



# Prestidigitator Press

International Brotherhood of Magicians, Logan Pritchett Ring 29  
8912 Stagecoach Road #11, Little Rock, AR 72210 (501) 455-6242  
Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of Every Month at Baptist Medical Center

Visit Ring 29 website [www.littlerockmagic.org](http://www.littlerockmagic.org)



June 2007



Don Baer performs Cabaret magic for May Meeting

## June 7<sup>th</sup> Stage Competition at Jo Ellen Ford Auditorium at UAMS

### ♣ **Calendar:**

**June 7** – Ring 29 Stage and Platform Competition  
**June 21**- Installation of Officers Banquet  
**June 26-30** – IBM Convention in Reno, Nevada  
**July 5** – Mentalism  
**August 3** – Magic Ring Meeting  
**September 7** – Magic Ring Meeting  
**September** - Picnic  
**October ?** – Ring 29 Fall Public Show for charity

**Ring 29 officers for 2007-2008 have been elected:**

President **Christy Henson**  
Vice-President **Chris Westfall**  
Secretary **Tyler Vodehnal**  
Treasurer **James Kinsey**  
Sergeant at Arms **Jon Bucher**  
Non-elected Board member **Mike Curtis**

Got Magic News? Email newsletter Ed. Tyler Vodehnal:  
[Tyler1407@hotmail.com](mailto:Tyler1407@hotmail.com)

### **June Stage Competition**

Calling all magicians, family, and friends! You are in for an outstanding magic "show" at our June 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. We have twenty, yes 20, magicians lined up to compete at our very first Ring 29 Stage Competition. Five judges will be present to decide the winners of the competition. You also will have a say so in whom you want to win the People's Choice Award.

Meeting will be held at UAMS Reynolds Center, Jo Ellen Ford Auditorium. If you are competing, you will need to arrive by 6:30pm for a contest briefing. You also may want to set up at the side of the stage. Please call the magic shop ASAP to tell what you will need for your performance: ex. music, wings, microphone, etc. There will be stagehands to help you carry props on and off stage. There is a ten minute time limit for your performance. The Stage Competition will be videotaped. If you do not wish to have your performance videotaped, tell Christy at the contestant briefing.

## 07-08 Installation Banquet

Make plans to attend the 2007-2008 Installation Banquet. It will be held Thursday, June 21, at the Whole Hog Cafe. We will eat about 6:30pm, and you can order individually when you arrive. Ring 29 will have a private room. Prior to the Installation of Officers, there will be a Broken Wand Ceremony for **Bob Owen** who passed away last August. After the Broken Wand Ceremony and the Installation of Officers, we'll end the evening with magic. **Jon** and **Susan Bucher** will be performing along with tentatively scheduled **Bill** and **Ruth Pitts**. With these two class acts, the entertainment will be great. Family and Friends are welcome to attend. Dress is casual. Please RSVP to the magic shop at 455-6242 by June 20 just so we know about how many to expect. Address: Whole Hog Café 2516 Cantrell Rd. Little Rock, AR 72202. *It is at the bottom of Cantrell Hill in the Harvest Foods Shopping Center. Call Mr. Magic for directions.*

## LR Junior Magic Club

Come to the Little Rock Junior Magic Club meeting. It will be held Sunday, June 10, at Mr. Magic beginning at 2pm. These kids are so excited to be involved in magic! We have had a great turnout at each meeting. The June magic meeting will be on Rubber bands so you may want to surround yourself in tissue or arm yourself with rubber bands as well!

## Fall Public Show

IBM Ring 29 is teaming up with Pulaski Academy Middle School in Little Rock off of Hinson Road to put on a public show to raise money for charity (more info later on the charity). The date is scheduled for a Friday evening in October and will be held at Fellowship Bible Church (which now belongs to Pulaski Academy). If you are interested in being considered to perform, you must submit a videotape of your performance to the magic shop no later than August 1. If your performance at the Stage Competition is the same one you wish to be considered for the show, you will not need to submit a videotape as we are taping the competition. Just let Christy know that you wish to be considered for the public show.

## 5-Minute Performance

Have you become a member of Ring 29 since January 2006 ?????? In the International Brotherhood of Magicians bylaws, all magicians joining an IBM Ring must perform a 5 minute routine before the ring members to be voted on and accepted by the membership. This rule has fallen by the wayside several times over the past 64 years since our charter. The board has voted to reinstate this rule

effective last January 2006. If you have joined the ring since that time, you will be asked to perform a 5 minute routine at our annual picnic in September. Date/ time/ location to be announced at a later date. Please direct any questions to a board member.

## DUES

Ring 29 Dues are now due. Cost is \$15 through July 31. On August 1, the dues go up to \$20. Please make checks payable to IBM Ring 29 and send your dues to James Kinsey at 8901 Merryman Rd Sherwood, AR 72120



Jim Henson

### ♥ Ring Report:

"Hehe! That's magic!" - Paul Daniels

On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2007, twenty-six members of Ring 29 came together to enjoy a meeting themed 'Silk and Cabaret' magic. **Christy Henson** served as the Mistress of Ceremonies and six different magicians wowed the audience with variety of magic.

The first performer of the evening was **Tyler Vodehnal**, and he demonstrated a rendition of Jay Scott Berry's rainbow silk production via a Cloaking Device. Mistress of Ceremonies Christy Henson followed with a fantastic performance of changing a small

pink purse into a beautiful American Flag.

**Dan Hecke** was the next magician on the slate and he told a fascinating story about Leonardo attempting to sell a new card game to a casino. In this card game, two players select a card out of a deck and also select an envelope in hopes of attaining the highest card. After they are given the opportunity to switch the card they have for the envelope, the envelopes are opened to reveal that the card they selected matches the card in their envelopes. But unfortunately, neither contestant won since the house, with the envelope neither contestant selected, opens its envelope to reveal a 'High Card.'

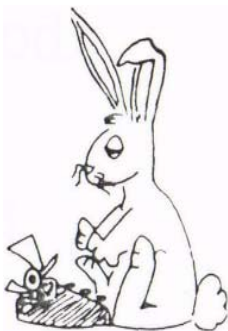
The next performer of the evening was **David Duggy** who performed a very nice Torn and Restored Newspaper routine. M.C. Christy Henson came back to wow the members in attendance with a silk production out of a Die Tube.

**Don Baer** followed Christy with a great performance of a Balloon Assistant where the assistant gets to walk away with a palm tree decked out with bananas and a monkey all made out of balloons!

**Jim Henson** finished off the evening with a plethora of magic tricks including a Die Tub Flag Change, Stung Card, Mis-made Frankenstein, Last Chance Briefcase, and Chic Trick, where a small mechanical chicken finds a spectator's chosen card.

A big thanks to all who performed and the many magicians who were in attendance. We will look forward to seeing everyone again next month!

#### ♣ *Blast From the Past:*



## *Elwood Rabbit Rites*

*Carefully edited by Van Clove*

The last magic lecture I went to, I tried to take NOTES - but they made me BUY them!

A MAGIC CONVENTION is when a lot of magicians get together and copy the paid acts - all but the money!

SEANCE - what you do when you can't say UNCLES.

An INJOG is when you run around the living room but don't go outside.

A transparent THUMB TIP isn't much good. I know! I bought one!

I saw me a magician who was so clumsy the only thing he could do with

mirrors was brush his teeth.

And

THEN he got toothpaste on his nose!

HOROSCOPE

AQUARIUS (Water Bear) January 20 ■ February 18 ... You will have trouble with water. But then, you will have trouble WITHOUT water. Your Lota **will** leak. Your Foo Can will gurgle, and your Floating Lady will drown. Better try sand pictures and gravel manipulations.

*Your Friend  
Elwood*

## *Magic Matters*

### ♣ *Monthly Bio:*



**Jeff Sharp**

Jeff Sharp still remembers his introduction to magic. At age four he saw Houdini performing the famous "needle swallowing" illusion in a television special. By age seven, Jeff had accomplished his first public performance at a Halloween party enlisting his mother in a coded telepathy demonstration. Born in Riverside, California; growing up in Cleveland Mississippi; and ultimately moving to Little Rock, Jeff remembers his first trip to a magic shop; Colonel Seymour's (the launch pad for a host of Little Rock conjurers!) The most impressive trick he has seen is Teller cutting the shadow petals from a rose. Nevertheless, to this day, at age 31, Jeff's favorite performer is still Houdini - the epitome of a magician.

When not performing, Jeff works at a Bauxite mine, weighing trucks. This permits him to devote his time to magic; since, when there are no trucks on the scales, he is free to use his time for practice and reading of the arcane arts. What an opportunity!

Jeff's current magical interests include Balloon sculpture, the Linking Rings, and Mentalism. Jeff is indeed fortunate to have a family which is fully supportive of his interest in magic. In fact, both of his talented daughters, Lizzy and Brie, plan to perform at the upcoming Ring 29 stage competition. They each describe the favorite trick they have seen their dad perform... but how Jeff pulled Woody (from Toy Story) out of their ears is a mystery to me. I'll be looking for the explanation when Jeff releases his first DVD!

Jeff's wife, Rebecca, dedicated to the pursuit of a career in nursing, still finds time for her family's interest in magic. She tells me that Jeff's fork bending routine is his best magical work. I asked Jeff if he were he to perform for the Queen of England, what would he do? I found that it would be his muscle reading routine based upon a memorized deck. We'll have to ask him to perform it for us at a

Ring meeting some time in the not-too-distant future. Jeff currently performs at The Pizza Hut in Benton on Tuesday nights from 6-8. If you get the chance, drop by to say hello. You will meet a very nice guy and a very talented magician!

Written by Chris Westfall

♥ **Sad News- Jimmy Rhodes Junior's** father, Jimmy Rhodes, passed away suddenly on May 14. His twenty-seven year old mule led the funeral procession the two blocks to the cemetery in Augusta where Jimmy is mayor. Please remember the Rhodes family in your prayers.

♣ **Michael Wilkinson** is now at Larry's Pizza in Cabot every Tuesday from 6:30-8:30 and at American Pie Pizza at McCain and North Hills in North Little Rock on Mondays from 6:30-8:30. He was also on 105.7, 96.7 and 99.9 radio stations in Searcy on May 31. On June 1 he performed at the Relay for Life in Searcy.

♥ **Gerry Bailey** did a show for the North Little Rock Mayors Vol. Recognition Luncheon on April 20th.

♥ **Andy Stirman** aka Fate the Magician will be performing for the summer reading program at the Laman library on June 14th at 7:00 pm.

♣ **Randall Eller** has been traveling throughout Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi for the past semester. He has performed 92 programs, (some school programs with **Scott Davis** in a program they developed called "The Magic of Smart Choices"), a commercial shoot for the gubernatorial race in Arizona, and has been contacted about a 5 year program with the Museum of Discovery. He will be traveling to Canada this summer for 2 -3 weeks doing several performances in the New Brunswick area.

♣ **Kyle Hamsher** performed at the Arkansas PTA Convention at the end of last month and also performed at Tiger Days on May 18<sup>th</sup> at Tolleson Elementary.

♦ The Center on the Square in Searcy is offering a summer series of shows for children this year. They will be at 2 pm on Saturdays. The announced show for Saturday, July 14 is **Rocky Clements'** "Smoke and Mirrors Illusion and Magic Show."

♥ When you see **Joey Williams**, be sure to ask him about his new Ferrari which he just purchased. He received a five year deferment on the loan so that by the time he graduates from law school, all the magicians can use him for all their legal issues, and he will be able to make car payments. He took his down-payment that he didn't need to make on the car and took a 10 day Caribbean cruise.



Dan Hecke

## Trick Time

### NUTTY BURNED AND RESTORED BILL

Effect: A twenty dollar bill is borrowed, signed, sealed in an envelope, and burned. After some comedy the signed bill is found in a can of nuts.

Method: The bill does not go into the envelope. It goes into a thumb tip behind the envelope. The thumb tip is used to make the bill seem to come from the nut can.

Preparation: The thumb tip is held behind a stack of coin envelopes with a rubber band. I use a long, thin rubber band that goes around three times without creating too

much tension.) I also put a small piece of flash paper in the bottom of the envelope. (Fig. 1)

Presentation and Patter: "For my trick I'll need to borrow a twenty dollar bill. Sir, will you please sign your name to the bill so that in the unlikely event you should ever see it again you'll be able to recognize it. Have you signed your name? Good! In front of all of \* these witnesses you have just committed a federal offense." (Take the bill from the spectator and read the signature.) "Pleased to meet you, Mr. Jackson. Oops, he's the guy on the bill. You're Mr. Miller.

"We're going to make your money multiply. If I fold it in half, and in half again, you can see your money in creases." (Keep folding the money until it is a  $\frac{3}{4}$  " x  $1\frac{1}{4}$ " pellet.)

"If I place your money in my hand and close my fingers around it, an amazing transformation takes place. Your twenty dollar bill becomes my twenty dollar bill.

"My good conscience ... and the police ... forbid me from keeping your money. I will return your money, but since I am a magician I will return it to you in a magical fashion." (Pick up a stack of envelopes and remove the back envelope and the thumb tip. If you hold the bill cigarette fashion between the first and second fingers, you make sure it stays in sight at all times. Instead of sticking the bill in the envelope you actually stick it behind the envelope into the thumb tip.)

"I'm going to seal this twenty dollar bill in the envelope. It will magically vanish and reappear in your wallet. You seem to have your doubts. Very well, just to put your mind at ease I will take this lit match and hold it behind the envelope so you can see the shadow of the twenty dollar bill." (Be very careful. The flash paper burns more intensely in the envelope. "Accidentally" burn the envelope and the bill.) • "Ladies and gentlemen, I was expecting a big round of applause for making the borrowed bill vanish and reappear in this gentleman's wallet, so how about half a round of

applause for accomplishing the first half of the effect'

"Oh, some of you are concerned by this great loss, but I assure that there is nothing to worry about. I'm sure that in time I'll be able to rebuild my reputation. What's that? This fellow wants his money back? My career is in shambles, and all this fellow can think about is money.

"I just can't give you money for no real reason — only the government can do that — but I can give you a simple quiz. If you can answer these three questions I'll give you twenty dollars. Not only that, I'm even going to give the answers to the quiz. The answer to all three questions is the word 'nuts.'

"Question Number One: What do squirrels eat?" (He answers "nuts.")

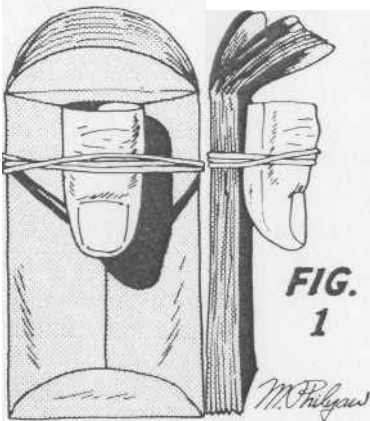
"Question Number Two: What would you call a person who loans twenty dollars to a complete stranger?" (He answers "nuts.")

"Question Number Three: Which would you rather have, your twenty dollar bill or a bowl of nuts?" (He answers "nuts.")

"Very well, then we'll give you a bowl of nuts. (Bring out a can of nuts. Hold it from the top with the same hand that is wearing the thumb tip. As your other hand grasps the can it also takes the thumb tip.)

"Silence please, while I open the can of nuts. (Make sure everybody can hear the seal break on the can of .nuts.)

"I'm sure we've all opened a box of 'Cracker Jack' and found a prize inside. I'm going to pour the contents of this can of nuts into a bowl, -.and if you look carefully you'll find a prize. " (As you pour the nuts into the bowl the bill automatically falls out of the thumb tip. Allow the spectator to dig through the bowl and find his signed bill.)



**Comment:** This effect, built around the old gag, is solid entertainment with an easy method and a novel climax. It's easy to make up, easy to do, and just might prove far more effective than much more difficult and expensive tricks which you perform.

Note that a jar of nuts can be used just as readily as a can and is easier to open. Have a dear glass bowl or plastic container handy to dump the nuts and bill into and which can be given to the volunteer-spectator at the end of the trick. And, if you use peanuts, you can always thank the spectator for helping and hope he/she doesn't mind "working for peanuts!" Why not? —PRW

## President's Corner

Hope everyone is looking forward to a great summer. I certainly am due to not having to work full time. Great life as a teacher....24/7 job for 10 months and then a two month break! My summer will be magic-filled. I hope to take a trip up to Branson at some point to see some shows, and I will be in Reno at the IBM convention at the end of June.

Our new officers are set and ready for a great year in Ring 29. An event we are greatly looking forward to is our fall public show. We are working on dates now, but it will be a Friday evening probably in October. The plan is for Ring 29 to work with Pulaski Academy Middle School (where I teach) to raise money for charity. Pulaski Academy will host the event, put the programs together, and will help to publicize it. Ring 29 will be the entertainment. We plan to have close-up performers in the lobby prior to the show and stage performers for the show. Pulaski

Academy is very excited to host this event. I have 20 middle school students (student council members) who are extremely willing to help wherever we need them for that night. They were so excited when they first heard the news about a magic show at PA. Performers will be chosen by September. More info will be given in upcoming newsletters. Questions/ Concerns about Ring 29? Contact me at [cih0914@aol.com](mailto:cih0914@aol.com) Christy Henson

## Book Review

Book Review written by **Chris Westfall:** Act Two by Dr. Barrie Richardson

Dr. Barrie Richardson's recent lecture to Ring 29 spurred me to read the second major volume (Theater of the Mind is the first) provided by this self-styled "blue collar" magician, and I am very glad that I did.

Before I begin, however, I must confess that mentalism is a subset of magic that has held little appeal for me. This despite the understanding that mentalism is probably the most accepted form of magic by the lay public and hence, the most lucrative for its practitioners. I suppose that this is so because few lay people believe that magicians have magical powers, but many are unable to dismiss the possibility of parapsychologic phenomenon. Dr. Richardson has forced me to reconsider.

Act Two discusses a series of tricks, which Dr. Richardson has used during a highly successful professional performing career. A college professor and dean in his non-magical hours, the author supplemented his income as a motivational speaker and mentalist using the effects he offers in this excellent volume. They are, for the most part, the professional repertoire of a working mentalist. Denying supernatural abilities, Dr. Richardson presents his effects as metaphors, as experiments, and as stunts — all with great success. He

points out that the conventional magic show consists of panoply of tricks, but that after the show, the spectator is unable to recall any one specific effect. In contrast, Dr. Richardson prefers to provide a few meaningful presentations with the result that, years later, people approach him with their recollection of his presentations *in their original context*.

Dr. Barrie Richardson has, for me, opened the door to using magic in ways, which I had not previously considered. His work is, in a personal sense, a revelation. There are over fifty tricks and devices offered in this volume, ranging from billet work, to card tricks for mentalists, to a rice suspension, to one of the best rope tricks I have ever seen. This last, The Impossible Knot, is my absolute favorite. It builds, it is interesting, it has meaning, and it culminates in a truly magical climax. It is an, an absolute gem, and one which is worthy of being in almost everyone's repertoire. For me, it is worth the price of the book.

For mentalists and for thinking magicians, Act Two and its companion, Theater of the Mind should be in your library.

## Conference Review

From **Lance Howell** about the Magic Show Conference in Branson – I spent May 2-6 at The Magic Show Conference in Branson, MO. It is a conference about not only how to do tricks, but how to perform them as well. I highly recommend beginners and pros alike go to the conference at least once and even go back again and again. This conference had lectures on Gospel Illusions, Cruise Ships, Restaurant Magic, School Shows, Trade Show and Corporate Shows, Showmanship, and more. Along with the lectures we had a chance to see Darren Romeo and Justin Flom's shows in Branson. They also had a critique session at the convention. It is sort of like a contest just without the pressure of being the best and having the cleverest act out there that would beat other magicians. The judges want to see routines from a normal show that you perform or material that you want to perform in a show and that you want advice on. The Judges were Ali Bongo, Doug Anderson, Duane Lafflin, Joe Fairchild, and Fukai. We had 12

great contestants including myself. When it was my time to perform Joe Fairchild laughed so hard he fell out of his chair and slide under the table onto the floor. That got me off a little and I forgot what I was supposed to do, so I stumbled around a little but I made it through and a good time was had by all. Stop me sometime and ask what I did that made hard core magicians crack under my performance, and what some of them finally told me. The conference was a truly international affair. We had Duane & Mary Lafflin from Montana, Doug Anderson from Okalahoma/Texas, Ali Bongo from England, Dan Tong from Florida, Greg Brit from New Zealand, Joe Fairchild from Florida, and the prize for the ones who traveled the furthest goes to Fukai and Kimika from Japan. The conference was truly magical. I learned so much, and I hope to go back next year. It was close enough and affordable enough to bring the whole family. Even if they don't go to the conference itself they can by a ticket package to add on, and the hotel rooms were only \$48.95 a night which is amazing.

## Ring Ramblings

♣ The Society of Memphis Magicians, IBM Ring 16, is planning a day trip to Little Rock and Hot Springs on June 2, 2007. They will visit Mr. Magic and Novelties and then head over to Hot Springs to catch Max's Show. Exact time of arrival at Mr. Magic has not yet been established.

♦ International Brotherhood of Magicians Convention will be held June 26-30 in Reno, Nevada. Check out [magician.org](http://magician.org) for more info. Several Ring 29 magicians are already planning to go.

♥ 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](mailto:Jamesk39@swbell.net)

♣ Calendars will be handed out at the June meeting showing Ring 29 activities for June and July. If you miss the meeting, you can pick up a calendar at the magic shop.

♣ 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 June Birthdays:

June 26 – **Gerry Bailey**

### ♣ Ring 29 Magic Meeting Themes for 2006- 2007:

**May** – Silk and Cabaret Magic

**June**- Ring 29 Platform and Stage Competition

**July** - Mentalism

### ♦ Advertisements (available at Mr. Magic):

#### BOOKS:

\* WD40 by Wayne Dobson \$45.00

\* Bigger Book of Boo by Larry Kuehn \$45.00

\* Cipher Speak- Two Person Code Book \$31.50

\* Wonderful Surprises- Life of Marco \$36.00

\* Garden of the Strange by Caleb Strange \$45.00

DVD:

\* Sealed In by Alex Ward \$27.00

#### **Ring Officers:**

*President:* Christy Henson

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