



# MAGIC NEWS

## HEART OF THE RING

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

### Upcoming Events

**September 5, 2002**  
**Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.**

Holiday Inn Lenexa  
95th and I-35  
Lenexa, KS

**September 12, 2002**  
**Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.**  
Dr. Mike Blum's house

**September 17, 2002**  
**SAM Dick Barry**  
**Lecture 7 pm**

Fairmont Community Center,  
Independence, MO  
\$10 to Non-members

**October 3, 2002**  
**Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.**  
**BE SURE TO ATTEND THIS**  
**MEETING OR**  
**CONTACT A BOARD MEMBER**

**October 9 – 12, 2002**  
**Workshop Reunion**  
**lamada Inn; St. Joseph, MO**  
(See related article)

**January 25th, 2003**  
**Stage Magician of the Year**  
**Banquet**  
Roeland Park Community Center

### CORRECTION

The picture last month for the "Ring 129  
fits Middle Age" article should have  
read:

Charter members of Ring 129 (left to  
right) Dan Bradbury, Imogene Patchen,  
and Kevin Kirwan are thanked for their  
contribution of support by President Mike

### GET OUT THE VOTE!

It seems like we just began this magical year, and fall is approaching. That also means it is time to begin our process to elect a new set of Board members to represent your club. The process goes like this: In September the club will elect a nominating committee. The job is to select at least one person for each office (regular or associate Ring member of IBM) that wish to serve the club and present them at our meeting in October, with other nominations coming from the floor. Then in November, the vote is taken. Any nominees that are not elected have an opportunity to have the name re-submitted in the running for an open office. The new Board is then installed at the Stage Magician

### A Letter From The Editor

By Alan Goodheart

It seems so rarely that we hear of one of our fellow magi being injured or sick. Let this month be the exception. Word has it that three members each are facing their own heroic struggles. You will find details throughout the newsletter. What we have always seen is how our members rally to give our support to those when they need it most. Do not let this be any different. We all need to make sure that each of our members know that we care and are there for them. Either with a friendly call, or a card or note. Or even a visit. Just having them know how much we care truly makes their recovery seem easier and better. So put the shoe on the other foot. And give just a little of yourselves to make that difference in their lives. You will be glad you did, and so will they.

### NEW MEETING LOCATION!!!

Be sure to attend this month's meeting or read NEXT month's newsletter for our Ring's new meeting

### The Eyes Have It

This Tuesday, Sept. 3rd, Kevin Kirwan is scheduled to have eye surgery. He says he feels fortunate that things are not as serious as they once were thought to be. So let's wait a day or two, and then make sure to give Kevin a call at 816-324-5589, or send something by mail to 806 S 5th St., Savannah, MO 64485. Get well soon!

### HOPPING TABLES:

*The Art and Science of Restaurant Magic*  
A SERIES OF SIX ESSAYS BY KEITH LEFF

#### Article Two: Types of Effects to Include and Things to Consider:

1. Ease of resetting / time to impact ratio.
2. Use large production items such as jumbo coins or dice.
3. Practice your repertoire, use balance and do effects that layman like, not effects that magicians like. Customers are the ones who "put food on the table." Your friends from the local magic club do not.
4. Have routines on file so you know which effects go in what routines.
5. Keep a notebook updated of routines, so if previous customers or regular customers somehow tip you off that they've already seen a certain trick, you can do the effect with a different method. Another option is to just do a different trick, or to just leave that particular trick out of the routine entirely.
6. Do simple effects, tricks with no math, or hard thinking. Be natural. Do strong, emotional, powerful, involving, interactive and intimate effects. This kind of magic is close-up and personal.
7. Types of props to use: coins, cards, balls, rings, strings, ropes, rubber bands, bills, napkins, etc. Avoid using "gimmicky" items that look like magic props that belong in a magic show.
8. Always do a trick that keeps them talking and coming back to the restaurant requesting to see it over and over again as a closer. Make sure you do the trick with a variation if you know someone at the table has



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

The school rush for physicals is almost over. By Labor Day weekend, most kids will have started back to school and parents back to full time work. My staff is happy

at the kids we see once a year have been growing well and are anxious to get back to school too. They are also happy that some of my magic tricks will get put back into the drawer. It seems that parents ask me about my magic and, of course, I enthusiastically bring them into my magic drawer and pull out an age appropriate trick. My staff sees me go to the drawer and they moan. This means that I will be a little further behind in my schedule.

I have learned several things when performing in the office. Never repeat a trick. It is difficult enough to fool the kids, but to repeat the trick; they will catch me many times. Another issue is the age appropriate trick. Cards are sometimes confusing for the kids. I try never to embarrass the kids when they do not know a spade from a club; sometimes adults have difficulty in recognition too. I, therefore, try not to do cards for the very young kids. Coins are great. If I can, I will often give the kids the magically produced coin. (Please do not get the idea that I will give any of you a coin!) I am looking forward to THE Workshop in October, a fabulous opportunity to learn some magic to be easily performed in the office. I hope we have most of our members signed up to participate. If you are not planning on attending the Workshop, but would like to help; there are many fill in slots of help needed. If you can spend a day, half day or just several hours, we can find a spot where you can help. Please step forward.

The September Ring meeting is always a fun meeting. Many of our members are finished with their summer respite and are anxious to get back into the learning and participating mode of Ring activities. I hope to see most everyone at our first fall meeting. Bring your magic and have fun!

already seen it before. (con't on Page 2)....

**Table Hopping – con't from Page 1...**

- 9. Use flourishes nonchalantly and sparingly, do not show off. You want them to remember you, not your fancy “finger flicking.”
- 10. Perform classics, such as coins across, cups and balls, matrix (if use close-up mat), coins thru table, sponge balls, card to wallet, etc.
- 11. You can use a close-up pad when possible, or work from your pockets. If you choose to use a close-up pad, you can use it to conceal and transport loads. Close-up pads can be used as a miniature stage to establish a “don't touch” domain, BUT, then anything OFF of the mat is touchable and fair game for customers to grab and inspect. Try not to move things around on the table (such as plates, glasses and silverware) if you can avoid it. Of course, if you are loading a card under a glass or saltshaker for an effect, that is an obvious exception.
- 12. Use novelty give-a-ways when possible.
- 13. Be natural with your magic AND mannerisms.

Stay tuned next month for article three: On Demonstration Night  
 If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.

**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**

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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**

**AUGUST 2002**

**Stage**

Kevin Kirwan

**Close-up**

Terry Davis

Remember to visit our Ring's website at:  
**[www.ring129.com](http://www.ring129.com)**

***WHERE IS LC??***

For those who have been wondering what has happened to L.C. Collier, his plate has been rather full lately. In addition to working around the country, his wife (Candy) recently was diagnosed to have multiple sclerosis and a brain tumor. LC says between working, doctor appointments and taking care of his wife, he has had little time for little else.

If you would like to send cards or flowers to his wife, the address is - 6417 Larsen Lane  
 Shawnee, KS 66203

**VIDEO REVIEW by Todd Lamanske**  
**SPECTATORS DON'T EXIST by Jon Allen**

buy videos for the entertainment value. I enjoy watching other magicians perform. I seldom get anything new from a video and add it to my repertoire. The new video from Jon Allen, Spectators Don't Exist" as some great, practical Close-Up Magic.

First up is "Ghost". This is an animated bill routine that is pretty nice. A borrowed bill is crumpled into a ball and placed in a clear glass. The bill animates and jiggles around and then for the finally, it jumps from the glass into the magicians hand. I kind of have a love/hate relationship with thread work. I do like the idea of just making the bill move instead of a full levitation. Most floating effects point directly to the method (a thread so thin you can't see it). But when you just animate the bill, it is less obvious. If you do thread work or want to this is a good routine.

"Coins Across" is my favorite routine on the tape. It is a 3 Coin routine that is very nicely structured. If you don't do a Coins across routine, you should. It kills laymen. This is a very good routine.

"Rubber Band Trilogy" is a series of three routines that all run together. There is a nice bit where you cause a rubber band to melt through your wrist. The rest of the routine is Jon's handling for the rubber band penetration, better known as The Crazy Man's Handuffs. His handling is very nice.

Next is "Ambitious Card and Destination Box. This is a standard Ambitious card routine but the folded Card ends up inside a small metal box that is inside of a larger wooden box that is locked and has been in the spectator's possession since the beginning of the trick. The spectator can even take the card out of the little metal box himself or herself. This is my second favorite routine on the tape. The method is very slick and very practical. Jon will be releasing this later as a marketed item. It will include the box and full routine. This is absolutely killer!

"Thought of Card in Envelope" is a little misleading. The card is not really thought of. The title makes it sound like the spectator just thinks of a card and it ends up in an envelope. This is not the case. The routine is decent but I was a little put off by the deceptive title.

Last on the tape is "Freddy's Dead". This is Jon's take on Professor's Nightmare. This is my third favorite routine on the tape. Very nicely structured, and the change from 3 equal ropes to 3 uneven ropes at the end will fool you. It looks great.

As I said, I buy videos for entertainment value. This one definitely delivers. I enjoyed watching Jon perform these effects for real live people. Jon is a seasoned pro and you will learn from these tapes. Highly recommended.

**SORCERER'S CIRCLE POINTS SHEETS**

If you are not already, you should be keeping track of your Sorcerer's Circle points on our helpful points sheet available on-line at [www.ring129.com](http://www.ring129.com), or if you do not have internet access, please see a board member to get a copy. Thanks to **Jay Godwin** and the SC committee for making our lives easier to track our SC points. No excuse for more of us getting into this fine group. Show the Ring you care to share!

**Another Get Well Wish**

Recently Joe White's wife, Dorothy, fell unexpectedly, and broke her hip. This has led to her having hip surgery. She is currently recuperating from the surgery. Please take a minute and send a card or make a call to Joe and Dorothy at 4000 Genessee St., Kansas City, MO 64111. Or call them at 816-531-3962.

**LAST CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE!**  
**THE REUNION'**

**WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY**  
**OCTOBER 9, 10, 11 & 12, 2002**

The WORKSHOP Reunion, now expanded to three full days plus one evening, will be held October 9, 10, 11 & 12, 2002 at the Ramada Inn in St. Joseph, Missouri (greater Kansas City area). This fabulous learning event will feature the best of the last 5 years of WORKSHOP events, plus some brand new performers and special surprises.

You'll get hands-on teaching from a faculty of professional magicians and entertainers. Limited to an exclusive small number of participants, this four-day gathering includes numerous intimate small-group workshops, learning sessions, a close-up show, a banquet and dinner theater style show, plus fabulous full-evening stage show held at the beautifully restored Missouri Theater.

**HERE'S A PARTIAL LIST OF FACULTY/PERFORMERS:**

**MICHAEL AMMAR BOB SHEETS ALI BONGO**  
**DOC EASON TOM MULLICA KERRY POLLOCK**  
**ALDO COLOMBINI DAN HARLAN RICH BLOCH**  
**DALE SALWAK TOM BURGOON**  
**STAN ALLEN DANNY COLE JOHN SHRYOCK & MARI**  
**LYNN**

**PLUS MORE TO COME!**

**SPECIAL GUEST OF HONOR:**

**MARK WILSON & NANI DARNELL**

**THE WORKSHOP REUNION WILL BE THE BEST YET!**  
**TO REGISTER GO TO [WWW.RING129.COM](http://WWW.RING129.COM), OR**  
**CONTACT DAVID SANDY AT 816-233-4177**

**TEACH-A-TRICK REMINDER**

Don't be late to the beginning of our regular meetings. Because that's when **Teach-A-Trick** is happening! (Meetings start at 7:00 p.m.) Come early and learn some new and fun magic! (Mini-lectures will take precedent over Teach-A-Tricks).

303 WEST 102ND PLACE #1  
VERLAND PARK, KS 66212

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE!!**

COME TO THIS RING  
MEETING OR READ  
NEXT MONTH'S NEWS-  
LETTER TO FIND OUT  
OUR NEW MEETING  
LOCATION!

### **Ring 129** **Lecture Fees**

Unless listed otherwise,  
are as follows:

**Non-Members \$15**

**Members in good standing \$12**

**Sorcerer's Circle Members \$10**

## **Close-up Winner** **Terry Davis**

You may be showing your age if you let people know that your interest in magic came from seeing magic on television shows like The Ted Mack Amateur Hour or the Ed Sullivan Show. That's how Terry Davis got started with interest. Terry likes stage magic, but his real interest lies in close-up. You can carry all your magic with you, ready at the spur of the moment. When asked what tree best represented his magic character, he said a sappling (a young tree) was the one. A new tree is like new, fresh magic. Terry feels he continues to keep growing with his unique style of effects. He has dual memberships to two of IBM's rings— our Ring 129 here in Kansas City, and also Ring 8 in Columbia, MO. Though not performing at any events or parties at this time, you know Terry is ready and willing to share his love of magic at the drop of a hat. Look forward to his great routining at the Close-up contest next year.

## **Stage Winner** **Kevin Kirwan**

Kevin Kirwan – a name synonymous with excellent magic since he began performing at the ripe age of 17 years. He did a show for the Shriner's organization, and thus his leap into the magic arena. Although he does use some close-up routines when he can, his true passion is for magic on stage – being able to use those large illusions and equipment that goes over big! Given the choice to describe himself using a tree or an animal Kevin immediately said an “eagle”. This beautiful creature represents independence, freedom, and experiences from a lofty view...all ways that Kevin's magic style presents itself. He can be seen performing in and around the St. Joseph area for various charitable events and does an annual show to benefit Muscular Dystrophy. As a member of both International Brotherhood of Magicians and SAM, he keeps busy with his regular family as well as his magic family. Good luck in the future Stage Magician of the Year contest in January.















