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**SPECIAL EDITION!!** - Featuring the 29th Annual  
H. Claude Enslow Stage Magician of the Year Contest!



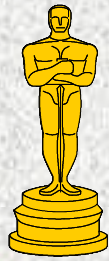
H. Claude Enslow

I.B.M. Ring 129 - Kansas City, Missouri  
January 2008 Newsletter - Vol. 21, Issue 1

**In This Issue:**

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# Stage Magician of the Year Contest



## This Year's Lineup

### January's Winner

#### **ROD SIPE**

Rod is a long-time member of the ring and currently serves on the ring board of directors. He is a regular performer at the Renaissance Festival.



### February's Winner

#### **STEVE STEINER**

Steve won the event last year. He finished 2nd in 2005 and has won the People's Choice Award two years in a row.



### March's Winner

#### **DENNIS BURKS**

Dennis has finished 3rd in 2000 and 2nd in 2005. He also won the People's Choice Award in 2005.



### May's Winner

#### **JOE WHITE**

Joe is a long-time member and ring records show him competing several times in this competition through the years.



### June's Winner

#### **MARTY ISENBERG**

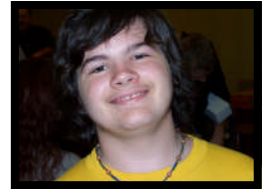
Marty has competed before and is known for his "mentalism" magic.



### July's Winner

#### **JONATHAN ATKINSON**

This will be first time for this young magician to compete in the competition.



### August's Winner

#### **GENE KEAN**

Gene has performed stage magic for many years and recently re-joined the club.



### September's Winner

#### **KYLE SCHEEL**

Kyle is the first youth magician to win the award, winning consecutive times in 2002 and 2003!



### November's Winner

#### **ROGER MILLER**

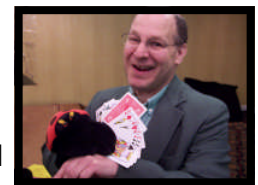
He has placed in this event seven times, winning in 1983, and finishing 2nd three times and 3rd three times!



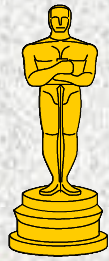
### December's Winner

#### **HARRIS DEUTSCH**

Harris has qualified to compete the last several years and finished 2nd in 2004.



# Stage Magician of the Year Contest



**This Year's  
Production Staff**

## Master of Ceremonies

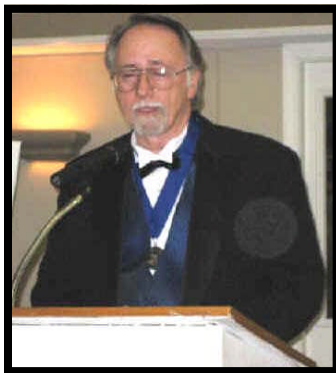
**Larry  
Warshaw**



Larry is an accomplished magician with a smooth manner and style. As chairman of the Stage Magician of the Year Committee, Larry helped bring about several of the changes to the Stage Competition we will see implemented in this year's competition.

## Event Chairman

**Duane Fields**



This year's Stage Magician of the Year Chairman is long-time member, Duane Fields. He has coordinated and secured all aspects of the event including, judges, food, production staff, and backstage help. The ring appreciates all he has done to keep this ring tradition a success.

## Judges Coordinator

**Chuck Macan**

Over the years Chuck has been involved in most every aspect of this event. This year he will be in charge of the judges and coordinating their final scores.



## Producer

**Terry  
Magelssen**

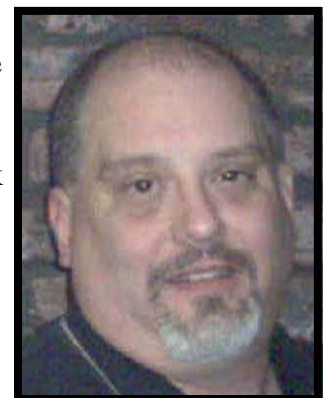
Terry has won this event three times including back-to-back wins in 1994-95. He will be coordinating and producing all the technical aspects of the show including lights & sound. Our thanks to both Terry and Kirk DeWeese for providing the lighting, sound, and technical equipment used in the show.



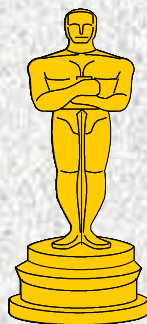
## Assistant Producer

**Kirk DeWeese**

Kirk has helped produce several ring shows including this past year's Halloween Shows. Kirk will be assisting Terry Magelssen with lights, sound, and backstage work.



# Stage Magician of the Year Contest



**Past Winners**

## 1980

1st – Ken Reedy  
(Magician of the Year)  
2nd – Bob Klamm  
(Official 1st Place)  
3rd – Eric Braun  
(Official 2nd Place)

## 1981

1st – Ken Garr  
2nd – Dan Bilyeu  
3rd – Bob Pieper

## 1982

1st – Dave Buttram  
2nd – Roger Miller  
3rd – Jerry Diffenderfer

## 1983

1st Place – Roger Miller  
(Official adult winner)  
1st Place – Shane Minsey  
(Official youth winner)

## 1984

1st – Mark Tams (tied)  
1st – Terry Elton (tied)

## 1985

1st – Dave Mitchell  
2nd – Steve Peyton  
3rd – Mark Tams

## 1986

1st – L.C. Collier  
2nd – Billy Harris  
3rd – Roger Miller

## 1987

1st – Jack Armstrong  
2nd – Mark Tams  
3rd – Roger Miller

## 1988

1st – L.C. Collier  
2nd – Jack Armstrong  
3rd – Bob Harness

## 1989

1st – Dennis Margheim  
2nd – Chuck Replogle  
3rd – Duane Fields

## 1990

1st – Terry Magelssen  
2nd – Bob Klamm  
3rd – Bryce Kuhlman

## 1991

1st – Dennis Burks  
2nd – Chuck Replogle  
3rd – Bryce Kuhlman

## 1992

1st – Dave Emerson  
2nd – Bill Wano  
3rd – Chuck Replogle

## 1993

1st – Dave Emerson  
2nd – L.C. Collier  
3rd – Roger Miller

## 1994

1st – Jim Holt (3-way tie)  
1st – Terry Magelssen  
1st – David Sandy  
2nd – Duane Fields  
3rd – Shane Minsey

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## Stage Magician of the Year Statistics

### Most Total Places (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>)

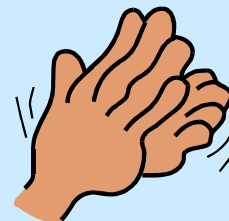
L.C. Collier	8
Roger Miller	7
Terry Magelssen	4
David Sandy	4
Dennis Burks	3
Chuck Replogle	3
Mark Tams	3

### Most 1<sup>st</sup> Place Finishes

L.C. Collier	5
Terry Magelssen	3
Terry Elton	2
Dave Emerson	2
Kyle Scheel	2
David Sandy	2

### Consecutive Year Winners

Dave Emerson	1992-93
Terry Magelssen	1994-95
Kyle Scheel	2002-03



**“Stage Winners” Cont.  
from Previous Page**

**1995**

1st – Terry Magelssen  
2nd – David Sandy  
3rd – M.J. Emigh

**1996**

1st – L.C. Collier  
2nd – David Sandy  
3rd – Jay Steffen

**1997**

1st – Gene Hernandez  
2nd – Roger Miller  
3rd – Terry Magelssen

**1998**

1st – L.C. Collier  
2nd – Gene Hernandez  
3rd – Paul Ebeling

**1999**

1st – David Sandy  
2nd – Roger Miller  
3rd – Paul Ebeling

**2000**

1st – Chris Bruch  
2nd – Matt Grunwald  
3rd – Dennis Burks

**2001**

1st – Eric Vaughn  
2nd – Chris Bruch  
3rd – Larry Poague

**2002**

1st – Kyle Scheel  
2nd – Brent Ahsmus  
3rd – Terry Davis

**2003**

1st – Kyle Scheel  
2nd – Roger Billings  
3rd – Chris Gates

**2004**

1st – Chris Scudiero  
2nd – Harris Deutsch  
3rd – L.C. Collier

**2005**

1st – L.C. Collier  
2nd – Dennis Burks  
3rd – Chris Gates  
People’s Choice –  
Dennis Burks

**2006**

1st – Terry Elton  
2nd – Steve Steiner  
3rd – L.C. Collier  
People’s Choice (Tie) -  
Terry Elton  
Steve Steiner

**2007**

1st – Steve Steiner  
2nd – Larry Warshaw  
3rd – Barron Stringfel-  
low  
People’s Choice Award -  
Steve Steiner

**Stage Magician of the Year Contest  
Basic Information**



**This Year’s Event**

**Date, Time, & Location -**

The 2008 Stage Magician of the Year Contest and Banquet will be held at the Roeland Park Community Center, 4843 Rosewood, Roeland Park, Kansas on Saturday, January 12. Doors will open to the public at 5:30 pm, dinner will begin at 6:00 pm, and the Stage Contest will begin at 7:00pm.

- ◆ Performers and technical crews may enter after 3:30 pm for early set up.
- ◆ All performers should be at the pre-performance drawing for the performance order at 5:00 pm.

**Cost & Tickets**

Banquet seats are reserved and sold on a first-come, first-served basis. Costs for tickets are \$17 for regular members and \$15 for Sorcerers Circle Members and can be purchased at the January 3rd ring meeting or by contacting Duane & Jane Fields at 816-525-0021.

**Help Still Needed**

Should you be available to help with set up, backstage, or any other aspect of the evening, please contact Duane Fields at 816-525-0021.

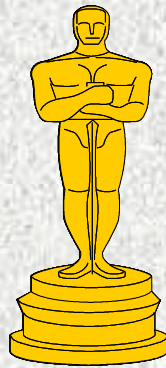


Special Thanks to Duane Fields and Roger Miller for their work in compiling the Stage Magician of the Year history.

# Stage Magician of the Year Contest

## The Early Years

By Duane Fields



year. Ted Denesha donated two more trophies to be used for the second and third place winners.

The August 1979 newsletter said:

"As many of you are aware our club meetings have seen fewer & fewer members performing. This fact has caused much concern among the board, because most of us can recall times when everyone looked forward to a full evening of good entertainment. In an ef-

fort to encourage more performances the board has come up with an exciting incentive program.

Here's how it works, each month the membership will vote on the performer that gave the best all-around presentation that evening. Base your votes on routining, patter, imagination & entertainment value.

The winner will receive a certificate proclaiming him "Magician of the Month." Also, winners' names will appear in the newsletter & ring report in the Linking Ring. At the Christmas Banquet each "Magician of the Month" will perform. The winner will be Ring 129 "Magician of the Year" and will receive an engraved trophy.

I hope everyone will participate & remember the key is entertainment. Magicians are seldom fooled but loved to be entertained. So get to it! Work up your best routine & maybe you will be Ring 129's "Magician of the Year"! Also, thank you Dave Buttram for your time and effort in printing the award certificates."

The Magician of the Month contest, both monthly and yearly became a reality in the Newsletter of August 1979. The very first monthly Magician of the Month contest was held at the Ring 129 monthly meeting in August 1979. Eight magicians competed and two performers tied for Magician of the Month. They were David Buttram and Eric Braun.

*(Continued on next page)*

As a service to IBM Ring 129, this history of the annual H. Claude Enslow Stage Magician of the Year Banquet has been painstakingly compiled. Over the years this annual banquet has become one of the high points of the year for the members of Ring 129, and a lot of people have put forth a tremendous amount of effort to ensure that this tradition continues. In appreciation for all of his efforts to further the enjoyment of magic, Ring 129 named the annual Stage Magician of the Year Banquet and Contest after H. Claude Enslow. (For more information see the article in this newsletter about H. Claude Enslow.)



**David Buttram**

The first end-of-the-year banquets were simply banquets for the installation of officers. Afterward, certain members would entertain the group.

For example, the 1978 End-of-the-Year Banquet was January

5, 1979, and was entertained by the close-up group.

However, at the July 1979 IBM Ring 129 Board of Directors' meeting in President Robert Klamm's basement, David Buttram outlined a plan to have magicians compete on a monthly basis for "Magician of the Month," with a run-off competition at the end of the year for "Magician of the Year." To kick off the plan, David donated the first printed certificates to the club. Brent Hamilton of Showcase Magic, donated a 2-foot tall trophy that was to become the property of Ring 129 and would be a revolving trophy that the winner could keep for one



**Bob Klamm**

In the December, 1979 newsletter, President Bob Klamm wrote:



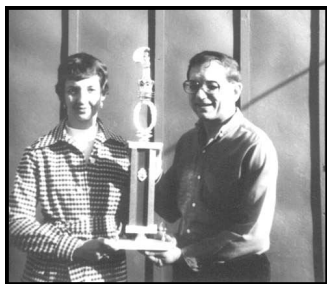
**Bob Klamm**

the club, and it really shows."

The banquet was January 4, 1980, at the Country Club Congregational Church. Ted Denesha took reservations. The January newsletter said to bring your favorite routines. The newsletter also said: "Who will be magician of the year? Come to the banquet Friday, Jan. 4th. There will be a trophy and lots of good entertainment."

The original idea was that the winners of the monthly contests, starting in September, would compete at the Banquet in January. However, there weren't enough winners, so the contest was postponed until February, which was snowed out and finally took place in March of 1980.

According to the April 1980 newsletter there were two trophies given out at the January banquet: Bob and Berniece Klamm won first place at the banquet, and Eric Braun won second place. The newsletter also declared Ken Reedy as the winner of the Magician of the Year run off competition for 1979.



**Berniece & Bob Klamm holding the Original Magician of the Year Traveling Trophy**

The rules of competition were printed in the February 1980 newsletter, along with a thank you to David Buttram for originating the idea. The February newsletter also had a note from President Bob Klamm: "...What with the "Magician of the Month" award as suggested by Dave Buttram, the performances at meetings have greatly improved. Get out your best routines to compete. Only those who earn

certificates during the year are eligible for the "Magician of the Year" trophies.

The monthly winners in 1979 were: August - David Buttram & Eric Braun (tie), September - Ken Garr & Danny Sullivan, October - Ken Reedy, November - Terry Davis, December - Brooks Anderson.



**1st Stage Winner - Ken Reedy**

The winners of the Magician of the Month for 1980 were Dan Bilyeu - January, February – snowed out, Ken Garr – April, Larry Poague – May, David Buttram – June, Brooks Anderson – October, Mike Blum – November, Joe White – December.

At the December 1980 Board Meeting, Herb Dumortier read a letter from Mike Blum. The letter detailed the rules for a magician of the month competition:

1. Winner must be a local ring member.
2. Everyone in attendance may vote.
3. Anyone may perform.
4. There would be a sign-in sheet at each meeting and ballots would be handed out at the meetings.

The December 1980 newsletter mentioned that there would be no meeting in January, 1981, so that everyone could concentrate on the banquet. The newsletter also mentioned the "Magician of the Year" competition that would take place at the banquet. The banquet was held on January 8, 1981 at the Country Club Congregational Church. The entertainment was the run-off competition.

Brooks Anderson had been asked at the November 13, 1980 board meeting to borrow trophies from the winners of previous banquets for display at the banquet. Brooks suggested obtaining a plaque from the IBM to be engraved with the Magician of the Year's name. The board approved.



**Early Performer: Brooks Anderson with his card duck.**

*(Continued on next page)*



**Early Performer: Joe White**

The fee for the banquet was to be \$1.00 higher than the cost of the meal. Ted Denesha was to handle the details and advise the board. It was decided at the December 1980 board meeting that a first, second and third place trophy

would be awarded. Dinner would be served at 6:30, followed by an installation of officers, and then the entertainment. Col. Boone would handle the details of the entertainment portion.

The winners of the 1980 Magician of the year banquet were: First place: Ken Garr, Second place: Dan Bilyeu, Third place: Bob Pieper.

The February 1981 newsletter said:

"A great turnout at the banquet saw some great magic. Almost 90 people saw Ken Garr win the Magician of the Year trophy with Dan Bilyeu winning 2nd and Bob Pieper winning the 3rd place trophy. The first place winner receives a wall plaque when he returns the traveling trophy at the end of the year.



**Early Performer: Dennis Burks**

Ken Reedy is the first to receive the plaque for winning the award last year."



**Early Performer: Duane Fields**

We started doing both a stage and a close-up magician of the month in April 1981. The very first winners were Steve Payton for close-up, and Jerry Diffenderfer for stage. At the April 9, 1981 board meeting, it was reported that the

general membership was pleased with the new arrangement concerning the close-up competition. Suggestion was made to award two Magician of the Month awards. It was pointed out that this would provide 24 performers who were potentially qualified to compete at the yearly banquet. President

Herb Dumortier appointed Ted Denesha to chair a committee to solve the problem.

"The increased number of performers, both Close-up and Platform, has made possible the division of the entertainment at the monthly meetings into two sections, one for each.



**Lynn (I.C.) Collier - 5-Time Winner**

This, in turn, has led to a demand for monthly meetings for these two groups, and in response to that demand the Ring has scheduled such meetings as club functions, for which Sorcerer's Circle points will be awarded.

"According to board members another important award which should not be overlooked is the monthly award of Magician of the Month honors to the Close-up performers and the Platform performers voted to have given the best performance. Traditional Magicians of the Month have competed at the annual banquet for the Magician of the Year trophy. Henceforward there will be two Magician of the Year contests, enabling the scheduling of an annual Spring Party for the Close-up Magician of the Year contest."

This was the official beginning of the Colonel Boone (Clyde Glandon) Close-up Magician of the Year Banquet and Contest. The first annual Close-up Contest and Banquet was held on Thursday, August 26, 1982, at the Executive Inn Motel and featured wine, cheese and crackers (and soft drinks). The meal was served at 7:30 p.m. and the close-up show began at 8:00 p.m.

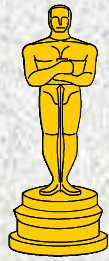


**Roger Miller - Has placed 1st, 2nd, or 3rd Seven Times**

*Duane Fields can be reached by emailing him at [duane@micro.com](mailto:duane@micro.com)*

# Stage Magician of the Year Contest

**H. Claude Enslow**



By Duane Fields



**Claude Enslow playing magician "Tim West"**

The Stage Magician of the Year banquet is named after H. Claude Enslow. In addition to being an accomplished magician, Claude was a divisional manager and a national sales trainer with Waddell & Reed Inc. He began his career in show business with KMBC radio and television where he played the part of Tim West, a local western hero, on the "Big Brother Club." He played the part for 16 years. Claude also played the part of Santa

Claus each year for the downtown Jones Store.

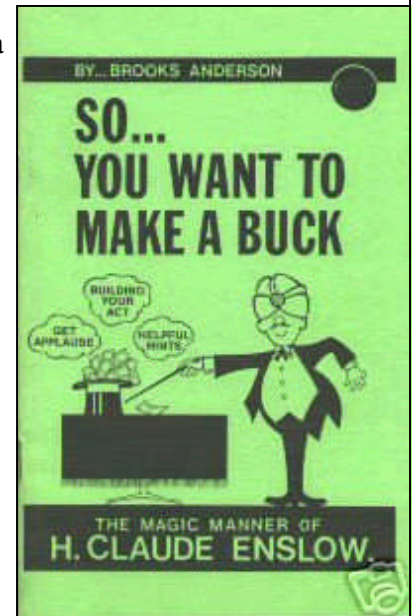
## CLAUDE ENSLOW

Born in 1904 in Nebraska, Claude came to Kansas City and brought the meaning of Entertainment to the K.C. Magic Scene. He performed his first magic trick at the age of 10. A professional entertainer, his voice was heard over KMBZ radio during the 40's on the Big Brother Program as "Tim West". He was featured on local T.V. when it appeared in K.C. as one of the most sought after and well paid Magicians in the Midwest. For years he filled the clothes of Santa Clause at the Jones Store Downtown, where he drew crowds from miles away. During the 50's he introduced magic tricks into Raisin Bran Cereal boxes starting many youngsters onto the path of Magic. Claude was very active in The Lions and Free Masons serving as stage manager at the Linwood and Paseo facility for many years. He was a great influence on many K.C. magicians. It is in his honor that the "Stage Magician of the Year" is named. Claude left us 6 years ago for a booking in Heaven; we sure miss you Claude.

**This Tribute to Claude Enslow was found from an old 1980's Stage Magician of the Year Program.**

Claude was a member of the Masonic Blue Lodge and a life member of the Invisible Lodge (a fraternity of Masonic magicians). He was a member of the Ararat Shrine Temple where he served as a chairman of the Shrine Circus for 44 years. He was also a coordinator of the temple bands.

Claude was not only a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians, but he was also active in the Society of American Magicians. He was a past president of the Twelve High Club, and of the South Side Lions Club. He attended the Country Club Christian Church. He had a son, Robert, and a daughter, Beverly.



**Do you still have one of Claude's books?**

Claude put together a two hour traveling show at one time, with a truckload of equipment and a stage crew. Later, he gave up the big show preferring to work out of a briefcase. Claude was well known for his original magical ideas and writings. He freely gave of his time to mentor many of the magicians in the Kansas City area in every aspect of stage magic, including lighting and sound.

Claude was presented the Ring 129 "Damn Good Guy" award on Friday night at the Midwest Magic Jubilee in 1982 for all he had done for magic in his 69 years of magic. Claude was 78 years old when he received this award. In appreciation for all of his efforts to further the enjoyment of magic, Ring 129 named the annual Stage Magician of the Year Banquet and Contest after H. Claude Enslow.

*Duane Fields can be reached by emailing him at [duane@micro.com](mailto:duane@micro.com)*

# Stage Magician of the Year Contest

**The Competition From  
a Youth's Perspective**

**By Kyle Scheel**



On my twelfth birthday I joined the International Brotherhood of Magicians local ring. In my very first month as a member I competed for stage magician of the month and won, becoming the youngest member in the local ring's history to do so! This entitled me to compete in the annual Stage Magician of the Year Banquet &



Competition. The major challenge facing me was that I was going to compete against the best adult magicians in Kansas City. So, I worked as hard as I could day in and day out to come up with the best act that I could.

I received a most unique birthday present at that time... a macaw parrot. I worked him into the act to produce him at the end of the show to the pure surprise and shock to the audience. No one expected it! When the judges tallied the scores, I became the first youth magician to win the honored title of Magician of the Year in the history of the club!

After the competition I knew that I still needed to work much harder. During that summer I met a magician that would change my direction in magic. He had just come off the road and lived in the area and had worked in the great show places around the world like Las Vegas and opened at Resorts International in Atlantic City. He also knew many famous people.

I had a show at my local church and invited he and his wife to see the show. When it was over I wondered what he thought of my show, but he had gone. He called me later and told me that I had great potential but I needed to "get out of the box". Get out of the box? What did that mean? I told him about my Magician of the Year title and that I qualified to compete again but could not use the same act again. I asked him if he would help me develop a new one.

Again, he told me to get out of the box. Finally, I realized that he meant for me to think outside of the box. Don't do what everyone else does, but take a trick that everyone does and turn it into something new. He challenged me to create magic and that is what I did. I created a whole new act that would push the bounds of magic in Kansas City. I worked on it all the time and in the process developed all new and original magic.

Competitions were coming up again for the International Brotherhood of Magicians local ring, the same competition that I had won the previous year. I kept everything a secret as the date came closer. Thinking that

*(Continued on next page - See "Kyle Scheel")*



**“Kyle Scheel” - (Continued from previous page)**



*Here is a studio shot of Megan, Sarah and myself in our gangster outfits. In 2002, this routine helped us win the Kansas City Stage Magician of the Year and the S.A.M. Junior World Championship honors.*

with this act I could go far, I worked on the act over and over, perfecting every move and focusing on the day of the Magician of the Year Competition.

The day of the competition finally came and I felt a nervous readiness. The competition was going to be tougher than any other that I had ever been in but I felt that I was as ready as I would ever be. As I was introduced and began my competition I felt very good about the way the act went, but it was all up to the judges. During the awards presentation at the end of the evening I remember the Master of Ceremonies announcing, “And for the second year in a row the winner is Kyle Scheel!”.

I had done it! I was the only youth magician in the history of the club to win and then won it twice! I was Kansas City’s best magician and I was only 13 years old! Was it fate that my magician mentor had come along to help me and teach me to think outside of the box?.

Now my next set of challenges were to come. I was soon to compete in Las Vegas at the Riviera for the Society of American Magicians National Convention the following July. We reworked the act to make it even better and when the day of the competition came I was not nervous at all. All the hard work and practice had paid off. I won the Junior Stage World Championship! I had done the impossible!

**Kyle Scheel will be one of the performers at this year’s Stage Magician of the Year Competition on January 12th. He can be reached by email at [awesmfour@kc.rr.com](mailto:awesmfour@kc.rr.com).**

