



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 in the Jo Ellen Ford Auditorium
at UAMS

Visit Ring 29 website www.littlerockmagic.org



July 2007



July 5th Mentalism Meeting at Jo Ellen Ford Auditorium at UAMS

♣ *Calendar:*

July 5 – Mentalism

August 2 – Street Magic

September 6 – Kid's
Magic

September – Picnic

October 4 – Ring 29
Meeting at Pulaski Academy

October 5 – Ring 29 Fall
Public Show for charity

July Meeting

Thursday, July 5, is the regular ring meeting night. The theme is mentalism. If you do not do mentalism, come and bring something else to perform. It will be at our regular meeting place, UAMS Reynolds Center at 6:45pm.



DUES

Dues to belong to Ring 29 are due now. Cost is \$15 for the year if you pay by the end of July. Cost will go to \$20 on August 1. Remember that all Ring 29 members must be International Brotherhood of Magicians members.

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

Picnic

The Annual Ring 29 picnic will be held on a Saturday evening in mid September. More information will be given in upcoming newsletters.

LR Junior Magic Club

The Little Rock Junior Magic Club meeting was held Sunday, June 10, at Mr. Magic. The theme was Rubber Bands. Junior Magicians learned Torn and Restored Rubber Bands, Linking Rubber Bands, and Climbing Ring on Rubber Bands. Seventeen junior magicians were present for the meeting including several new members.

Fall Public Show

Fall Charity Show. 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. The date is scheduled for Friday, October 5, and will be held at Fellowship Bible Church (now belongs to Pulaski Academy). If you are interested in being considered to perform, you must submit a video tape of your performance to the magic shop no later than August 1.

5-Minute Performance

Have you become a member of Ring 29 since January 2006 ?????? In the International Brotherhood of Magicians bylaws, all magicians joining a 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 66 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.

♥ Ring Report:

"The real secret of magic lies in the performance." – David Copperfield

On seventh day of June in the 2007th year of our lord, around fifty members of Ring 29 congregated together to enjoy an evening of magical entertainment centered around a concept of stage competition. Sixteen different performers, which included three junior magicians, partook in the evenings festivities. The acts ranged all the way from a colorful red snow storm and an appearance by Stanley the magical doe doe bird to the psychology behind the Professor's Nightmare and the zainy magic of 'Weird' the magician. Not to mention the fact that the always comedic **Mike Curtis** acted as the Master of Ceremonies for the evening.

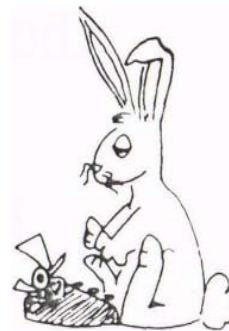
Stephanie Wilkinson

walked away with first place in the junior competition while **Randall Eller** finished in first and received the People's Choice award for the full competition. Others receiving awards for the evening included **Chris Westfall** for second place, **Pam Medrez** a.k.a. 'Mommy Magic' for third, **Jo Jones** for fourth, **Jesse McKinney** for fifth, and **Richard Knoll** for sixth place. However, every magician performed amazing magic that left the audience in a state of complete awe. Unfortunately, a ring report would not give justice to the magic that amazed the eyes of the spectators during the evening. So I apologize, devoted reader, that you must wait until the special events article to read about what each magician performed.

Ring 29 will also be enjoying its annual installation banquet during the month of June, but again you will have to wait for the special events article to learn

more. So loyal magicians, we must wait just a little while longer to learn of the magic that inspired Ring 29. Until that time, thank you as always to all that took part, as I bid you a fond farewell...at least until next month.

♠ Blast From the Past:



Elwood's Rabbit Rites

Carefully edited by Van Cove

Magicians who talk a good show usually dont do one. Most of the time.

RIDDLE: What kind of a suit does a birthday magician wear?

ANSWER: Bear-skin.

You can fool an audience for just so long . . . but finally you have to get up and do your act.

An empty FOO CAN doesnt have any foo in it, does it? No. It does not.

I started to watch the RICE BOWL on TV, but it was only a football game.

Everybody or some of them laff at a comedy magician, but sometimes a very serious magician is funnier.

I like banana tricks because they have appeal. I could say the same thing about orange tricks but I already did about banana tricks so I wont.

All Dutch magicians wear wooden shoes so they can patter while they walk.

A magician is the onliest person who can have SPRING FLOWERS in the Wintertime. That is a lovely thot to think. So I think I'll sit down and think it for awhile.

Your Frend
Elwood

Magic Matters

*** Monthly Bio:**

My Life in Magic (so far)

by **C. Dennis Schick**

Unlike many people in Ring 29, and in magic elsewhere, I came into magic primarily as an adult, not a child. Oh I got a magic kit as a child like many magicians, and I even gave a few magic shows for family and friends in my hometown of Cortland, New York (south of Syracuse), But there was no television, and no traveling magic shows to spur me on. There were a few magicians in side shows at the county fairs over the years, but magic just didn't grab me early.

I was born in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and lived in Ohio, Oklahoma and Iowa, before moving to Central New York in fourth grade. My father was a college teacher. After high school, I spent three years in the Army (between Korea and Viet Nam); met my wife on a blind date while I was stationed at Fort Hood, Texas (with Elvis); got married in 1959; began working for newspapers and going to college (TCU -- B.A.; University of Illinois -- M.S.; Southern Illinois -- Ph.D.); and taught advertising, journalism and marketing for 15 years (TCU, SIU, Oklahoma State and the University of Texas).

In 1979 I changed careers, becoming Executive Director of the Arkansas Press Association, where I stayed 25 years. In that capacity I ran three companies and supervised a staff of 10. We conducted two major conventions a year (51 in all), a dozen or more seminars annually, and lobbied on behalf of all the newspapers in Arkansas. My wife, Jan, was my assistant all those years, and we retired together, July 30, 2004.

It was while at APA that I renewed my interest in magic. While on a Board Retreat in New Orleans, I happened to walk past a Magic Masters shop in Jax Brewery. The demonstrator was great and I

ended up buying "The Good Coin Set," a Rising Card deck, and a Rocky the Raccoon. I was hooked. I came back to Little Rock, looked in the telephone book and found "Mr. Magic," and drove to Benton to meet Jim Henson. That's when he told me he was about to move the shop to Little Rock, in the Heights.

Subsequently I joined I.B.M. and Ring 29, became the editor of the Ring newsletter (for over ten years), and have been pleased to be an active member of one of the best Rings in the I.B.M. APA continued to contribute to my interest in magic. For instance, while on a Winter Get-away trip to Las Vegas with a dozen APA members, I dragged Jan to four magic shows: Siegfried & Roy, Rick Thomas, Lance Burton, and Mac King. She (and I) enjoyed them all, especially Mac King. He autographed his book for me and we had a nice chat about magic. For a convention in Hot Springs one year, I hired Scott Davis and Damon Reinbold to entertain at a "circus-theme" banquet.

We were fortunate over the years to travel all over the country. In every city we visited, I always looked under "magic" and "magicians" in the Yellow Pages, and tried to visit local magic stores before leaving town. One of the highlights of my travels was a personal tour by Ken Klosternan of his fantastic magic collection and museum in Cincinnati. I took lots of photos and brought an album to a ring meeting to share with others.

Since retiring I taught one semester at the University of South Florida in Tampa (where Stan Heath just moved), and drove to Alaska in our RV van (11,827 miles). I also have been writing. One of the several entries I have written for the Encyclopedia of Arkansas (www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net) was on J.B. Bobo, the famous coin and school magician from Texarkana. I decided to expand it and submit it to MAGIC magazine, and they accepted it. Since then I have written several short pieces for them.

But my current focus is on a series of articles I have been writing for The Linking Ring. I spent a week in Branson last October, and went to every magic show and interviewed every magician. Five articles about those interviews have been published so far, with probably three or four more to go. Recently I was named the editor of the Broken Wand section of The Linking Ring. It's a way of "giving back" to the magic industry. Writing about magic has been fun, even though I have not received any payment from either magazine. I collect magic books, have too many tricks I never use (like all magicians) and am working with my granddaughter to get her interested in magic and to use magic to work her way through high school and college. She is a member of the Junior Magic Club. My first wife and I have been married nearly 48 years (in December), and we have three grown children and four grandchildren. Leslie works for The Agency, a talent and casting agency in Little Rock; Greg is an Associate Pastor of St. James United Methodist Church (and does some gospel magic I taught him); and Tim works for JM Associates and ESPN Sports, as a producer of such shows as Bassmasters; Redfish Fishing Tournaments; Spanish Fly; and the Mad Fin Shark Series, all on ESPN2, Saturday and Sunday mornings.

I love magic because it makes people think, a major part of my life, as well as plays with their minds. While I love all kinds of magic, I love most that which is seemingly impromptu and which uses everyday objects. I admire Jim Henson and what he has meant for magic in Arkansas; anyone who has found ways to use magic in their own professions; and those who has taken this hobby we love, and turned it into a full-time job (Randall Eller, Scott Davis and others).

♥ **Randall Eller** will perform in Biloxi, MS July 8-11 for New Life Family Church.

He will also be at Kidz Fair again this September 22 and will perform for Maumelle Fest the nights of Sept. 28th and 29th on the main stage at Lake Willastein. On October 4th he will be on Good Morning AR. On October 5 and 6, he will be performing on the main stage for NLR Fest on the NLR side of the River. He also has been contacted by the Museum of Discover to consult with them on a science assembly program for 5th graders.

♣ Randall Eller, and others, are planning a 1 day workshop for magicians. This is a project he has been thinking about for years. More information coming and you may contact him by email for more specifics. magicisu@sbcglobal.net

♥ October 31 is now no longer just Halloween in Arkansas; it is the official day of magic. **Bill Pitts** of Ring 75 has been working to have October 31 proclaimed as Arkansas's Magic Day, and it has been made official! Thanks to Bill for working on this so we can all enjoy this special honor.

♥ **Jimmy Rhodes** has proposed to Casey and they are getting married October 13 in Augusta in an Old Presbyterian Church where Woodrow Wilson actually attended. Jimmy will be the first mayor of Augusta to get married while in office. All magicians are invited to their wedding. More details will be given at a later date.

♣ Congratulations to **Bill Fulton** who is now officially retired after 36 years working for the Arkansas Department of Education. He is looking forward to doing more magic.

♣ Ring 16 in Memphis has its annual auction in the evening on July 16th. If you are interested in more information about it, contact Margarette at prestolady@aol.com

♦ **Andy Stirman** performed at a birthday party in Cabot. His Laman Library show also went well.



Branson Review

Kyle Hamsher has written a lengthy article on his review of Darrin Romeo's show in Branson. It shows great detail and needs to be published in its entirety. Due to its length, it will be separated into parts to be included in forth coming newsletters.

Part 1 The Voice of Magic
"I recently celebrated my 22nd birthday a couple weeks ago, when I opened my gift from my girlfriend of one year I nearly had a stroke. Without any prompting from me, she gave me both *The Prestige* and *The Illusionist* on DVD, a \$50 gift certificate to Mr. Magic, and to top it all off, two tickets to see Darren Romeo in Branson -- a weekend trip the two of us along with four other friends had been planning for a while -- had I not been a poor college kid, we would have been engaged right then and there. To say the least I was pretty excited. Having been performing magic since my first trip to the magic shop at age 13, and most recently studying musical theatre for four years at Arkansas State University, you would understand why I would be so eager to see such a show. For those of you who are unaware of who Darren Romeo is and/or what his show entails, long story short he is a magician who sings (while performing magic of course)...hence, a singing magician. His working title dubs him as "The Voice of Magic"; aside from his incredible voice, his most

marketable selling point is the fact that he is considered the only protégé to magic legends Siegfried and Roy. Therefore, his working title in its entirety is "Siegfried and Roy present: Darren Romeo, the Voice of Magic."

Overall, the show is very entertaining. I must compliment Romeo on his originality in combining the best of two worlds when it comes to show business: music and magic. While the show proved to rather impressive as far as spectacle was concerned (after all, the guy is sporting hand-me-downs from Siegfried and Roy), I can't help but feel Darren lacked in the realm of presentation. As a magician -- and theatre major -- I was able to spot a lot of open gaps and dead air in the show that left a lot of transitions a bit rusty.

Upon walking into the theatre, a chair is seen setting on a pedestal with a white cloth draped over the back. When the house and stage lights were brought down, there was a good 15 second musical interlude. Darren's voice fills the auditorium with the first few lyrics of "Dreamscape", a song that will be recurring about four times throughout the show. Lights up, and Romeo is now standing in front of the chair serenading his audience. I must say that I was a bit disappointed that he didn't "magically appear", but that's just me. After welcoming his audience with a smile all aglow, Darren sits, covers himself with the big white cloth that was draped over the back of the chair, and vanishes. The vanish was done very nicely but I personally felt he was under the cloth a bit too long, not that it really mattered as he reappeared almost instantly in the audience after the cloth was removed. Greeted with heartfelt applause, Darren finished his song and welcomed the audience once again to the show, with this he explained what all was to be expected as the evening progressed...." Look for Part 2 in the next newsletter.

Branson Review Part II

The following has been submitted by **Dennis Schick**:

AMERICA'S GOT TALENT

Last year magician Nathan Burton went to the semi-finals of "America's Got Talent," and -- in my opinion -- should have won. Also the quick-change team -- which performed at last year's I.B.M. Convention in Reno, went far too. Has anyone seen any magicians perform and get passed on this year yet? There are still some preliminary rounds to go, but Nathan set the standard last year and will be tough to match this year.

MAGIC IN BRANSON, 2007:

Magic is cranked back up for the 2007 season in Branson. Dennis Schick continues his series in The Linking Ring about the magicians and magic shows there. He'll have two more articles, one in July on Sean-Paul and Juliane and Chris Stanley in "Amazing Pets." Then there will be a wrap-up article in August, including "Wings of Magic" at the "Wings of the World" bird park in Branson West. Magician David Silverman gives three 30-minute magic shows daily using exotic birds. Also, if you go to the "New Shanghai Circus," watch for the "Magic Clock" illusion in the second half. On the Showboat Branson Belle, Christopher St. James perform magic. Blake Walker is appearing in the "Vaudeville Magical Hour" at The Club, inside the Lodge of the Ozarks. And Mike Bliss is the resident comedian and magician at the Brett Family Singers morning show. If you find other magicians in the area, please let me know.

Here is a list of the magic shows in Branson this season:

Merrill Osmond presents The Magic of Taylor Reed

Branson Mall Theater

www.taylorinbranson.com

(417) 339-3939

Hamner-Barber Variety Show

Hamner-Barber Theater

www.bransonvariety.com

(417) 334-4363

Dave Hamner is the magician; Jim Barber is a ventriloquist

Kirby VanBurch

Kirby VanBurch Theater

www.kirbyvanburch.com

(417) 337-7140

Bart Rockett

Bart Rockett Theater

www.bartrockett.com

(417) 348-0888

Siegfried & Roy present Darren Romeo

Lawrence Welk Theater

www.sullivanshows.com

(866) 337-5454

Mortimer's Magic Box & Show

Silver Dollar City

www.dazzlemagicshop.com

(417) 336-7171

Chris and B.J. Newsom own the shop and perform the shows

Justin Flom's

Imaginary Theater & Magic Parlor

www.justinflom.com

(417) 332-1911

"Amazing Pets."

Grand Country Music Hall

www.impactmagic.com

(417) 335-2484

Sean-Paul and Juliane, and Chris Stanley are the magicians

"Wings of Magic"

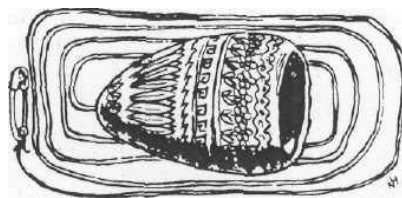
in "Wings of the World"

www.wingsoftheworld.org

(417) 272-9464

David Silverman is the magician

Trick Time



75

THE FIRST TEAR . . . TORN AND RESTORED NAPKIN

In this method, I create the sucker atmosphere without having to tear a second napkin. In certain spots this works out well, for you bait the fish, he bites, and you pull him in.

You require THREE sheets of paper of the same color. Two of these are rolled into balls and the third left as it is. One ball is hung on the clip under the coat. The other is in the right trousers pocket with the ring. The third piece is on the table.

Tear the piece on the table as in the first method. Steal the paper under the coat and switch for the torn pieces. Reach for the ring, dispose of the torn pieces and come out with the other ball concealed in the palm.

When opening the ball in the left hand to show it whole, deliberately turn the right hand slightly so that a glimpse may be had of the palmed paper. This one also is whole, being the one just taken from the right pocket.

Open the first piece and show it. Blow it away. When they howl, suddenly open the second ball. If they don't BITE at the above point, let the ball fall to the floor . . . they are sure to howl.

EX. said: WE KNOW THAT EDDIE IS A PERFECTIONIST ... the above routine with white and red paper demonstrates this. It's an excellent sucker routine and the use of two differently colored papers is GOOD, WE have used this and know ... all moves are made one-ahead of the nosey person in the audience. It's always a PLEASURE to sock these "educated" dopes who read the books written by the expose "brothers."

For some reason, we like white and black paper for the above routine . . . the contract is sharper, we think. This is a "double" sucker explanation and WE urge you to use it.

Comment: I want to mention my enchantment with the "binding ring" concept used in both routines above . . . , what a nice patter justification for the use of what is simply a misdirective device to justify going in and out of the pocket. Why not restore the paper by pulling **it through** the ring? Pleat the to-be-restored paper into a thin strip, using a zig-zag fold, then pleat this zig-zag until it is a small packet. Crumple the edges so it stays together in a ball. Twist just

the tips of the final strip into small "spills" so you can grab each in opposite hands and quickly open the ball into a strip through the ring. Slide the ring down and off the strip, passing it completely over the paper. Now open the strip in the horizontal direction and the paper has been shown instantly restored. Smooth it out a bit, slowly holding the paper flat on to the audience until you are sure

President's Corner

Thank you to everyone who participated, judged, attended, or assisted in some way at the June Stage Competition. If you have comments or suggestions on how to improve it for next year, please let me know so I can make a note of it. At the Charity show in October, we will plan to have close-up performers in the lobby before the show and during intermission. We will also need stagehands and volunteers to assist with whatever may come up. Please set this night, October 5, aside on your calendar to attend the show or help assist somehow. Questions or comments? Please email me: 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

♣ Calendars will be handed out at the June meeting showing Ring 29 activities for July and August. 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:

July 24 – **Lance Howell**
 July 26 – **Chris Westfall**
 July 27 – **Theron Nunley**
 July 27 – **James Kinsey**
 July 27 – **Dan Hecke**

♣ Ring 29 Magic Meeting Themes for 2006- 2007:

July 5 – Mentalism
August 2 – Street Magic
September 6 – Kids Magic
September – Ring 29 Annual Picnic
October 4 – Ring 29 meeting at Pulaski Academy
October 5 – Ring 29 Fall Charity Show
November – Teaching Session
December – Holiday Party at Mr. Magic
January – Annual Ring 29 Christmas Party
February – Annual Ring 29 Auction
March – Mystery Bag Night
April – Close-Up Competition
May – Bizarre Magic
June – Stage Competition

♦ Advertisements (available at Mr. Magic):

* **DVD Tickling the Mind** Vol 1-2 \$36 each
 * **DVD Phantom Band 360** \$16.20
 * **DVD In and Out Rope Escape** \$27.00
 * **Trick Master Deck** \$54.00
 * **Book Fogel** \$67.50
 * **Book Best of Friends** Vol. 3 Harry Lorayne \$72.00

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