



Editors: Ted Schnarre and Terry Richison,

May 2006

Photographer: Harry Machin, Jr.

## Upcoming Events

**Monthly Meetings** are on the first Wednesday of each month at the Webster Groves Recreational Complex, located at 33 Glendale, at 7:30pm. Directions: Take the Elm Street exit off of I-44 and go south to Glendale.

**Monthly Ring 1 Board Meetings** are open to all members and are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at 825 Norwich Dr, St. Charles, MO 63301. Meetings begin at 7pm!

**May 3 – Close-up Contest** – Nipher Middle School – Kirkwood. Ray Belz, Tim Shegitz

**May 16** – Michael Ammar Lecture - 7:00PM Best Western Westport Inn at Dorsett Rd & I-270. Free to Ring 1 Members, \$10 for other I.B.M. members, \$20 for non-I.B.M. members.

**June 7 – Mentalism Night** – Robert Campbell, John Reider, Larry Minth

**June 25 – Stage Contest** – West county YMCA in Chesterfield. Contact Larry Skorepa to enter.

**August 2 – New Member Welcome Night**

**August 17-19 – Midwest Magic Jubilee** – The Airport Hilton Hotel - Registration opens at 1PM on Thursday. First Event is at 6PM. Register online at [www.mmjubilee.com](http://www.mmjubilee.com) or call (314) 232-4183

# Ring 1 Annual Close-Up Contest!

7:30PM

May 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Nipher School in Kirkwood, MO

The contest will be open to the public so bring your family and friends to see some of the greatest close-up magic in St. Louis!

Directions: 700 S. Kirkwood Rd, Kirkwood, MO 63122

From I-270 and Big Bend Rd:

Go East on Big Bend 1.9 Miles.

Turn Left on S. Kirkwood Rd and go .3 Miles

The school will be on your right.

From I-44 and Big Bend Rd:

Go West on big Bend .7 miles

Turn Right on S. Kirkwood Rd and go .3 Miles

The school will be on your right.

Signs will be posted in the school to direct you to the room.

Winners will be announced at the conclusion of contest.

If you have any questions, contact Tim Shegitz at (636)925-0538 or Ray Belz at 314-966-2338. Refreshments will be served.

## Midwest Magic Jubilee Organizational Meeting



Open to All I.B.M./SAM Members!!!

**If you would like to be a part of one of the  
Nation's Finest Magic Conventions,  
Now is your chance! Get involved!**

The next meeting will be

**May 10, 2006**

At the Airport Hilton  
In Posh's Dining Room  
[www.mmjubilee.com](http://www.mmjubilee.com)

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### New Officers and Board

Welcome to the 2006-7 I.B.M. Ring 1 Officers and Board members. They will assume their positions beginning after the June regular meeting. A planning meeting will be held on May 24<sup>th</sup> to plan out the calendar for the next year.

President – Terry Richison

Vice President – Ted Schnarre

Secretary: Steve Buesking

Treasurer: Larry Skorepa

Sgt. at Arms: Eugene Schaefer

Board of Directors: Brian Boyd, Don Burgan, Dan Dierking, Tim Shegitz and Steve Zuehlke.

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## 2007 Planning Meeting

A planning meeting will be held on May 24<sup>th</sup> at Ted Schnarre's home to discuss and plan the calendar for the 2006-7 year. The meeting is open to all members who would like to have input into the various meetings and functions for next year. The meeting will be begin at 7:00 pm. Bring your ideas and suggestions. This is your chance to have your voice heard.

Committee will be formed and committee chairs will be appointed. If you would like to participate in a committee or be a chairman, please attend the meeting or **contact Terry Richison (314) 791-9108.**

## 2005/6 Ring 1 Officers and Board

**President: Terry Richison**

[Terry@IBMRing1.com](mailto:Terry@IBMRing1.com) (314) 791-9108

**Vice President: Ted Schnarre**

[Ted@IBMRing1.com](mailto:Ted@IBMRing1.com) (636) 947-1517

**Secretary: Steve Buesking**

[SteveB@IBMRing1.com](mailto:SteveB@IBMRing1.com) (314) 921-8517

**Treasurer: Larry Skorepa**

[LSkorepa@IBMRing1.com](mailto:LSkorepa@IBMRing1.com) (636) 675-6470

**Sgt. at Arms: Eugene Schaefer**

(636) 272-1569

### Board Members

**Ray Belz**

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**Chuck Levy**

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**Harry Monti**

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**Keith Smith**

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**Steve Zuehlke**

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**Historian: Roger Linden & Steve Zuehlke**

[SteveZ@IBMRing1.com](mailto:SteveZ@IBMRing1.com) (314) 514-0215

**Scribe: Harry Machin Jr.**

[HMachin@IBMRing1.com](mailto:HMachin@IBMRing1.com) (314) 849 8624

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## Project Magic Shriner's Hospital

Show starts at 6:45 PM

Thanks to last month's performers:

**Terry Richison, Steve Bender and Bob Blattel**

Special thanks to Steve Buesking & Larry Minth for showing up as back up.

**May 17 Jim Buffaloe, John/Ruby Davit,  
Larry Skorepa & Joe Hardin**

**June 21 Harry Monti, Dave Snetsinger,  
George Van Dyke, Bud Dietrich**

*"No man can stand so tall,*

*As to stoop to help a child in need"*

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## College of Magic in Capetown, South Africa Adopt a student

Steve Buesking outlined at the Daryl Lecture, four proposals that involve the College of Magic in Capetown, South Africa. Steve asked the club members to consider adopting a student in South Africa (cost \$380/year), encouraging other rings to follow our lead as part of our 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary, gain access and utilize the College's syllabus for our newest members, and an announcement of a \$60,000 grant to bring 5 students and their sponsor to the United states to tour. As the grant is a cross-cultural exchange item, 4 magicians would be sent back to South Africa to tour and lecture for a week. The grant is for \$60,000 and is due in Washington D. C. by May 11, 2006.

We will take a vote at the June 7<sup>th</sup> regular meeting whether the club wants to sponsor a student or not. The grant money discussed above is a separate issue. More information will be mailed or emailed to you prior to the June meeting. Any questions should be directed to Steve Buesking.

# Michael Ammar- Special Lecture

May 16, 2006

Michael   
Ammar Magic



Michael Ammar is from the small, coal-mining community of Logan, West Virginia. He was born there on June 25, 1956, the youngest of four children. His family operated numerous businesses, including Magic Mart (still in operation today), hotels and several Bonanza Steak Houses. It was assumed Michael would take over in the family business after receiving his business degree from WVU in 1978. But he wanted to follow his passion for magic. He swore he'd make it work.

Coming from a state that did not have one magic shop, the odds were stacked against him. It all started while he was reading a comic book and noticed an ad: "500 tricks for 25 cents!". He sent in his quarter and received a catalog in the mail. He began ordering tricks and practicing obsessively. Before long, he had a full magic show, complete with a powder-blue tux, doves and a teenage assistant. The local community, as small as it was, supported his efforts and booked him for local shows for birthdays, schools and group meetings. He found it was easier to get a new act than a new audience, which accounts for his large repertoire today.

While in college at West Virginia University, Michael developed a friendship with a few others involved in magic. He often performed shows in the University hang-out, "The Blue Tick Tavern".

In 1983, after much dedication and hard work, Michael entered the world magic competition "F.I.S.M." held every three years in Europe. He traveled to Lausanne, Switzerland and competed against magicians from 22 different countries. He won the Gold Medal for Close-Up Magic, only the second American in the 45 year history of the event to do so.

He began to publish his ideas in the early 80's. He published such titles as "Encore I", "Encore II", "Encore III", "Success & Magic", "Brainstorm in the Bahamas" and the ever popular, "The Topit Book". After FISM, he began to visit the West Coast and became close friends with his mentor, Dai Vernon, from whom he learned much. Vernon, or "The Professor" as he became known to the magic field, graciously wrote the introduction to The Topit Book.



It was during the 1980's Michael performed at the Magic Castle in Hollywood, and the "It's Magic" show. He was seen by the talent scout for "The Tonight Show" in 1985, and was featured by Johnny Carson (himself a magician) on that show twice. He performed magic on "The Merv Griffin Show" ten times, and from there began to receive more recognition for his talent and

appear regularly on television shows.

In 1990, Michael married Hannah in Austin, Texas. Hannah comes from one of the oldest families in magic, the "Willard the Wizard" clan, with over five generations of magicians! She is an integral part of Michael Ammar Magic, and if you've ever met Michael, you've probably met Hannah too.

On November 28, 2000, Michael and Hannah became proud parents with the birth of their first child, daughter Savannah Grace.

Since then, Michael has gone on to publish over 40 video titles, dozens of magazines and books, receive an unprecedented number of honors and awards, travel and tour over 38 countries, and maintain a full schedule of performing and speaking engagements for corporations and celebrities all over the world. In 1999, Magic Magazine named Michael as one of the "100 Most Influential Magicians of the Century".



**Don't miss Michael Ammar's lecture on May 16<sup>th</sup>, 7pm at the Best Western Westport Inn in Maryland Heights at the corner of I-270 and Dorsett Road. Admission is always free to I.B.M. Ring 1 members. Other I.B.M. Members \$10 and Non I.B.M. Members-\$20**

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## 2006 Ring 1 Stage Contest Scheduled for June 25

The 2006 Ring 1 stage contest date has been scheduled for Jun 25<sup>th</sup> at the West County YMCA Theatre in Chesterfield.. This should give you a little more time to hone your act. Please contact **Larry Skorepa** to register for the contest. Cut off date for registration will be June 23<sup>rd</sup>. For contest rules, visit our Ring 1 web site - [www.ibmring1.com](http://www.ibmring1.com). The theatre will hold over 380 people and is a full stage with a normal proscenium, good lighting and curtains. The show will still be a hosted as a food drive for a local food pantry. We are also considering holding an additional spring show at this theatre as well as at the Kirkwood Community Theatre as we have in the past.

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## Laughing out loud!

The theme of March's meeting was "comedy magic" coordinated by **Ray Belz and George VanDyke**. **George VanDyke** gave us his version of an Educated Duck followed by **Keith Smith** with a hilarious revelation of a chosen card imprinted on his sunglasses. **Steve Bender** of Ickle Pickle Magic did a very funny silent act using big cue cards for the audience ala vaudeville, to keep them abreast of what's next and the appropriate reaction required. Ben **Stuparits** presented his Silk to Kiss, Hershey's that is, with prose only as Ben can deliver. Trade show great, **Bud Dietrich** performed his rendition of My Favorite Rope Trick. **Jerry Novak** followed with is comedy ~~Vanishing~~ Shrinking Dollar Bill. **Henry Schaper Sr.** performed his infamous Robin Hood & Marian routine. **Jeff Lefton** brought up a volunteer to do his Comedy Speller. **Ray Belz** closed the evening with his squirting Aquarius Wand with his never ending funnel. We got to see various types and styles of comedy magic.

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**Can you  
find?**

**You could win a special prize** if you are the first person to find the new addition in the *Spirit*. It might be something new in a piece of artwork or something out of place in a picture. If you can find it you could win. Give your answers to **Terry Richison**.

# Comedy Magic Night



Attendance continues to grow!



New Member  
Brad Barton



New Member  
Bob Holscher



Jerry Novack



New Member  
Marty Zangoro



Steve Bender



Ray Belz & George Van Dyke  
Thanks to Ray and George for  
putting together a fun evening!



Henry Schaper



Brian Boyd



Keith Smith &  
Phyllis



Bud Dietrich

## The Mothers Day Story

The earliest Mother's Day celebrations can be traced back to the spring celebrations of ancient Greece in honor of Rhea, the Mother of the Gods. During the 1600's, England celebrated a day called "*Mothering Sunday*". Celebrated on the 4th Sunday of Lent (the 40 day period leading up to Easter\*), "*Mothering Sunday*" honored the mothers of England.

During this time many of the England's poor worked as servants for the wealthy. As most jobs were located far from their homes, the servants would live at the houses of their employers. On Mothering Sunday the servants would have the day off and were encouraged to return home and spend the day with their mothers. A special **cake**, called the *mothering cake*, was often brought along to provide a festive touch.

As Christianity spread throughout Europe the celebration changed to honor the "*Mother Church*" - the spiritual power that gave them life and protected them from harm. Over time the church festival blended with the Mothering Sunday celebration . People began honoring their mothers as well as the church.

In the United States Mother's Day was first suggested in 1872 by *Julia Ward Howe* (who wrote the words to the Battle hymn of the Republic) as a day dedicated to peace. Ms. Howe would hold organized Mother's Day meetings in Boston, Mass every year

In 1907 *Ana Jarvis*, from ever year Philadelphia, began a campaign to establish a national Mother's Day. Ms. Jarvis persuaded her mother's church in Grafton, West Virginia to celebrate Mother's Day on the second anniversary of her mother's death, the 2nd Sunday of May. By the next year Mother's Day was

also celebrated in Philadelphia. Ms. Jarvis and her supporters began to write to ministers, businessman, and politicians in their quest to establish a national Mother's Day. It was successful as by 1911 Mother's Day was celebrated in almost every state. President Woodrow Wilson, in 1914, made the official announcement proclaiming Mother's Day as a national holiday that was to be held each year on the 2nd Sunday of May

While many countries of the world celebrate their own Mother's Day at different times throughout the year, there are some countries such as Denmark, Finland, Italy, Turkey, Australia, and Belgium which

also celebrate Mother's Day on the second Sunday of May.

## The History of Memorial Day



Memorial Day was originally known as Decoration Day because it was a time set aside to honor the nation's Civil War dead by decorating their graves. It was first widely observed on May 30, 1868, to commemorate the sacrifices of Civil War soldiers, by proclamation of General John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of former sailors and soldiers. On May 5, 1868, Logan declared in General Order No. 11 that:

*The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village, and hamlet churchyard in the land. In this observance no form of ceremony is prescribed, but posts and comrades will in their own way arrange such fitting services and testimonials of respect as circumstances may permit.*

During the first celebration of Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, after which 5,000 participants helped to decorate the graves of the more than 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried in the cemetery.

This 1868 celebration was inspired by local observances of the day in several towns throughout America that had taken place in the three years since the Civil War. In fact, several Northern and Southern cities claim to be the

birthplace of Memorial Day, including Columbus, Miss.; Macon, Ga.; Richmond, Va.; Boalsburg, Pa.; and Carbondale, Ill.

In 1966, the federal government, under the direction of President Lyndon Johnson, declared Waterloo, N.Y., the official birthplace of Memorial Day. They chose Waterloo—which had first celebrated the day on May 5, 1866—because the



town had made Memorial Day an annual, community-wide event during which businesses closed and residents decorated the graves of soldiers with flowers and flags.

By the late 1800s, many communities across the country had begun to celebrate Memorial Day and, after World War I, observances also began to honor those who had died in all of America's wars. In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day

a national holiday to be celebrated the last Monday in May. (Veterans Day, a day set aside to honor all veterans, living and dead, is celebrated each year on November 11.)

Today, Memorial Day is celebrated at Arlington National Cemetery with a ceremony in which a

small American flag is placed on each grave. Also, it is customary for the president or vice-



president to give a speech honoring the contributions of the dead and lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. About 5,000 people attend the ceremony annually.

## Daryl Lecture Review

by Steve Buesking



Daryl with nothing up his sleeve during his 3 Fly routine.

IBM Ring One hosted Daryl, The Magician's Magician, on Friday, April 28th. Daryl is well known for his many contributions to close-up magic, and to the L&L Publishing catalog. Daryl also demonstrated parlor magic that was well within the reach of most magicians. Some of the effects that I enjoyed most are commented upon here.

Daryl's opening trick was a card effect. An anytime, any place, any deck, card effect to be used on someone's birthday. When Daryl revealed that the card had to be placed 21<sup>st</sup> in the deck, the air in the room was temporarily sucked dry by those thinking "Oh no, I'm in a card nut lecture." Daryl managed to take something as daunting as "Card Controls" and "Placements", and make it appear



Daryl's Rising Cards

to be well within the reach of everyone in the audience.

The burnt and restored handkerchief effect was quite a fooler. A handkerchief is borrowed, set afire, and then returned unharmed. Roger Linden suggested improvements to Daryl. Lecturers can go off in two directions: Ignore the comment, and proceed, or address the idea. Daryl was a professional, taking Roger's suggestion in stride, and suggesting to all of us that every magic lecture should be a base; each person should add their own personality and create the effect that best fits them. While not an original thought, sometimes it helps to be reminded of the basics.

The Rising Cards routine was simply amazing. No threads, no magnets, no \$40 dealer item, just a pencil, an ordinary envelope and a deck of cards. This is one item I will try to incorporate for the next close-up contest.

To me, Daryl's most notable dealer items were his 3-Fly routine, and the Jumping Knot of Pakistan, now known as The Acrobatic Knot. It appears too easy when explained; I hope the directions are as clear when I open both items at home.

**Another great lecture for Ring 1!**



New Member Marty Zangaro and wife, Jen, help out.

# The Midwest Magic Jubilee 2006

*"One of the Best Magic Conventions in the United States!"*  
-Dai Vernon

★ The Convention Where The Stars Meet! ★

**Midwest Magic Jubilee**

St. Louis 2006 Missouri

*50th Anniversary*

**August 17-19th, 2006**

Register Online at [www.MMJubilee.com](http://www.MMJubilee.com)  
Or Call 314.791.9108

St. Louis Airport Hilton Hotel Reservations – 1.800.445.8667  
\$79 per night special rate,  
just mention the Midwest Magic Jubilee!

**Admission:**  
Adult – \$110 each  
\$125 on or after July 1  
Youth (16 & under) – \$70 each  
\$80 on or after July 1

*Jay Sankey*

*Whit Haydn*

*Howie Schwarzman*

*Mandre*

*Bill Pryor*

*Julie Sobanski*

*Terry Elton*

*Jason Dean*

**Featuring:**

- Over 15 world class dealers
- 2 Outstanding Close Up Shows
- 3 Spectacular Evening Shows
- Stage & Close Up Contests w/ Cash Prizes
- Special Jimmy "Cards" Molinari Workshop

*Oscar Munoz*

*Aldo Colombini*

*Jimmy "Cards" Molinari*

*Mike Powers*

*Jania Taylor*

*Chris Rayman*

*Larry Taylor*

*Tom Frame*

It is that time of year again to start thinking about what convention to attend. Again the Midwest Magic Jubilee has received great reviews and acclamations from the Magic community. 2006 should be no exception! Many of us take for granted that we have a magic convention in St Louis. The Jubilee has become one of the best conventions in the nation. We should be proud to support the Jubilee because it is OUR convention. To help make this happen we are again allowing a FREE registration for the spouse of the first 100 registrants. We want you to be the first to know this so you can take advantage of this offer. The first ad will hit the newsstands in January. At that time the rest of the nation will know of the offer. You can register by going to [www.mmjubilee.com](http://www.mmjubilee.com) or mail the form to Ted Schnarre, 825 Norwich, St Charles, MO 63301.

