



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 the Jo Ellen Ford Auditorium
at UAMS

Visit Ring 29 website www.littlerockmagic.org



August 2007



August 2nd Street Magic Meeting at Jo Ellen Ford Auditorium at UAMS

August Meeting

♣ **Calendar:**

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

The August meeting will be Thursday, August 2 at UAMS Reynolds Center at 6:45pm. The theme is Street Magic. For those of you who would still like to submit a videotape for consideration for the October show, there will be a video camera present at the meeting so you may perform your routine the night of the meeting.

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

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. Dues are due to **James Kinsey 8901 Merryman Road Sherwood, AR 72120**

Picnic

Ring 29 Annual Picnic: Ring 29's picnic will be Saturday evening, September 15, at Jim and Brenda Henson's house. Directions will be in the September newsletter. Mark your calendar now!

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 theme for Ring 29's July meeting was mentalism so we saw a lot of great prediction tricks. Jo Jones began the evening performing a Grave Mistake. **Dan Hecke** then performed an entertaining color prediction trick. **Chris Westfall** did an amazing prediction trick with numbers and letters and with a prediction in a balloon. Next **Billy Heavener** performed a card prediction. One of Ring 29's junior magicians, Mark Lowman, did a prediction of coins, objects, and shapes. Our next performer, **Michael Wilkinson**, performed several mentalist tricks involving newspaper clippings and a card selection. He also predicted a news headline for the day. Mistress of Ceremonies **Christy Henson** performed B'Wave. Then **David Duggie** performed a rope routine, and **Pam Medrez** did an entertaining demonstration of "Find Ugly". **Dane Dover** put a \$20 in an envelop and gave spectators free choice of envelops to locate the bill. Dane's envelop had the \$20. Continuing the evening was **Jim Henson**. He performed the Invisible Deck, and **Mike Jones** did a card prediction trick. **Bill Fulton** did a word prediction trick, and ending the evening of magic was **Bob Bullock** who did a dollar bill trick. It was a great evening of magic and mentalism!

♠ Blast From the Past:

Elwood's Rabbit Rites

Carefully edited by Van Clove

There are always more card fans in



a magic act than there are in the audience.

I want to get me a Change Bag so I'll have a nice place to keep my dimes, nickels, and pennies in.

I heard a majician say he would be entertaining on TV. If he is, it'll surprise me!

Lots of majicians are doing the CARD IN THE WALLET, but not one is doing the MONEY IN THE CARD CASE trick!

I went a pasted fuzz all over a lump of coal - because I wanted to see a Hairy Blackstone.

There was once an albino magician who did a White-Art act.

A waitress at the last magic convention told me that all she could say about magicians was, "THUMB TIPS . . . and THUMB DO NOT!"

Your Frennd
Elwood



Magic Matters

♣ Monthly Bio:



Sid Salmans

Sid was born and raised in Wichita, Kansa and moved to Seattle with his dad's job. He later returned to Kansas for high school and moved to Arkansas in 1988 while working for Falcon Jet. When he was eight years old, his mother took him to a small novelty shop in Wichita where he bought Chinese Sticks along with a couple of other tricks. He would entertain family and guests and did birthday parties while in high school. It was during these experiences performing that he learned how to deal with children getting into his magic apparatus. Sid joined Ring 47, the Wizards of Wichita, and there met Ring 29 member Jon Bucher who belonged to Ring 47 at the time. Sid became acquainted with Steven's Magic Emporium in Wichita as well. Some of his most favorite magic is the Linking Rings, Cups and Balls, Multiplying Balls, Die Box, Rising Card, Daryl's Rope Routine, Color Changing Silk, and Stratosphere. Some of his favorite card tricks are Twisting the Aces, Triumph, and the Ambitious Card trick. John Cornelius was at the first convention he attended in Kansas. He showed Sid how to make the coin fall up. Sid practiced it for hours until his hand was raw. If you haven't seen him perform this trick, be sure to ask him to show it to you. Sid also likes Coins Across

and Daryl's Three Fly. He likes to watch some Stage Illusions like Metamorphosis, levitations, and people vanishes. He is a perfectionist when developing his routines for all the tricks he learns. He uses his skill to perform for the members of the Pleasant Valley Country Club where he works. Like many other magicians, Sid grew up watching Mark Wilson. He also likes magicians David Copperfield, Tommy Wonder, David Williamson, Mr. Electric, and Max Maven among many others! Sid has many other interests as well. He has taken some art classes with drawing and painting. He is also musically inclined. Since the late sixties, Sid has been interested in electronic music. He attended Ozark Bible College singing in a men's ensemble and is presently trying to learn guitar. Like many other magicians, Sid has also become interested in the Harry Potter series. He notes that the Neilson Bottle Trick is in the movie *Prisoner of Azkaban* when a man is cleaning a bottle in the Leaky Cauldron and the bottle seems to disappear in the rag. He is a very knowledgeable magician and has so much magic "Like most magicians, I own more magic than I'll ever use." We are happy to have his knowledge and experience of magic as a part of Ring 29!

♥ **Michael Wilkinson** performs at private parties weekly. He is at American Pie Pizza in North Little Rock on Monday nights and at Larry's Pizza in Cabot on Tuesday nights.

♣ **Jimmy Rhodes** and Casey have set a date. They will be getting married on December 7th at Graceland. Congrats to them!

♣ From **Dennis Schick**: Anyone watching Chris Angel on Tuesday night's on A&E? You DO have to give him credit for being entertaining, even though a bit weird and off the wall sometimes. There have been FOUR back-to-back 30-minute shows for several weeks, all reruns. But his new

season either has or is about to start. Tune it to see the hottest magician on television.



Branson Review

Continued from July Newsletter

Darren then segued immediately into his "Dream Lover" routine that aired on the *World Magic Awards* when he was awarded the "Best Up and Coming Magician" award in 1999. Paying homage to his namesake, Bobby Darin, Romeo executed the song very well as he slid glass panels into their respective slots in an empty wooden frame. Once the "box" was complete, Darren covered the box with a large foulard and almost instantly whisked it away revealing his leading lady of seventeen years, Kristy Michelsen. After introducing her, Darren made his way into the audience and began greeting everyone on a more personal level. This is the part in the show I believe could use a bit of fine tuning. As a friend of mine who attended the show said to me, "The tricks were great! It was in between and leading up to that was boring." Though he managed to slip in a one-liner every now and then, his delivery and comic timing were a little off which led to many jokes not landing. When this happened, Darren had a tendency to do the cliché airplane-over-the-head gesture, which was cute the first five times...but unfortunately just dug his hole deeper as the show went on.

Darren then explained his connection to Siegfried and Roy, and how they saved the snow tigers from extinction, he then said that no animals were used in his show, but he did manage to snag a tiger tail from his tenure with Siegfried and Roy. He then made the tail "dance" and sing around the stage, around his body, and into a jar (very ala dancing hank); all the while singing a song called "Talk To the Animals." He then made his way back into the audience where he performed a very nice floating table routine to "The Prince of Humbug." After floating the table back up to the stage, Darren reintroduced his leading lady Kristy and gave her a chance to show off her pipes as well. To a very nice rendition of "Uninvited" by Alanis Morissette, Kristy made two girls appear out of two flaming cages. The timing of this transition of fire to human took place almost in the blink of an eye, very well done. After the two "hot" chicks appeared, Darren made his way back onto the stage to be impaled on a giant wooden sword. This trick in my opinion was performed very well, although a friend sitting close by said he saw the sword "click" into Romeo's lower back when he was set on top of it.

After being skewered by a giant wooden sword, Darren shared a bit of his personal life concerning his musical career. He told us of how he was part of the longest running Off-Broadway musical "Fantasticks" while the show was in his prime. He did this not by mere words, but rather by making the show's emblem appear on a clean white sheet – an effect that was very visual as well as impressive. Behind this same white sheet he also made a giant white grand piano appear. He then brought an elderly woman onstage and read a poem to her that he wrote at one point in his life after he had been broken up with. He then took the sheet of paper and formed it into a rose, which (you guessed it) he floated and then turned into a real rose...all the while singing a

beautiful piece of music, "And So It Goes". Darren then performed Siegfried and Roy's "girl through body" illusion to "Kiss of the Spider Woman". I personally have never been a fan of this illusion as the technique is fairly obvious, which was even more evident when my girlfriend leaned over and told me how the trick was done.

Darren closed his first Act with a levitation routine to "Gethsemane" from *Jesus Christ Superstar*. He explained that he had taken this portion out of his show for a while due to its controversial nature, but put it back in due to the power it enhanced to the show. He then levitated between two poles. Once he reached the top, he removed one pole, only to put it back seconds later...why he didn't remove the traditional two is still lost in my mind. He then executed a standing levitation vertically out of eyeshot before closing the first Act curtain. This particular effect was all but perfect until the lights dimmed and the audience could see a split in the curtain behind where Romeo had just been levitating.... (to be continued in the next newsletter)



Reno

Winners Of The 2007 IBM Annual Convention In Reno, Nevada

 Message from Jerry Schnepf, Sr., Stage Contest Chairman
 International Brotherhood of Magicians
 Convention contest winners, 2007
 Close-Up Contest - Youth Category
 First Place Trophy and \$500 Savings Bond - Ben Proudfoot.

Hallifax, Canada
 2nd Place Award Of Merit Plaque - Vincent Villamonte, Lincoln, NE
 Close-Up Contest - Adult Category
 First Place Trophy and \$500 cash - David Minkin Northridge, CA
 2nd Place Award Of Merit Plaque -- Nathan Gibson, Moreno Valley, CA

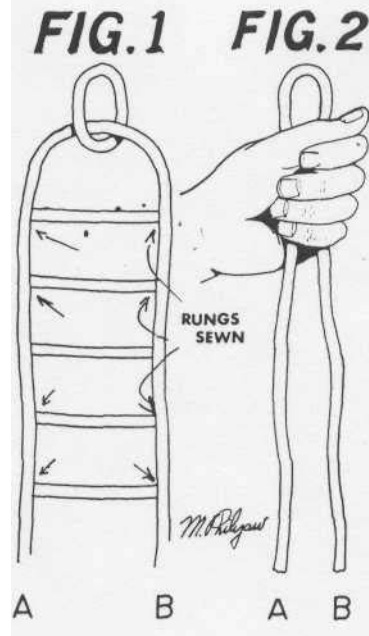
Finalists Awards

- 1) M. C. Chow, Hong Kong, China
- 2) David Minkin, Northridge, CA
- 3) Nathan Gibson, Moreno Valley, CA
- 4) Raymond. Macao, China
- 5) Rod Chow, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 6) Hayashi, Mannheim, Germany
 FFFF "Peoples Choice" AWARD - Hayashi, Mannheim, Germany
 Gold Cups International Award Of Excellence In Close-Up
 Performance - No Award
 Stage Contest - Youth Category
 First Place Trophy and \$500 Savings Bond - Sterling Dietz, Lynden, WA
 2nd Place Award Of Merit Plaque - Krystyn Lambert, Malibu, CA
 Fantasma Special Youth Award -- Streling Dietz, Lynden, WA
 Stage Contest - Adult Category
 First Place Trophy and \$1000 Jerry Schnepf, Sr.

Stage Contest Chairman
 Shen Juan, Beijing, China
 2nd Place Award Of Merit Plaque - Shayna Reed, Eaton. OH
 Finalists Awards

- 1) Sterling Dietz, Lynden, WA
- 2) Shinichiro Ito, Osaka, Japan
- 3) Shayna Reed, Eaton, OH
- 4) Chin Chin, San Francisco, CA
- 5) Raymond Iong, Macao, China
- 6) Shen Juan, Beijing, China
 People's Choice Award - \$300 cash - Sterling Dietz, WA
 Gold Medal International Award Of Excellence In Stage
 Performance - No Award
 Karrell Fox Comedy Award - No Award
 (report submitted by Dennis Schick)

Trick Time



ROPE LADDER Jean Poisson

Effect: This little "cutie" as they say in the States, comes from a gag in Bill Stickland's book, *Introducing Bill's Magic*. A spectator is invited to cut a piece of rope in half. The two pieces are tied together and magic passes are made. Result: restoration of the rope in the form of a rope ladder.

Preparation: A ladder is made of soft white piping (the assistance of the wife or girl friend may be needed here to sew the rungs in place), with a loop of similar "rope" attached to the top.

(Fig- I-)

The rope is held with the ladder crumpled up and concealed in the left hand. The loop (only) protrudes from the top of the hand and the ends hang down so that the performer appears to hold a piece of ordinary rope doubled in his fist.

Presentation: A spectator is invited to cut the center (loop) of the rope. The ends are tied and the knot trimmed off with scissors. After the magic is made, the rope is revealed restored in the form of a ladder with the remark, "This is useful as I lost the key to the door!"

Comment: This is an unusual effect which an entertainer could build into something fun and different. The English translation of Jean Poisson is 'John Fish,' and it is a pleasure to have him represented in this Parade. He is a man you should know of for he is a past European I.B.M. Vice President, an Honorary Life Member of Ring 25, and a founder member of the French, Belgium, and Spanish Rings.

One approach here might be to do a "doubling up" action as in the Tarbell Many Cut Rope Trick with one or both of the ends. All the loops protruding at the top could be cut and trimmed and everything but the two "real" top ends dropped to reveal the rope ladder. My thought here is that the multiple cuts better "justify" (well, magician's logic) the magical formation of the ladder. Of course, smaller than normal rope should be used so that the "ladder" can fit into the hand. What would YOUR handling and patter story be? —PRW



President's Corner

Several of us from Arkansas went to Reno the last week in June for the International Brotherhood of Magicians Convention. Ring 29 and Ring 75 members **Bill** and **Ruth Pitts** and **Larry Bean** and his wife Ann were there along with Ring 29 members **Bob Bullock** and his wife **Veta**, Dr, **Jim Suen** and his friend **Jerry, Jim Henson**, and myself. Over 800 magicians from around the world gathered for the

four day convention. The preliminary Stage competition lasted over 6 hours straight with 30 competitors. The 5 hour close up competition had 31 competitors. Neither the Gold Cups nor the Gold Medal were awarded this year. There were four evening shows with our own Bill and Ruth Pitts performing a Patriotic theme routine during the Friday evening show. There were many different lecturers including Wild Colombini, Daryl, etc. The Dealers' room was also packed with goodies. Bill Pitts, Jim, and I went to perform at a nursing home and Children's Hospital on the Tuesday of the Convention as part of a charity project for the IBM. Dad and I were invited to the Magic Circle Tea, and we attended the Order of Merlin Breakfast. Bob Bullock (new member to the Order of Merlin) and his wife Veta were also present. I enjoyed the close shows with performers like Jon Armstrong and Boris Wild. It was great to see so many magic friends from around the world. Over 1200 magicians have already registered for the IBM/ SAM Convention in Louisville, Kentucky next July. It will certainly be a "one of a kind" convention. Several Ring 29 members have already registered. The convention will be longer than a typical IBM Convention and with the two huge magic groups combined, there are big name magicians coming to it. Make plans to attend! 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

♠ Calendars will be handed out at the August meeting showing Ring 29 activities for August and September. 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:

August 17th – **John West**

♠ Ring 29 Magic Meeting Themes for 2006- 2007:

August 2 – Street Magic

September 6 – Kids Magic

September 15 – Ring 29 Annual Picnic at Henson's house

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):

* **Book:** Spirit Theater by Eugene Burger \$45.00 (formally out of print)

* **Book:** Strong Magic by Darwin Ortiz \$45.00

* **Book:** Fogel: In Search of the Sensational \$67.50

* **Trick** :Vanishing Bandana \$31.50

Ring Officers:

President: Christy Henson

Cih0914@aol.com

Vice President: Chris Westfall

westfallct@sbcglobal.net

Secretary: Tyler Vodehnal

Tylor1407@hotmail.com

Treasurer: James Kinsey

Jamesk39@swbell.net

Sergeant at Arms: Jon Bucher

Jon.Bucher@eds.com

Historian: Mike Curtis

Mgc4@dcx.com

