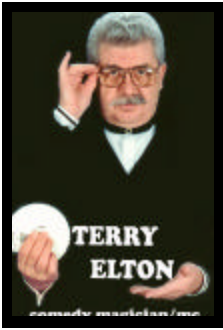
He has lectured in magic throughout Canada, Australia and the USA as well as the Magic Circle in London where he is a member holding Associate Member of The Inner Magic Circle with Silver Star. He is also a member of the Society of American Magicians.

Tony is experienced in all types of magical presentations, adult and children's entertainment, corporate and, recently concluded over twelve years of close up magic three nights a week at an Auckland restaurant as a "table-hopper". Honored by his peers Tony was awarded the "Grand Master of Magic Award" in 1998. This award had been presented only seven times in the past twenty-nine years when presented to Tony, and was an acknowledgement by his fellow magicians of his high standard of magic and his contribution to the art of magic in New Zealand over many years.

As a Convention organizer he has been President, Secretary or Competitions Organizer at four International Conventions held in Auckland since 1968 and Territorial Vice President for the IBM since 1997. Prior to that position he had been the IBM International Vice President for New Zealand from 1984.

Continued on Page 5

Presidents Column January 2005



It is said that time flies when you're having fun and this past year seems like a nano second to me. When I look back on all the things we've done and are planning to do, I can't believe that a whole year has passed. I had a great time as President of Ring 129, the Board and I worked hard trying to bring new and different activities and ideas to the club and I believe we did that. We had some spirited discussion at some of the Board meetings as we discussed and evaluated things we wanted to get done. Magic University, Magic Flea Markets and Picnics, Lectures, Monthly Meetings and all the other things we were involved with this past year don't happen by accident. It takes dedicated people willing to give of their time.

I believe there is a message hidden in that last sentence somewhere. If you haven't attended a Board meeting or volunteered for a committee what are you waiting for? If you haven't given a Mini Lecture or done a Teach a Trick or competed in the Magician of the Month contest or even in the Open session . . . What are you waiting for? Not everybody is a full time performer . . . we understand that. Some people just collect magic or enjoy being around magic . . . and we understand that also. But . . . there must be something you are enthusiastic about regarding magic. Talk to a Board member and tell them you'd like to talk to the club about your particular interest and you'd like to do it in the form of a Mini Lecture or a Show and Tell. It could be that there are other members who have the same interests and didn't realize it until you got up to speak. In other words if you're not participating you're missing out on half of the fun of being a member. Twenty percent of our members do one hundred percent of the work, imagine what could happen if even fifty percent of you got involved.

I know there are those of you who are shy or don't feel like your performance skills are good enough to get up in front of the group. What you have to remember is that at a club meeting you are among friends. Friends don't tear friends down instead they step in and help build them up. How many times have you been to Applebee's after the meeting and listened to the conversations? You hear things like; "Would you show me that move?" or "If you'd done that on that beat instead of where you did it I believe it would have really fooled the audience and set you up for . . ." and any number of these kinds of conversations. As I said a moment ago, Friends help Friends that's the way it goes. If you seek help among the club members you will get it. If you sit around and don't ask you won't get it. But! If you don't seek the help . . . people won't know you need it.

Okay, since this is my last column let me drive the new Newsletter editor nuts and tell you something nobody in the club really knows.

In September of 1952 a ship docked at one of the New York piers and a 14 year old boy named Terry Elton got off that ship and went through customs with a trunk full of "Push-button" magic. What he

didn't know at the time was that by Christmas of that year he would have only done one show and many of the values he knew to be true regarding style of dress, hairstyles, what was cool and what wasn't, how to behave, how he spoke would be challenged and/or laughed at. The result was that a very outgoing personality became very shy and quiet. The unfortunate part of that is that the shyness was viewed as aloofness or conceit and that further added to the problem. Suddenly a young boy who would normally talk to anyone was afraid to speak to anyone that he didn't know. The magic tricks were sold or given away.

I won't drag you through the whole sordid ordeal but he reached a point one day when he said to myself; "This is stupid." So he applied for a job that put him in a situation where he had to speak to people he didn't know. The next step was that he joined a band and sang with that band for seven years, but still had trouble talking to strangers. There was comfort and support being in the band and he was always surrounded by people he knew and that helped him get in front of a microphone.

Time passed and one night he saw a magic show and a simple thing like a cigarette vanish caught his imagination and he was hooked all over again. However, unlike the band, there was no support mechanism so while he learned some magic and shared it with his friends he never did a show. Then quite by accident he was introduced to a Steve Bryant who said he'd heard about a magic club here in town and we set out to find it. It was at that first meeting that I met people like Colonel Boone and Claude Enslow and Jiggs Naylor and Joe white and Herb Dumotier and Dave Buttram and a host of others that would become friends over the years. That night I met Steve Payton and after the meeting we went upstairs to the bar and began to talk and show each other various magic tricks. At one point Steve asked to see the types of things Terry Elton did and by the time the evening was over Terry had lost ninety five percent of his repertoire thanks to the advice of Steve Payton.

It took several months to get up the nerve to perform in front of the group and quite a while longer to get up and compete, along the way there words of encouragement and friends helping out with their accumulated knowledge and skills. It took several attempts to win Magician of the Month and even longer to win Magician of the Year but it happened and it happened because of his desire and all the help he got from club members along the way.

**It is time to pay your
ANNUAL DUES!**

President's Column (Continued)

The point of this true story is that if you are really interested in becoming a seasoned performer and if you are willing sometimes to take some sincere criticism and learn from it, all the help you need is in the club. We are an open and helping group for those who seek the help. It is not necessarily easy, in fact, sometimes it can be very painful. I know how I felt when Steve wiped out 95% of what I knew. But I was willing to accept the instruction and I grew because of it. I'm still a little shy but I love being on stage and I can go there because of all the people in the club who have helped me along the way. For that I will be forever grateful.

Okay, I'll put the soapbox away now, sorry for the rant. I am passionate about what this club can do for you if you will only try . . . but you have to become a participant.

Unfortunately my work will take me away from Kansas City for a while so I will miss the next meeting and I really wanted to be there because our International President Tony Wilson will be there accompanied by our own Roger Miller. It looks like I will also miss the February meeting and the Auction and at this point it is up in the air whether I will be able to attend the Banquette, I would very much like to be there.

You have a great Board of Directors coming in and Alan Goodheart has worked long and hard for the club and I know he will do a great job as your new President.

I wish you all happiness and prosperity.

Terry

A NEW MEMBER to RING 129

Eric Braun

2323 NE 3rd Street
Blue Springs MO 64014
Ebraun22@comcast.net
816-224-4952

Welcome to Ring 129. Eric worked as a professional magician for 16 years. He gained a lot of skills working in two magic shops in Kansas City. He left magic behind about twelve years ago, but now the magic bug has caught him again. Welcome to the club!

Dec. Magician of the Month Winners

Close Up Winner

J.E.Mastin

Stage Winner

Al Sawyer

Congratulations to the winners. We look forward to the upcoming performances.

WEBMASTER

Ken Reedy

Go to www.ring129.com

User Name: ring129 * **Password:** alabama

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

webdesigners@kc.rr.com.

H. Claude Enslow Magician of the Year Banquet Saturday, Jan. 22nd

This year, as in those past, it comes time to honor a member of Ring 129 that has made monumental contributions to its success. Someone whom some of us have met and know, and who others have only heard of in stories and writing. We speak of H. Claude Enslow, and the Stage Magician of the Year Banquet that bears his name.

Several members of our Ring have qualified for the honor of participating in this event that honors Enslow. Those performers are: (in no particular order)- Dennis Burks, Marty Isenberg, Chris Gates, Harris Deutsch, L. C. Collier, Jason Mastin, David Sandy, Ken Reedy, and Al Sawyer.

This year we return again to the familiar haunts of the Roeland Park Community Center stage for what looks to be one of the premier events we have seen in some time. It all happens on Saturday, January 22nd. Doors open at 6:00 pm with dinner served at 6:30 pm. This year's menu includes Roast Brisket of Beef, Grilled Chicken breast, sweet glazed carrots, green beans and roasted potatoes,

along with fresh garden salad, tea and coffee service, and of course, dessert. We promise you a great lead-in to a terrific evening.

We are honored to have the President-Elect of the International Brotherhood of Magicians' Roger Miller and his wife, Sheila, who will also serve as our Master of Ceremonies for the evening.

Costs for the event are \$17 for regular and associate members and guests, and \$15 for Sorcerer's Circle members. Bring your checks or cash to the January 6th meeting and pay there, or you can send your checks to Alan

Goodheart at 8803 West 102nd Place, Apt. I, Overland Park, KS 66212. Seats are assigned on a first-come PAID reserved basis. Cut-off date for ALL reserved seats is January 18th FOR SURE!!

If you cannot send or bring your checks, be sure to call Chuck Macan at 913-681-0368 or Alan Goodheart at 913-648-0331 to make your reservation.



If you missed last month's meeting you missed out on *Magic Supply Trivia* and FREE magic from Kirk DeWeese who also had videos for \$10 or less. David Sandy brought in some hand-made magic nightlights

at a bargain price. Ken Reedy announced that any one wishing to volunteer for the Healing of Magic program should contact him. If you haven't been around for a while you may not know that Ken has had a relapse of cancer. This program means a lot to Ken and I know he will appreciate any support you can give.

Special Thanks to:

Terry Elton, Alan Goodheart, Kirk DeWeese, Don Douglas, Jason Dean, Harris Deutsch, Larry Warshaw, Mike Blum, L.C. Collier, Dan Bradbury and all of you who attended the board meetings in **2004**.

Thanks for your hard work.

Board meetings are open to all members so if you have ideas for the club be sure and attend in 2005.

PRIZES AWARDED EACH MONTH

The membership card and the membership badges that you will wear at the meetings will become one in 2005.

You will each be issued a membership card/badge that will be of a size that will fit into your wallet. This card/badge will get you discounts at the local magic shops and wearing them at the meetings will make you eligible to win a worthwhile magic prize (no t-shirts) at the regular meetings.

The badge will have a new design and will feature our new logo and some of your club accomplishments on the face of it. This is being done so when a guest comes up to you, he/she will know who you are and a little about you. The officers of the club will have a different colored name font than the regular members, so if a visitor wishes to talk to an official they can find one without difficulty.

Carl Macan is the man who will be putting the badges together and deserves our thanks as it is no small job. Since this undertaking was just approved by the board, it will take a while to get it all put together. If you are at the January meeting, you will be asked to fill out an information form for the cards. Those who do not attend the meeting will receive a telephone call.

Everyone who has paid their dues will have their badge by the February meeting.

JUNIORS PROGRAM

Across the country, Ring 129 is noted for being progressive and producing some of the best magicians anywhere. However, if you look around the room, at a regular meeting, you will see a lack of younger faces. This is partly because we do not cultivate the young budding minds, nor do we have a program in place that solicits new members from that segment of society. **This is the foundation and the future of Ring 129 and needs to be addressed.**

We are looking for "A FEW GOOD MEN" (or women) to run a program that will teach, train and excite new young members, who will become the future stars of Ring 129. Your assistance could garner the next Copperfield, Lance Burton or just someone who is respected in the magic world. That is a feeling akin to that of being a very proud parent. Not only is it a good feeling, but it is a lot of fun to pass on your wisdom to the little minds of mush. Each of you has it in yourself to teach these fundamentals to a young person.

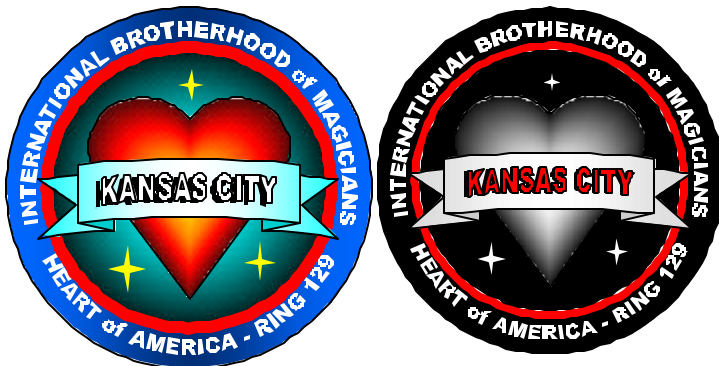
LC Collier, Rob Scheel and Julie Clark will set up the program, but we need people willing to implement it on a monthly basis. If you are interested in helping, full or part time in this worthy endeavor please contact LC Collier @ 913/579-1506.

Magic Trivia

- 1) Which of the following magicians crashed their personal airliner the *Mystic Lady* into someone's house?
 - a. John Mulholland
 - b. John Calvert
 - c. Harry Houdini
 - d. Harry Blackstone Jr.
- 2) Which of these magicians was billed as "The Man Who Made Ice Famous"?
 - a. Carl Ballantine
 - b. Mac Ronay
 - c. Frank Van Hoven
 - d. Carlton
- 3) Which of these magicians is attributed as performing the trick that fooled Houdini?
 - a. T. Nelson Downs
 - b. Carter
 - c. The Davenport Brothers
 - d. Dai Vernon
- 4) What is the popular name of the above effect today?

Plan to attend every special event if you can.

BOARD adopts a CLUB LOGO



The logo is intended to allow the club to have it's own identity and to provide a source of pride. It will be used on our news letter, web site, name badges, membership cards and certificates. Some future usages could be lapel pins, iron-on shirt appliques, hats, and a variety of other ideas.

Tony Wilson article continued from page 1.

He has published magic items and routines in *Supreme's Magicgram*, *Alakazam*, *Geni* and the *Linking Ring* magazines.

Tony has lived in New Zealand all his life, other than a year teaching in London in 1965 and a year in Toronto, Canada in 1978 where he was a Rotary International scholar studying at York University.

He and his wife Mary have been traveling extensively during 2004 when he became the President of the International Brotherhood of Magicians. Tony and Mary have spent four months "on the road", visiting 11 countries between June and October 2004.

Tony has recently been invited to join The Academy for the Magical Arts Educational Foundation, Inc. as an honorary member of the Board of Trustees in mid 2002 and is their South Pacific Ambassador.

Tony plans on enlightening our group with some of his renowned stage and close-up expertise. What a grand opportunity to meet and greet your Captain and share in the magic of the moment. Please be sure to be there next Thursday, January 6th for a truly memorable event!!!

This design is very simple and is easy to read. The blue outer ring is the color of our national organization, which is spelled out. Also the ring name and the ring number are spelled out. The center background, with the stars, denotes "Magic". The banner proudly shows us to be from "Kansas City" and the heart behind it further symbolizes us to be in the "Heart of America" ring. The red ring on the logo, places us in the "center of the ring" which is the name of our newsletter.

If you like the logo, let the board know. If you do not like it, send them back to the drawing board, it is your Club!

WE WILL BE HAVING OUR REGULAR MONTHLY CLOSE-UP AND STAGE CONTEST THIS MONTH SO THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO DEMONSTRATE TO OUR IBM PRESIDENT THE GREAT NETWORK OF ENTERTAINERS AND MAGICIANS WE HAVE, SO PLEASE COME PREPARED TO PERFORM YOUR CHOICE OF EITHER OR BOTH AND MAKE YOUR RING PROUD!!

A VERY IMPORTANT MEETING

LC Collier has announced the next meeting of the Sorcerer's Circle committee is **very important** and, if you are a member of that group, you should attend. There are changes being proposed that could affect each and every member. Terry Elton has graciously agreed to host this meeting at his home on Jan. 13, 2005, at 7:00 P. M..

The topics of discussion will include ...

- Has the organization lost it's usefulness.
- Should term limits be imposed on membership.
- What role should the circle play in the club.
- How can participation be increased.
- What special treatment will you get in the future.
- What events are appropriate for the group.

As you can see, the soul of the organization is going to be tested, be there and be heard. RSVP LC @ 913/579-1506.

Terry's address is 6709 Noland Road
Shawnee, Kansas.

Trivia answers: 1. B, 2. C, 3. D, 4. The Ambitious Card

Happy New Year!!!

Last Months Meeting By Stu Lewis

The Chiefs may be down, but Ring 129 is going strong. About thirty-five of us gathered at the Best Western for our December meeting. After the usual items of business came the contest to determine the final entrant in the contest for the Enslow award, signifying the stand-up magician of the year.

Mark Myers, one of our newest members, got things rolling with an impressive mental effect involving a triple prediction. He actually was slightly off on one, but that made it look even more authentic. Dale Huffman vanished a coat hanger before focusing on silks: a silk pole, production of silks, and silks to flag. Al Sawyer's act focused on money, as he tore a dollar bill in two and had one half vanish and reappear inside a peanut selected from a sack of peanuts. He then restored the bill.

L.C. Collier was the first close-up performer. He told an amusing story of how a young child who saw him recently thought he was Santa Claus (time to trim that beard?). His did a card act--a rarity for him. First he had five cards cut in half, had two spectators each make a selection, and then showed that the each had chosen a half of the same card. Paradoxically, he closed with the "Chicago Opener." J. E. Mastin changed four silver coins to copper, one at a time, and then changed them back to silver. John Hicks, as usual, worked with cards. First he had a signed card change places with a card that had been set aside before the trick began. He followed this with an original card routine: first he had a spectator *name* a card from a face-up

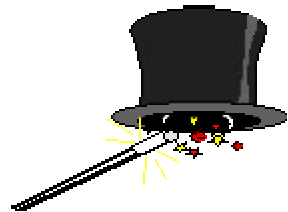
spread (no force), then the spectator cut a deck of contrasting color and put the selected card in the deck at that spot. John then showed not only that the spectator had cut to the card that matched the free selection from the other deck but also that all of the other cards in the second deck were blank. My first thought was "stooge," but it was all legit--great method!! Ken Reedy bravely took some time off from his chemotherapy treatments to perform a sponge-ball routine, beginning with mini sponge balls and ending with a sponge square.

Dale Huffman returned for the open segment with a routine in which he divined the serial number of a borrowed bill. Chris Black informed us that he will soon be leaving us to move to Arizona, but he wanted to perform for us a few more times. He tucked a pair of knotted silks in a spectator's trousers and then produced various items, including the obligatory underclothing. Joe White, as usual, focused on mentalism, predicting the order in which a spectator would choose cards from an ESP deck. J. E. Mastin did some work with a diminishing deck which he then restored to full size.

Finally, Gene Turner performed a shortened version of his trademark sponge-ball, watch-steal routine. He then treated us to a mini-lecture in which he shared some thoughts as to how he developed the routine.

After voting Al Sawyer and J. E. Mastin as the monthly winners, we did our usual vanishing act into the December night.

It is time to pay you
annual dues.



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