



Prestidigitator Press

International Brotherhood of Magicians, Logan Pritchett Ring 29
8912 Stagecoach Road #11, Little Rock, AR 72210 (501) 455-6242
Meets 1st Thursday of Every Month at Jo Ellen Ford Auditorium at
UAMS



April 2008



April 3rd Close-up Competition at UAMS Reynolds Center

♣ **Calendar:**

April 3rd – Close-up
Competition

April 21st – Brain Staron
Lecture

May 1st – Bizarre Magic

May 20th – Bob Sheets
Lecture

Got Magic News? Email
newsletter Ed. Tyler Vodehnal:
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Close-up Competition

Please call the magic shop by Tuesday, April 1, if you plan to compete in the second Annual Ring 29 Close-Up Competition. There will be a \$5 entry fee for each competitor. Gift certificates to Mr. Magic will be awarded to winners. There is a seven minute time limit for each performance. No fire and no open flame. Pick up an

information sheet at the magic shop or contact Christy at cih0914@aol.com for a copy.

Lecture

♠ Remember the April 21 Brain Staron Lecture. He is the Walt Disney World Magician. He is coming to Little Rock to lecture on "You Can't Have Magic without Entertainment"

Additional Lecture Information:

For over 20 years Brian Staron has been a full time performer. He is currently under long term contract with Walt Disney Entertainment. Last year he performed over 550 shows for Walt Disney alone. He still travels extensively to entertain at corporate events all over the country.

He currently lives in Casselberry, FL, (right outside of Orlando).

The lecture title is, *You Can't Have Magic Without Entertainment*. The lecture is a true lecture format. It is basically made up of two components. The first is made up of the thought process of creating routines, and instead of just reading the directions to a trick, **create!**

Brian Staron describes his lecture:

"I will show the process that I go through as I create the routines that I perform at Disney. (Although I am with Disney, these ideas will work anywhere).

We can all go into a magic shop and buy a trick. That act in and of itself does not make you a magician.

Without entertainment, there is no magic. This is the second half of the lecture. Showing how simple things create magic in the eyes of our audiences. I will bring props and routines that I have, (in fact common magical items many magicians will already have), and show how to make them into something more than the sum of their part!

For all of the awards that I have garnered at Disney, (4 time 'You Create Magic' award, and 5 time 'You Are A Disney Star' award), each time, without exception, is a comment about how the magic created the entertainment. These are the thoughts that I will share with attendees.

I will have a few things for sale, but that is not the hallmark of my lecture. If someone is coming to look for the next big thing to buy, this is not the lecture for

them. This lecture is for those serious about creating more magic. Newcomers to our art will find something they can take with them; seasoned magicians will find a nugget to take their performances to the next level. There are plenty of lecturers out there who have many wonderful books, props and stuff to sell, and unfortunately many of them do not perform on a regular basis for real audiences. My lecture comes from the point of view of a full time performer and deals with audience tested ideas. You can get a little more information off of my new website www.brianstaron.com

Also, for a little bit of a peak into my magic collection check out this link to a local television story they did about me this past fall.

<http://www.wftv.com/video/14459190/index.html>

♣ Bob Sheets will be lecturing to Ring 29 on May 20. More info will be given in the May newsletter.



Auction

The annual auction was a success. A big thanks goes to Jim Henson who emceed the event and James Kinsey and Christy Henson who handled the organization at the event. Over 800 items were auctioned.

May Meeting

The theme for the May 1 meeting will be Bizarre Magic. It will be at UAMS Reynolds Center 6:45pm

Magical Memories

♠ Ring Report

"It's kind of fun to do the impossible." - Walt Disney

On March 6th, 2008, twenty-seven members of Ring 29 braved the dangers of an oncoming snow storm to take part in the ring's annual magic auction. Well over 800 tricks and magical paraphernalia were up for bid. The auction was both a silent and speaking auction. Each member truly had to be on their toes because they never really knew if or when the item they were watching could be taken up for the group to bid upon. Jim Henson served as the auctioneer for the evening while Ring President Christy Henson and Treasurer James Kinsey helped the evening run smoothly with their behind the scenes work. The evening was a wonderful success as nearly ever member present had the opportunity to walk away with a new mix of magical oddities to add to the repertoire. Needless to say, we are all looking forward to upcoming meetings where we will get to see all the new magic performed.

♠ Blast from the Past:



It's easy to find a Jardin Ellis Ring. Look in Jardin Ellis' bathtub.

I just saw the first topless majic act on television ... the HEADCHOPPER didnt work right! Is a Russian Comedy Magician a RED CARD? Nyet! (Thats short for "not yet.")

There was the majician who tried to levitate a lady with LARYNGITIS — but he couldnt because she was a little HOARSE. You can always get a rise out of a LEVITATION TRICK.

If you lose your ZOMBIE BALL, you can always bend up the gimmick and use it for a coathanger.

RIDLE

ANSER: Slate Flap

Ridle: What does a slate do in wind-storm?

Your Friend
Elwood



Magic Matters

♠ Bill Fulton has been entertaining in the grade schools in central Arkansas as Amethyst the Wizard, the forgetful but likable wizard. Amethyst tells about his life, the importance reading, writing, science, math, social studies. He also tells about his magic friends, Mr. Magic shop, and members of Ring 29. He always puts in a plug when he can about magical resources here in central Arkansas.

♦ Preston Strobel (son of Michael Strobel) conducted his first performance for the Ring when he was just 4 years old and is currently a Senior at North Little Rock High School. He has just received his appointment to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Conn. Approximately 6000 individuals apply and only about 400 are accepted each year. When he graduates in 2012 with a Bachelor of Science degree, he will be commissioned as an Ensign in the Coast Guard and hopes to someday fly rescue helicopters. He will be reporting at the end of June. Congratulations to the Strobel family!

♣ Scott Davis is staying busy performing a number of Corporate shows and Educational Programs for school around the country. In March he performed for two weeks in Missouri and one week in South Carolina. Over the next few weeks he will be performing two weeks in Ohio, two weeks in Arizona, and one week in Indiana.

♥ The Master's of Illusion will be performing Magic on Easy Street on April 4th- 5th at 7pm. Performers are Bill Fulton, Paul Carlton, Joey Williams, Richard Knoll, and Derrick Rose. Easy Street is located at 7th and Center Street. Cost is \$10 for laymen,

and \$5 for children, Seniors and magicians with magic ID.

♠ The Master's of Illusion will also be performing on Saturday evening, May 10th at the Royal Theater in Benton.

♦ Information submitted by Dennis Schick: "The Magic of Peter Gossamer" will be featured at this summer's "National KidsFest" at Silver Dollar City in Branson, Missouri. Early publicity touts his as a "brand new show, with baffling vanishings, mind-boggling levitations, and mystifying feats..." KidsFest will be held June 7 through August 10 this year. Other features of the festival will include an ice circus, and an all-new VeggieTales Show.

♣ From Doctor Mary Ann Campbell AKA Dr. MAC: I went to Memphis last weekend and, to my surprise and delight, my son John Campbell, was having a magic jam session at his home on Saturday afternoon (Feb.23rd). Here are the details: Neal Talley and John Sorrell were the first to arrive. John Sorrell, an engineer at FedEx, works in the same complex as John Campbell. We discussed and viewed some fascinating DVDs such as The Incredible Dancing Paper Napkin and Heiny 100. The Amazing Grayson (Smith) and Duc Phan arrived next and rounded out the six of us.

Grayson demonstrated money effects with great patter and smooth, fluid moves. He did \$1 to \$10; and two \$1s to \$20. He has worn out four sets of Slow Burn, but didn't bring one of them or the remnants with him. He told us about using Mark Wilson's Bingo Card routine with audiences where on the final call, everyone Bingos at the same time. Grayson does corporate magic and uses the brick wall into the Window of Opportunity.

John Campbell demonstrated Business Cardigram using the Out to

Lunch business card move. He had stamps made up to save time and give a consistent look. Evidently, the wide blue rubber bands found on broccoli and used to hide the card line, have become scarce.

Duc Phan is from Vietnam. He entertained us with his very visual origami rubber bands, which he has been performing since he was five years old. Duc is now 30. Grayson, John Campbell, and Duc engaged in dueling rubber bands and shared many visual and unique tricks.

I had to leave after two hours, but they played on with their jam session. I can't tell you how energized I was to see some new and fun tricks so well done.

Also, the Memphis magicians commented on what a joy it was to visit the exceptionally organized and well stocked Mr. Magic shop before traveling to Hot Springs to enjoy the additional hospitality of Maxwell Blade.

♥ From the IBM Web Portal for March [An Amazing Resource For The Magical Arts](#) (William E. Spooner - January 2008)... The **Conjuring Arts Research Center** was established in 2003 as a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of magic and its allied arts. The Center, located at 11 West 30th Street in Manhattan, is the brainchild and creation of William Kalush who has amassed over 12,000 volumes of books and journals and rare documents. The rare book room contains an impressive collection of books dating back to the 15th century, including a number of variations of Reginald Scot's [Discovery of Witchcraft](#).

Over 500 volumes were published before the 1700s. Many of these rare volumes are in Russian, Dutch, Portuguese, Spanish, Italian, Latin, French, German, Swedish and Japanese and are being translated into

English. The library collection houses volumes on the allied arts and includes topics on psychic phenomenon, hypnosis, deceptive gambling, mentalism, ventriloquism, juggling, and sleight-of-hand techniques. The **Conjuring Arts Research Center** has a talented staff composed of an office manager, head Librarian, director of research and translation, and creative director. These staff members, as well as others, contribute to the success of the **Conjuring Arts Research Center**.

Who can benefit from the **Conjuring Arts Research Center**? Anyone who has an interest in magic and the allied arts, present or past, whether a performer, collector, academic historian, writer, or magic enthusiasts will find Center most helpful. As a research tool The **Conjuring Arts Research Center** fills the gap between private collections of magic related history and information, and the public. You can participate by becoming a member at one of three individual membership levels. To understand the benefits of the various membership levels, go to the Center's web site, <http://www.conjuringarts.org/>.

♠ Dennis Schick writes that there is another "magician" who has been exposing magic secrets, this time in Brazil. A magician hosts a television show every Sunday afternoon, and has exposed such illusions as the Floating Table and Walking Through A Mirror, two popular and widely-used tricks. Local magicians are looking into taking action against the show, including both legal action as well as pressure against the television station. Of course this exposure is not being done by a true magician, because true magicians never reveal how tricks are done, do they?

♦ Maxwell Blade performed his last show at the Maxwell Blade Theater of Magic in Hot Springs on March 29. He is now performing two times a day in Hot Springs at the Poet's Loft which holds 75 people.



Trick Time

NOT ANOTHER SANDWICH

Effect: A chosen card is caught between two Jokers.

Requirements: Duplicate Jokers matching your pack are needed.

Performance: Place the two Jokers face up on top of the face-down deck. As you do so, obtain a break below the top three cards. Pick off the top three cards and do a Braue Addition to put the indifferent card between the Jokers. (That is, peel off the top Joker onto the top of the deck, then place both the Joker and the card hidden under it on top of the deck. Apparently you have simply showed both Jokers again. The position now is face-up Joker, facedown indifferent card, face-up Joker. The rest of the deck is face down.)

Undercut the top card to the bottom, apparently losing the Jokers in the pack (actually, they are second from the top and on the bottom of the deck).

Have a card selected by riffling the upper left corner of the deck with the left thumb and having a spectator say stop. Break the deck at that point with the right hand and show the bottom card of the right hand packet around. As you replace the top packet and square the cards, perform the Kelly Bottom Placement (see Fig. 1), to put the selected card on the bottom of the deck. (The position from the top of the deck is now face-down indifferent card, face-up Joker, remainder of deck face down, face-up Joker and face-down selection.)

Obtain a right thumb break above the bottom two cards. Do an in-the-hands Slip Cut. The left hand will now have a packet with a Joker face-up on top while the right hand holds a break above the bottom two cards of its packet. As the right hand passes over the left hand, it releases the two cards from the break and puts its packet on the table. Now spread the top three cards of the left hand's packet to show one card sandwiched between the Jokers. Flip it face up; it is the chosen card.

Comment: This is FAST! It is also good! Frank Zak is working professionally in Vegas. One can see [why](#). Thanks, Frank, this is [very commercial](#)



President's Corner

Over the years as Dad and I have traveled, we have had many opportunities to visit magic shops and manufacturing companies. At the end of March, my Dad and I had the opportunity to visit with Steve Bender at his business, Ickle Pickle Products, in St. Louis. I was there 17 years ago and was amazed to see how much his business has grown since then. Steve Bender produces tricks like Spilt O Penny and Ickle Pickle Nickel along with numerous others. His manufacturing and mail order business is huge. At his shop, magic was from floor to ceiling covering about 1800 square feet with a labyrinth of bookcases and shelves of magic. We were honored to have been able to chat with Steve and see his business. For those of you who know Steve, he is now engaged with no wedding date set yet. I was blessed several years ago to have chatted with Jay Marshall at Magic Inc. in Chicago. Jay took us to the back part of his shop and showed us his Punch and Judy collection along with numerous books of all titles. While also in Chicago, Dad and I went to Fun Inc and saw the actual making of the Royal Cups and Balls, Zig Zag Card, and Three Card Monte. It is always fun to meet up with magicians in other places and see other magic shops especially where the tricks we buy are actually made. Christy Henson.



Ring Ramblings

♥ Reminders and information about meetings and lectures are sent out through email several times a month via the Ring 29 email address. If you are not receiving these emails, please contact **James Kinsey** so he can add you. Jamesk39@swbell.net

♣ International Brotherhood of Magicians applications can be picked up at the magic shop, or ask an officer at a ring meeting. All members who belong to Ring 29 must be an International Brotherhood of Magicians member. If you are an I.B.M. member, you should be receiving the *Linking Ring* every month, and you should have an I.B.M. number.

♠ **Ring 29 Magic Meeting Themes for 2008- 2009:**

April - Close-Up Competition

May – Bizarre Magic

June – Stage Competition

♠ **Advertisements:**

The Magic Fun Shop in Memphis is closed. Mr. Magic is selling items from the Fun shop. There are a couple hundred new items which will be sold at a greatly reduced price. You must come by the shop to see what is available.

Strenko book is now available.

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