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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

Visit Ring 29 website www.littlerockmagic.org



March 2008



March 6th Magic Auction at UAMS Reynolds Center

♣ *Calendar:*

March 6th – Auction

April 3rd – Close-up
Competition

May 1st – Bizarre Magic

Got Magic News? Email
newsletter Ed. Tyler Vodehnal:
Tyler1407@hotmail.com

March Auction

Dust off your old magic boxes and pull out the magic, find the instructions and decide on a price! **Auction time in now here!** Make plans to attend Ring 29's annual auction on our regular meeting night and regular location. It will be Thursday evening, March 6, 6:45pm at UAMS Reynolds Center. We will

have a mostly silent auction. Magic items will be displayed throughout the auditorium. You may write your name on an item, but be sure to guard it carefully. Someone may write their name below yours. At different times of the evening, items will disappear from the floor and whosever name is last listed gets to purchase the item. There will be a few items auctioned off orally. If you would like to

auction an item(s), please pick up the auction forms to fill out on each item at the magic shop. You will need to fill out one form per item. If you have just a few items to auction, you may fill out the forms at the meeting, but please arrive early enough to have your forms completed and items on the table prior to the beginning of the business meeting at 6:45pm. As usual with any item auctioned, the Ring will receive 10%. The rest will go directly to the seller. Checks will be mailed out to sellers following the auction for items they sold. Family and Friends are welcome to attend this fun event!



Magical Memories

Ricky Tripp

A year ago last fall, I was performing at the Wyndham Hotel's Riverfront Steakhouse. When I say "performing," that primarily means as a musician - I do a solo guitar/vocal program from 6-10 p.m. each week. But during my breaks, I've been known to visit tables where people are celebrating a special event, or where just a large group is gathered and do some close-up magic for guests.

It was during one particular performance that I really learned the potential impact of the powerful "Deep Astonishment" trick. A group of about 15 people were having dinner in the atrium (a glassed-in area in the front of the restaurant where you can see the night sky above you) and were having a great time. After entertaining them with some music, they were delighted that I was able to do some magic for them. They all directed me to a particular young woman in the center of the tables there, and I used her as my "assistant" for the trick.

For those of you who know the routine, I asked her for a special magic word of 4-6 letters in length, and she chose an odd

name (since I can't recall it now, let's just say "Binky" for the sake of the story.) When I asked her where that came from, she gently explained that it was just a special name from her childhood. I accepted the name as the magic word, and went about the "Deep Astonishment" routine of selecting a "soul mate" card.

As usual, this part of the trick is long, goofy and tedious as the other cards "speak" to me, and lead me to another card of the same numeric value in a different suit. Just as predictably, the audience tried to act impressed but clearly wasn't (which is all in the plan, of course) and it was time to move on to the real trick by picking up the wallet.

I looked at the young woman, and said, "You know, it's interesting that you picked this unusual name as your 'magic word.' Hard to explain, but about 10 o'clock this morning, the word 'Binky' popped into my head and I knew that I would be doing this trick tonight. When you said the word, I was sure it was you. Look at this....." And I removed the cards from the wallet, showed them the question mark on the front, turned them over to see blue Bicycle backs, and one by one, written in magic marker, spelled out the word: B-I-N-K-Y.

People at first gasped in amazement, and then a hush fell over the table as the young woman put her hands over her face. Tears began to stream down her cheeks. I asked her very tenderly why she was crying, and what this word meant to her. She answered by telling me that the "special name from her childhood" - Binky - had been given to her by her beloved grandmother....

....and that her grandmother had just passed away.

Close-up Competition

Mark your calendars for April 3rd which is the 2nd annual **Close-up Competition**. Adults and juniors are allowed to compete. There is a seven minute time limit. No fire and no open flames are allowed. There will be an entry fee, and there will be awards to winners. More information will be given at the March meeting as well as in the April newsletter. Eleven magicians competed at last year's close-up competition.

Junior Magicians

Fourteen junior magicians along with a dozen parents attended the February Junior Magicians meeting at Mr. Magic on February 24th. Junior magicians learned to Flip Cards and perform Card Warp. The next Junior Magicians Meeting will be in mid April. If you know of any young people who are interested in magic, leave their name and address at the magic shop so they can be sent a newsletter prior to the next meeting.

It quickly became clear to everyone at the table. She believed me when I told her that the word had occurred to me early that morning, and she also believed that it was the spirit of her beloved grandmother, reaching out to her through a stranger, to let her know that she was alright. It was her only way to explain what those cards were doing in the wallet

It was a breathtaking moment for everyone there. It cemented me forever in their minds as a true mentalist and entertainer, but more than that, the power of this illusion gave this young woman comfort at a time when she needed it most. I would never have dreamed of explaining that it was "just a trick" or saying anything that would take that moment away from her. Her family and friends embraced her, thanked me profusely, and needless to say, filled my tip jar to the top before leaving the restaurant.

Later, I had the opportunity to visit by phone with Rodney Whitlock, who developed the trick with Paul Harris, and he was absolutely delighted to hear the story, agreeing completely that it would have been a mistake to bust the trick out of a misplaced sense of honesty. He considered it to be one of the best stories he had heard about the trick, and said that he would share it with Paul as soon as he could.

As for me, I got a gift that night beyond the pleasure of amazing people with great magic. I was able to strengthen a woman's faith in something that, as a Christian myself, I already believe about where we go when we pass away. And then, something *really* magical occurred to me....

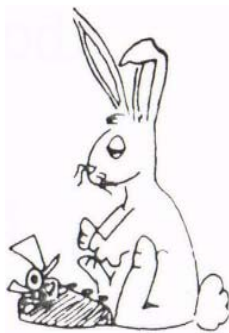
Maybe, just maybe, her grandmother really had reached out to her through me after all. Perhaps it was no accident that I

was with her granddaughter that night. You see, the magic wasn't that I had "seen" the name the morning before, because I hadn't; that was just the "trick" part.

The magic was that I was there at the right time, to help the young woman believe. It's a night I won't ever forget. Thanks, Binky, and thank you too, Grandma. (Ricky Tripp)



♣ *Blast from the Past.*



Elwood Rabbit Rites ©

Carefully edited by Van Clove

No matter how hard you look, you just can't find a good ZIG ZAG ILLUSION at a garage sale. Remember, tricks don't bore people. Majicians bore people. Put that on your bumper sticker and drive real fast.

I liked the majidan who made my hotel key bend all crooked. I liked him until I tried to unlock my room.

I wanted to go to WITCH School, but I couldn't spell good enuf! My school teacher used to say, "The only dumb question is the one that isn't asked." My school

teacher never went to a majic lecture.

I saw a COMEDY MAJICIAN who was not funny at all. He didn't even smell funny. Aboslutely no SCENTS of humor!

RIDLE : Think ink

ANSER RIDLE: What should you be do-ink while you are read-ink what I am write-ink.

*Your Frend
Elwood*



Magic Matters

♣ Michael Wilkinson is now performing at American Pie Pizza in Maumelle. His schedule is posted at his web site: <http://wilkinsonmagic.com/publicshows.html>

♦ Ring 29 says goodbye to member Jesse McKinney, his wife, and two daughters. They will be moving to Palo Alto, CA (Stanford) in mid-April. Good luck to them!

♣ Ring 29 extends our sympathies to Mike Curtis over the death of his father James Coy Curtis on Sunday, February 17th.

♥ Mr. Magic will be closing on Mondays beginning in March and continuing through May.

♣ Tom Mullica will be appearing as Red Skeleton at Murray's Dinner Playhouse on March 4-6. He will perform two shows on March 5th. Look for more info on Murray's website: <http://www.murrysdinnerplayhouse.com/>

◆ Fantasma Magic is proud to announce it has supplied ConAgra Foods, one of North America's leading packaged food companies since 1867, an awesome magic kit for their brand new magical promotion. Buy any specially marked package of ConAgra's Kid Cuisine meals and receive magic points redeemable for a Fantasma magic kit.

Look for the TV commercial and go to <http://www.kidcuisine.com> to learn more. The sets contents will make any magic set collector happy. www.Fantasmamagic.com

♣ The Associated Press has said on February 11 that Siegfried and Roy will be making a one night come back at the Lou Ruvo Brain Institute's "Keep Memory Alive" fundraiser. This will be the first performance for this famous Las Vegas strip show since Roy Horn's attack by a white tiger during an October 2003 performance. Their one night performance is scheduled for next February.



Trick Time

INCREDIBLE MATCH P. J.

Flory

Effect: The performer hands out two packs of cards for shuffling. Each pack is received back and placed on a table side by side. Cards are dealt in pairs, one each from each pack from the top. One pair only will match. This

matching pair has previously been predicted by the performer. Method: Required are two packs of cards with identical backs, one extra card from another pack with contrasting backs, and a close-up mat. The packs are set up by sorting all the odd reds and even blacks into one pack and all the odd blacks and even reds into the other. Jacks and Kings count as odd, Queens as even. Remove two of the Jokers as only two will be required. Decide on which card you are going to predict and remove this card from the contrasting pack. Remove the matching identical cards from the appropriate pack and add the two Jokers to this pack. Each pack will now consist of 52 cards. Place the matching decks in their cases.

The close-up mat is placed on the table with the edge nearest to the performer close to the edge of the table. Place the prediction card from another pack face down on the table underneath the mat, positioning it near the edge of the mat which is nearest the audience. Place the two matching cards also face down underneath the mat but close to the edge nearest the performer. The two cards should be about six inches apart, with each three inches from the center of the mat. The prediction card should be central forward.

Performance: Remove the two packs from their cases and hand out to two assistants for shuffling. Receive each pack back and place them face down on the mat side by side, but in alignment with the pair of matching cards beneath the mat. Lift up die end of the mat nearest the audience to display the face-down prediction card, which you state is your prediction. With a view to convincing the audience that the face-down card they have just seen is the only card underneath the mat, continue lifting the mat in a forward direction until it is clear of the table. It will then be seen that

there is only one face-down different backed prediction card. The bottom cards of each pack is now the matching card of your prediction.

Replace the mat on the table with the prediction card underneath. Pick up both decks, place one on the other and cut about a quarter of the way down and complete the cut. Explain that it is now impossible for you to know the position of any card. Count off 53 cards, reversing their order, from the top of the deck(s) and place the two piles side by side. A spectator is asked to choose which pile he would like you to turn face up. After this pile is turned face up, the cards are dealt in pairs, one from the top of each pile. One matching pair only will be found. You now remove the prediction card from under the mat and show that the impossible has occurred — you have predicted the one matching pair!

Comment: You will have to practice lifting-moving-forward the close-up mat, otherwise this works quite well. Come up **with** a "logical" (magician's logic), reason for placing the two packs together and counting off 53 and you've got a miracle! —PRW



President's
Corner

Have you seen the new IcyHot commercial? IcyHot is a pain relieving gel that improved its product recently by making the strong odor of the gel change to a vanishing scent. So the producers decided to use a magician to help promote the new product. A commercial began playing within the past two months for the IcyHot product where the magician James Brandon is holding a box of IcyHot. He makes the tube float out of the box and then makes the tube vanish. The trick looks quite amazing and **it is a magic trick**.....there are no camera tricks involved. The magician James Brandon has performed for 13 years in Las Vegas and won the Siegfried and Roy Lion Award. He presently lives in Atlanta. You can find a three page article about James Brandon and his commercial for IcyHot in the March 2008 issue of Genii Magazine. I will have copies at the auction for anyone who would like to read about this neat trick. I hope everyone will be able to make it to the March Auction. Even if you do not plan to buy anything, come out and enjoy time with other magicians. It is always entertaining! Questions/ Comments about Ring 29? Contact Christy cih0914@aol.com



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:*

March – Annual Ring 29 Auction
April - Close-Up Competition
May – Bizarre Magic
June – Stage Competition

♠ *Advertisements:*

Seventeen new items from Masuda Magic are now available at Mr. Magic.

Go to www.masudas-atto.com/ to see demonstrations.

- * Ambitious Card \$36.00
- * Awarenai- Awatenai \$40.50
- * Boxing Match \$32.40
- * Blink Duplication \$31.50
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