



MAGIC NEWS

HEART OF THE RING

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

Upcoming Events

Thurs., November 6, 2003
 Regular Meeting 7:00 PM
 At Best Western Inn
 and Conference Center,
 Southwest Blvd.

**(IN KANSAS - I-35 AND RAINBOW
 BLVD. EXIT) At Rainbow
 501 Southwest Blvd.**

Behind the Applebee's on North side -
 lower level

November 8, 2003
Sorcerer's Circle Event
Honorary Roast of our very own
Duane Fields
 At V's Restaurant
 10819 East 40 Highway
 Blue Springs, MO

SEE ARTICLE FOR MORE DETAILS

Board Meeting
 November 13, 2003
 At Terry Elton's home,
 6709 Noland Road in Shawnee

Thurs., December 4, 2003
 Regular Meeting 7:00 PM
 At Best Western Inn
 and Conference Center,
 Southwest Blvd. At Rainbow

SPECIAL NOTE!!
REGULAR MEETING 7 PM
JANUARY 8th, 2004
(First Thursday is New Years Day)
 At Best Western Inn
 and Conference Center,
 Southwest Blvd. At Rainbow

January 31, 2004
 Stage Magician of the Year
 Banquet and Show
 Roeland Park Community Center

February 7, 2004
 Kid's Show and Ring Auction

**We're Not Ready To Roast Our Turkey Yet...
 Just Duane Fields! Come Join Us Nov. 8th!!**

It's been several years since we have felt the excitement and anticipation of a night of toasts and entertaining like we are about to experience. We speak of the evening of roasting and honoring our very own Duane Fields! We will be meeting on Saturday, Nov. 8th at V's Italiano Ristorante located at 10819 East 40 Highway in Independence, MO (their phone-816-353-1241). Here's what



awaits you - join us for a cash bar from 6:30 to 7:00, then enjoy a dinner of filet mignon, salad, baked potato, vegetable, hot garlic toast, coffee or tea, and dessert. (Special dietary needs will be addressed). Ring members

and their guests are encouraged to attend. For only \$17 per person (\$15 if you are a Sorcerer's Circle member) you can be a part of

Ring history! Come join in the revelry and mystique that surrounds roasting one of our favorites! With Terry Elton serving as the evening's M. C., other Ring members and friends that will take part in the event are Kirk Deweese, Jay Godwin, Dave Buttram,

L. C. Collier, Roger Miller, and others will join in the festivities. So come very hungry and be ready to see some top notch entertainment the likes of which our Ring has not seen in several years. See you on the 8th!!

Check Out Who Will Be A Part Of Your 2004 Board of Directors

At last month's meeting, you could feel the excitement brewing. Of course, it's now time to elect a new Board of Directors.

The nominating committee submitted their nominations for the Board and the floor was opened up to nominations; the results are as follows:

Nominated are President - Terry Elton; Vice President - Alan Goodheart; Secretary - Don Douglas; Treasurer - Kirk Deweese; Sergeant-At-Arms - Jason Dean; Board member - L. C. Collier. After opening the floor, it was decided that all the announced positions will be uncontested. All nominations have been closed for this election. So be sure to be there in November when we will vote to elect your new

Performance Workshop

Last month was full of magic, and one of the featured events that we have seen lately was the Performance Workshop held at the Best Western. Todd Lamanske headed up this evening of performing and discussion. For those in attendance, it was insightful, educational, and inspiring. For we learned from seeing those who did their acts, learned what those in our Ring that perform a lot see as our long and shortcomings and most of all, strive to improve each of our acts to make them as perfect as possible

Much thanks goes out to Todd for all his efforts in promoting *Bev Dowling* and planning this event, Rod Sipe for getting the "eats" and drinks, and Larry Warshaw, Terry Elton, Jason Dean, and Rod Sipe for their critiques.

And lastly, we couldn't have had this even without the outstanding performances of Dale Huffman, John Hicks and Kevin Emerson. You guys are the real "Brave Hearts" of our group.

Letter to the Editor

To be Critiqued or not to be critiqued – that was my big question. I thought about it for weeks. Then at the October meeting, I decided to go for it. I told Todd Lamanske to put me down for stage. I enjoy performing stage over close-up, but I did think about doing a close-up routine as well.

I have never done anything like this before for the fear of negative feedback. I did this for positive feedback. That’s what I hoped to get out of this. So I put that fear aside and gave it a shot. I knew that it would not be easy to get in front of magicians and try to act as if they were lay people (something I don’t like to do anytime). To top it all off, I was the first one to be “sacrificed”, I mean, to [perform] first. But I mustered up all the courage I could and I got up on that stage to do my best.

As I performed I noticed a couple of things I did wrong (so did the judges). Now it is too late to change them. I have been told if you make a mistake, just keep *Ted Denesha* moving because the people watching don’t know that you made a mistake. But when you are critiqued, you better not make a mistake. I can guarantee you that you will be told about it.

[Regarding the Performance Workshop] I would like to see this done again but in front of lay people. I believe the lay people should also judge the performers the way our yearly contests are done. The other judges then could be magicians. Also the people doing the judging should be held to a ten minute comment session, Have a time keeper to control this part of the session. Any members in the audience will not make any comments during this time. If the performer asks the members for their advise, then they could give it after their performance.

In closing as a past performer, I didn’t want to hear from someone that was sitting in the audience. Why? Because if they know so much about performing, then why wasn’t their butts up on the stage showing me and everyone their performance? I was given advise by members that I personally have not seen perform at any monthly meetings (you know who you are). So what do these guys know about performing? Nothing. There are my thoughts about how this performer feels about being critiqued, and how to make it better.

Want to hone your magic skills? Learn from each other? Show someone what you are working on and get their advise and experience? Then join us at **Applebee’s at Rainbow and Southwest Blvd.** Both at 6:00 PM before our Ring meeting as well as after hours when our meeting adjourns.

A special thanks to Applebee’s for their service, hospitality, and courtesy in seeing that our group gets

Ring 129 Officers

President: Larry Warshaw913-381-8829
Vice President: Rod Sipe816-461-3330
Treasurer: Kirk Dewese816-224-5000
Secretary: Alan Goodheart913-648-0331
Sergeant-At-Arms: Jason Dean816-364-4241
Board Member: Danny Mahar816-923-4788
Board Member: Ernest Bruch913-341-0705

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 com-

Ring 129 Website

Magician of the Month

October 2003

Stage

Close-up

www.ring129.com

SORCERER’S CIRCLE POINTS SHEETS

The time is NOW! If you have been a Ring member for at least 3 years, you should be keeping track of your **Sorcerer’s Circle** points on our helpful points sheet available on-line at www.ring129.com, or if you do not have internet access, please see a Board member to get a copy.

Find it in your Magic souls to better yourself and your Ring by working hard and becoming a member of **The Sorcerer’s Circle**.

Dennis Burks is acting as M. C. for our annual Kid’s Show February 7, 2004 at RPCC. If you are interested in performing or helping in production, please call Dennis at 913-492-9860

*Want to own a piece of history?
Looking for that perfect Holiday gift?
Stop right here – your looking is over!*

RING 129 WAREHOUSE BLOWOUT!

We have a **LIMITED SUPPLY** of IBM Convention 2003 Commemorative Polo shirts and T-Shirts available for sale.

And we are ready to **BLOW THEM OUT** at this month's Ring meeting!

POLO SHIRTS (WAS \$15) **NOW JUST \$7**
XL ONLY

COTTON T-SHIRTS (WAS \$10) **NOW JUST \$3**
XL ONLY

**BRING YOUR CASH OR CHECKS FOR THIS
LAST CHANCE OFFER TO OWN ONE!!**

Do's...dews...dooze...dues.... No matter how you spell it, Your dues are due!!!

Well, it's November, and as we come to the end of the year, it's time to renew your membership. You can pay your \$20 dues for 2004 in advance! Bring your cash or checks to the November meeting and see Kirk Deweese!

A SPECIAL OFFER!! If your dues are paid by the end of the December ring meeting, you will be eligible to attend the first lecture of the 2004 year **ABSOLUTELY FREE!!**. So don't delay – **BRING YOUR CASH OR CHECKS ON THURSDAY!**

DATE SET FOR NEXT YEAR'S STAGE MAGICIAN OF THE YEAR BANQUET AND SHOW

Look forward to January when one of our premier events is scheduled to take place. Your Stage Magician of the Year Show and Banquet is slated for Saturday, January 31st. You still have November and December to perform, win, and be eligible to participate in the contest. If you are interested in helping make this event a success, please contact Ian Goodheart or Larry Warshaw.

This evening is very anticipated, so mark your calendars NOW! We will also be planning a Sorcerer's Circle event that Friday, the 30th as well. A full weekend of Magical surprises awaits you. Come join us!

Stage Winner Larry Poague

A half century ago, young Larry had a friend who had a magic book by Thurston. That's all it took – he began ordering catalogues and seeing magic shows here in KC. Then in the 8th grade he had his first performance in the school's talent show. Larry has always preferred stage and parlour to close-up. Because Larry follows the mentalism genre, he finds that having to use few props and gaining the respect and enjoyment from the audience makes this his most fulfilling routines. When asked what tree best describes him and his magic, Larry chose the willow – no matter what hardships and storms come his way, it bends but doesn't break, and always springs back to form. He is a member of both the Int'l Brotherhood of Magicians as well as the SAM, and has a love for roses and gardens, and is a member of the KC Rose Society. Larry still performs several birthday party shows and picnics each month using his mentalism routines as a base, but finds that family and business take priority to his magic. He has found a unique balance for all of them. Congrats to Mr. Poague and let's hope he wins the Magician

Close-up Winner Ken Reedy

Congratulations to Ken Reedy for his outstanding safety pin routine that won him close-up Magician of the Month. He started in magic in 1974 at the age of 22 by learning from the books that he found in the library. He used that, and his experience doing children's parties to expound on his love of everything magical. When asked about his magical preference, he prefers close-up magic because it is more of a challenge and he likes the immediate response he gets from the audience. He is a member of the IBM and the Fellowship of Christian Magicians, and is mostly doing performances for corporations and is truly devoted to spreading the benefits of the Healing of Magic program. Words cannot express how fortunate the Ring is to have a member like Ken whose efforts do not go unnoticed, and those of us who have met and talked to Ken have gained so much insight into his views on magic. And we should use him as an example of the goodness and kindness that many times are forgotten. Thanks Ken for being a part of the Ring, and best of luck in June 2004.

MAGIC NEWS RING 129 NEWSLETTER EDITOR
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

HIDDEN WORD CONTEST IS BACK

Look for your name in italics
somewhere in the newsletter,
and just let Alan Goodheart
know you saw it, and
claim your prize!!

SO START READING!

***DOES ANYONE HAVE PICTURES OF LAST
YEAR'S CLOSE-UP MAGICIAN OF THE
YEAR CONTEST? IF SO, PLEASE CON-
TACT KEN REEDY SO HE CAN UPDATE
THE RING 129 WEBSITE.
THANKS...***

Hope You Got To Enjoy A Great Month Of Magic If Not, Then Get Caught Up Reading About It

Ring Report as submitted by Stu Lewis (Thanks as always for all your efforts)

Our October meeting began, as it does every year, with a report from the nominating committee. We were somewhat surprised by the announcement that Larry Varshaw has decided not to run for a second term. Terry Elton was the committee's choice for next year's presidency, and so far there is no opposition. I'll report next month, after the election, on the full slate of officers and board members.

Jason Dean, one of our top close-up performers, presented the teaching segment, with some variations on the "Chicago Opener," a.k.a. "Red Hot Mama," in which a chosen card's back changes color. He introduced a new trick for the standard routine. In keeping with our usual practice, he focused on methods well within the abilities of most of the members.

Since Halloween is around the corner, members were encouraged to introduce an occult or bizarre element into their acts. In the close-up contest, Kyle Scheel did a card force where spirits wrote the card's name on a pair of slates. He also used the theme of a "death card,"

with the initials "RIP" appearing on the back of a chosen card. Ken Reedy performed the "Linking Pins," taking first place despite the fact that he did not use a Halloween-based theme. Larry Poague was the only stage-contest entrant (leaving the board to decide if he can be declared a winner). He did a headline prediction involving some bizarre *National Inquirer* headlines and also performed a séance with slates.

Two of the three performers in the open segment followed the spirit of the season. Stu Lewis adapted a Tom Craven murder-mystery routine which he learned at last *Cliff Norris* month's lecture to tell the story of the Golem, a Jewish folktale about a powerful creature similar to Frankenstein's monster. Ken Reedy stuck a needle through his arm. Marty Isenberg did a couple of mental effects, including "Room Service," in which a hotel room key is shown to have the same number as one selected at random by a group of spectators.

On October 9 about thirty-five of us returned to our meeting place for a lecture by mentalist Mark Strivings. There

were a lot of good routines involving principles with which many magicians are not familiar, such as the "Menetekel" deck, double writing, pocket writing, and super-roughing. He believes in using gaffs, such as marked cards, whenever possible. He indicated that most magicians, impressed as they were with some of his effects, would not take the time to make them up. For example, his "Invisible Deck" routine involves four decks. He discussed the trade-offs of various methods of doing such effects.

It was an enjoyable lecture and even those of us who may not use his actual routines got some good ideas (there's at least one I plan to rework, and I've been thinking about how to use super-roughing in routines not involving four decks). Since he does not keep everything in a current set of notes, you have to either take good notes or spend a lot of money to get the routines in written form. But for working mentalists, if we can add one good routine to our acts, the lecture was well worth the time and modest lecture fee.

--Stu Lewis, ring reporter

