



The SPIRIT | Official Newsletter Of I.B.M. Ring 1

August 3rd –Annual Ice Cream Social & New Member Welcome Night

August 2011
Volume 11, Issue 8

The August meeting will be the first meeting of the “new year” with the new board and officers and as is tradition, the night will lead off with the new board providing the entertainment. We will then break for refreshments and ice cream with all the toppings. The second half will then be opened up to all members, especially those who have joined since August of 2010, to perform an effect or routine that they learned or put together. Whether it is stand up or close-up we would like to start off our first meeting of the New Year with your performance. It can be something big or small. It is totally up to you. If you don't feel comfortable getting up in front of the members you don't have to, we would still like to “officially” welcome you to I.B.M. Ring 1 at the meeting. As a bonus, three prizes will be awarded by a drawing of all who performed. Last year this event was a big success and a lot of fun, so arrive early! Don't forget that this meeting is open not only to members but to your immediate families too! They like ice cream don't they?

The first half will give brief performances from...

PRESIDENT, Terry Richison

VICE PRESIDENT, Mike Neihaus

SECRETARY and SGT AT ARMS, Alan Zibits

TREASURER, Sandy Wiese

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Steve Barcellona, Steve Levit, Larry Skorepa, Harry Monti, Larry Minth

A big thanks in advance goes out to Mike Neihaus and Sandy Wiese for putting it together this year. Remember, there are still time and opportunities for you to join on one of the committees for the upcoming year! Contact Terry Richison for details. Bring the family and enjoy the evening of good friends and good magic!

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Your Submissions and Articles Wanted!

We want your articles, reviews and submissions. What did you think of our last lecture? What about a recent convention in or out of town that you saw? We would love to hear about it. Or how about some photos from the latest Club event you participated in. Just follow these simple guidelines.

Just write it up in Microsoft word. Please use the Arial font, type size 10. And don't use any formatting such as fancy titles, fonts or colors. Just simple paragraph form (Don't indent) If you have clip art or photos just send them as a separate attachment to the email. The deadline is 10 days before the next meeting. But go ahead and send it in early!

President's Message

By Terry Richison magictrw@charter.net

As we get another magical year underway, we have a lot to be thankful for. Our families, friends and most of all, people who hire us. Several years ago, we took a survey of our Ring 1 members to find out what their likes and dislikes were. What did they want to do and learn at our magic meetings and events. We plan on doing that again this year. But you don't have to wait until the survey comes out. You can just send me your thoughts via email or better yet, come to the board meetings. They are open to everyone. The past two years have been great ones. A big thanks need to go out to Josh and Steve for helping to keep, not only magic alive but growing in the St Louis, area. Last year, we tried some new things like the show at Charlie and Jay Myers' theatre/banquet hall in Bethalto, IL. It was so successful that we will be doing it again this year. So we will be looking for some fresh acts for this year's show. Let us know if you are interested. We are currently in the planning stages for this year's president's banquet on Sept 16th, 2011 at Orlando Gardens on Watson Rd in St Louis. So mark your calendars. This is one event that you don't want to miss. More info will be coming shortly. And lastly, I want to invite everyone who wants to help shape the future of Ring 1, not to be shy and to step up and let us know that you want to be involved. We need everyone's help. Bring a friend to the meetings. Help out membership grow again. Only four short years ago, we were the largest Ring in North America. There are many things that you can do to help. If everyone helps out a little then no one has to do a lot. Most of all, I want everyone to have fun and enjoy the I.B.M.

Ring 1 Members Needed To Perform

By Terry Richison magictrw@charter.net

St. Louis Society for the Blind & Visually Impaired

Steve Finklestein has done it again! Steve is involved with some wonderful organizations. This September he has gotten Ring 1 magicians paired up with the 100th Anniversary Blind Convention on Saturday, September 17th from 10 to noon. We need a balance of jugglers, balloon animals, teach/handout magic, walk around, bubbles, etc. We will be in the tented areas, pavilions and just walk around. Our club will be getting some great publicity as well as exposure for each performer. In addition, Ring 1 will receive a \$300 donation. There will be a mix of sighted and visually impaired people. If there are other magicians you feel would be interested please have them contact Steve Finkelstein at steve.finkelstein@experience-on-demand.com. Logistics below:

Event: St. Louis Society for the Blind & Visually Impaired will host a Kids & Family Festival for both sighted and visually impaired children, families and other folks

Date: September 17 in Shaw Park in Clayton, the -- now celebrating its 100th Year Anniversary

Magician Time: 10:00AM to noon, but we can come earlier and stay later

Place: Shaw Park, notably ball fields and shelters on the north end, the "corporate pavilion"

Note: The St. Louis Cardinals and nonprofit Cardinals Care are deeply involved and will help promote the event. Cardinals President William O. DeWitt III is Honorary Chair of the Society's 100th Year Anniversary Activities. We expect have Cardinal player alumni and, of course, Fredbird, plus other "character animals" such as from Six Flags.



Society for the Blind
and Visually Impaired

IBM Ring 1: May 2011 Ring Report

By Sandy Weis sweis@psdr3.org

Ring 1 does not meet during the month of July. However, on June 26th the Ring had our Stage Contest. It was held in St. Charles, Mo. at St. Cletus Church. The teenagers from the parish assisted the club with the contest. Guests were charged \$2 and this money was given to the Teen Youth group.

Our three contestants were Larry Minth, Fred Quick, and Tom Westerheide. All were well-prepared for the show. The audience, young and old, really seemed to enjoy the show. The Youth group really had fun, and even one was chosen to be a lay judge. She was thrilled to be chosen.

All three performers had completely different acts. Larry told jokes to go along with his magic. Tom gracefully used his words which made the audience want to closely watch his magic. Fred, a fairly new member, performed magic using music instead of words.

Mike Niehaus was in charge of the judging. As he was tallying the scores, several of the IBM members performed for the audience. The magicians who performed were as follows: Ted Schnare, Marty Kopp, and Steve Barcellona. The audience really enjoyed their performances.

The judges had a difficult time deciding on the winner. According to Ted Schnare, who emceed the show, the scores were close. However, Larry Minth was proclaimed the winner. Ring 1 feels they were all "winners" because they all chose to be in the contest.

Ring 1 will resume meeting on August 3rd for the annual Ring 1 Ice Cream Social. Members are encouraged to bring their family and friends for the Ice Cream Social.

Schedule of Events 2010 – 2011

Aug 4th – Ice Cream Social
Sept 6th – Out of Your Wallet / Out of Your pocket
Oct 6th – Halloween Magic and Mentalism
Nov 3rd – Turkeys! Your First, Best Or Worst
Dec 1st – Holiday Party, White Elephant, Holiday Magic
Jan 5th – Across The Coffee Cups, Dinner Table Magic
Feb 2nd – By The Book, Tricks From Your Favorite Book
Mar 2nd – 4 Corner Poker Run (It's Back!)
Mar 19 – Parade of Magic / Day of Magic w/ BANACHEK
Apr 6th – Cards and Coins
Apr 9th – Evening of Comedy And Magic – Bethalto, IL
May 4th – Close Up Contest
June 1st – Just For Kids .
June 7th – Gregory Wilson Lecture

2011 Midwest Magic Jubilee Draws Near



The Midwest Magic Jubilee is just around the corner. August 11-13 is shaping up to be another great convention. Now you have to ask yourself, "why haven't I already registered" if you haven't. That is a good question and only one that you can answer. We have a great line up of entertainers of close up and stage that you won't soon forget. So if you have not already registered, git ur done! Online registration will be closing on August 3rd. After that, you will have to register at the door which will cost a little more! If you would like to help to set up, tear down, run a video camera, be a personal assistant to one of the performers, let us know. Just call 314-791-9108 or email at magictwr@charter.net. Thanks to all of those who have already been putting in some long hours getting things organized. Check out the web site at www.mmjubilee.com.

Spotlight On Membership...

Ring 1 Member Bob Blattle Makes A Big Hit In Trade Magazine



Abracadabra: Robert J. Blattle mixes a love of magic with client interests to create social events that build rapport.

Prospecting through passion – and magic!

Tricks of the trade: How some advisers are now winning over prospects. Rather than focus on leads, savvy adviser marketers concentrate on activities they and clients like!

By Lavonne Kuykendall Excerpts from May 22, 2011

Cold calls are dead and dinner seminars passé, so financial advisers are using other marketing tactics to attract skeptical and increasingly jaded prospects. Advisers warn about focusing too much on getting prospects to attend, which they say can be counterproductive. Bringing existing clients and prospects together for a non-financial event can end up being much more effective than a sales seminar, they say.

Robert J. Blattle of Blattle & Associates in St. Peters, Mo., mixes his lifelong love of magic with client interests to create social events that build rapport. For one of his most popular events, a classic-car show and cookout, he invites clients who have interesting cars or other vehicles to bring them to his office parking lot for an informal show. Typically, attendance at the invitation-only event is about 80% clients and 20% guests. Although there is no sales pitch or financial focus at his events, Mr. Blattle does like to entertain with some magic tricks he has created to illustrate financial principles.

One trick he created is a two-sided card inscribed with financial factors investors must balance. Mr. Blattle shows the audience one face of the card, which says “inflation.” He then turns the card around and shows the other side, which says “investments,” then turns it back around to show yet another word, “taxes,” on the other side of the apparently two-sided card. Another trick consists of Mr. Blattle displaying several pieces of rope, which each represent a source of income in retirement. He ties the pieces together, and through sleight of hand, transforms the tied pieces into an unbroken circle.

Mr. Blattle also performs magic tricks at personal-finance classes he teaches at a local college. The tricks start off the class, which he said helps “wake them up,” and captures the students' attention. “Magic is a good door-opener for classes,” Mr. Blattle said.

During class, he doesn't even hand out business cards, but his entertaining way of teaching is very effective. After a recent session attended by 19 couples, 15 asked to make appointments to come talk to him, Mr. Blattle said. Still, “the magician act has led to business. It makes you noticeable and they remember who you are,” Mr. Blattle said.

Source: Investment News Congratulations to Bob for being recognized and a leader in his industry with magic!

From The Past

By Don Rataj, Ring 1 Historian donrataj@rkai.net

Yikes.... There is no escaping the Midwest Magic Jubilee is coming and full of some great act.

Here are a few of the people from the past conventions that tried to escape.

Don't miss all of the fun and be super surprised like Dan here!

I will have the new updated Ring One scrap book and a lot of other new things to show at the convention.

See ya there.



Do You Have Something To Sell Or Trade?

All members in good standing can advertise your item free. Just include a picture and description of your item along with your contact info to. steve@magiconthemenue.com

A Review Of An Extraordinary Stage Illusion Show

By Andy Leonard

Wow! This is weird. Before I begin the revue of Terry Richison's stage and illusion show, I would like to start with a disclaimer. Part of me is really kicking and screaming about doing this. Although I have a published thriller on the market (which took me a couple of years to complete), I have never attempted to review anything much less a full night of illusions by a pro. I don't know too much about writing non-fiction. The only illusions that I may have, are that I should even attempt this.

"It's Magic! Where Dreams Become Reality" The stage was set in the newly renovated Wildey Theater in Edwardsville. Just that nostalgia added mystique to what we were about to see. Terry's extremely quick magical appearance on top of a platform and the Light Chamber Illusion, choreographed to music, created the atmosphere of expectation that foreshadowed the night to come.

At this point I would like to congratulate Terry on his choice of his new assistant. Even by herself, she was mesmerizing. (I think Terry was in the show too.) I understand that she had been part of Kirby Van Burch's Branson show at one time. Also kudos to Alan Zibits, on his dramatic debut as well as Terry's daughter, Alexa, for her touching performance. Oop's I got off track.

Immediately after getting the audience attention with his opening illusions, Terry brought a lady from the audience on stage help him with his comedy cut and restored rope trick. Although the volunteer was a bit confused Terry kept her on track throughout the bit which just added to the comedy.

I haven't heard too many audiences gasp during a rope trick, however, when Terry ended the professor's nightmare with one long red rope instead of 3 different lengths of rope, the audience actually reacted with an audible astonished gasp.

I have to chuckle as I think of the next bit. The Jumbo Side Kick in which a member chooses a jumbo card, Terry puts the deck on a table and gives the chosen audience member a 357 magnum hand gun to use to find her chosen card. Of course the audience howled as the volunteer kept shooting other items on the table except the deck of cards at which she was supposed to be aiming. The lady furthered the issue by not following the instructions too closely, creating much of the comedy, but all was well and the right card was shot....eventually.

I'm not going to outline each trick such as the card on forehead, The McCombical deck and 20th century underwear other than to say that they were hilarious. Sometimes it is difficult to get members to come up on stage or to get them to follow instructions. There seemed to be a little reluctance that night. I thought it was interesting that two of the volunteers were a woman and a girl sitting in the same row that both had a birthday on that day. Yet they were strangers to each other.

Terry's classic bill in the lemon trick was a great success. One of the points of interest was that only the volunteers ever touched the lemons or bills. At this point Terry changed pace and brought his dazzling assistant out to amaze the audience with their version of the Twister. I was watching some of the audience at this point. Their jaws dropped. Luckily they were hinged or we would have had a cleanup problem in Row F.

I was surprised and touched as Terry ended the first half of the show with a rousing heartfelt tribute to our military, police and firemen with his story about Red Skelton's version of the Pledge of Allegiance only to end with the stage dressed with actual Policemen, Firemen and Military personnel.

The second half of the show began his mental prediction set. He built the momentum by first making predictions one person at a time leading the audience on to a point that they were almost howling at the comedy. Of course they were surprised to find his written predictions were indeed correct. Then he predicted three people's choices of cards, by tossing a deck of cards out to the audience and then thirdly he read everyone's mind. Well presented.

For another spectator effect, he chose a little girl who surprisingly followed instructions and reacted very well in his soda in silks routine. Then once again he brought the audience to disbelief when he performed Origami.

I had to laugh when the volunteer with the \$100 bill transposition and Fire Insurance routine was a very big rather intimidating man. A couple of times I thought Terry might be in danger of getting man handled as he burned the envelope with the \$100 in it, then gave the man the ashes to have the bank replenish his \$100 bill. But the good old Post Office came to the rescue and delivered a package to the very large man who was astounded when he opened it to find his sign \$100 bill inside.

The sub trunk was well played. His new assistant looked as though she was actually defiant throughout the whole routine, as she was supposed to. Well done. (I think Terry was in that one also, I was just watching his assistant.)

...Continued

A Review Of An Extraordinary Stage Illusion Show

By Andy Leonard

He kept the tension going with the overhead vanish and then touched everyone's heart with a story about his dad teaching him how to dream as he presented his daughter Alexa and they performed their suspension in his dad's honor

At this point, Terry performed his signature floating rose, always an audience pleaser... but what really brought them to their feet was his finale.

Building a cabinet of shades before the audiences very eyes, he stepped inside and disappeared only to appear in the middle of the audience to the shrill sound of a whistle in about two seconds with his assistant instead of him standing in the middle of the cabinet.

That's right, the audience loved the show. The ending standing ovation was a tribute to Terry's showmanship and ability to perform even under electrical, lighting and some rather bizarre circumstances. A tribute to Terry, his staff and the backstage support of that actor extraordinaire... Alan Zibits.

Later on, Terry jokingly asked me if I had initiated the standing ovation. He sounded amazed when I told him, no, that the standing ovation was spontaneous and well earned.

As for me, I enjoyed his show, it was well worth the frantic drive from a wedding at Pevely to Edwardsville to get there on time. I actually saw some dreams become reality.

Photo Shoots Come Back To The Jubilee

By Terry Richison magictrw@charter.net

This year we will have nationally known photographer Deej. from PBC Photography, taking promo shots on Friday Aug 12. **These will be 20 min sessions for only \$25.** You will walk away from the convention with all the photos from the session on a CD that you can use as you want. There are also editing options available for an additional cost that she will tell you about the day of the photo shoot. Photo shoot sign up sheets will be available at registration but you can get on the list early by emailing two approximate times that you would be interested in holding your photo shoot. Times begin at 8AM on Friday, Aug 12 and run every half hour until 4:30PM. These will be on a first come first serve basis. **To sign up now just reply back to this email with your times.** See you at the Jubilee!

Performers Assistants and Volunteers Needed

By Steve Barcellona steve@magiconthemenu.com

Every year we provide assistants or liaisons to the out of town performers. It is our way of showing the convention celebrities a little Midwest hospitality.

As a liaison you will help the performer get their gear to and from lectures and shows and maybe help them with other problems that may arise. One year I had to help one performer acquire

some mice. So you never know what will come up. You only need to be registered at the Jubilee and be available Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

If you are interested there are still some top names available. Please send an email to steve@magiconthemenu.com to sign up. Or give me a call 314-898-3545. It won't take much time and you will get to know some of the

performers. Any help you could provide would be greatly appreciated. We also need help setting up and tearing down the ballroom stage and curtains. Set up will begin Wednesday Aug 10 at 1pm (sodas and pizzas will be provided). Tear down will be Sunday Aug 15 at 9:30am.

Most of all we need you to come and have fun.

2010 – 2011 Officers

Officers

President:

Terry Richison 636-947-8097

Vice President:

Mike Niehaus 314-691-0507

Treasurer:

Sandy Wiese 314-524-7859

Secretary:

Al Zibits 636-273-9974

Sgt At Arms:

Al Zibits 636-273-9974

Board Members

Harry Monti 636-394-4191

Steve Barcellona 314-831-0310

Steve Levit 314-469-6339

Larry Minth 314-776-3836

Larry Skorepa 636-394-2968

International Brotherhood Of Magicians

St. Louis Ring 1

Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm. (Except July) at the *Maryland Heights Community Center 2344 McKelvey Rd in Maryland Heights, MO 63043*. Unless noted in the schedule.

Meeting Agenda

6pm Youth Meeting

6:30 Magic 101

7pm Announcements

7:15 Break

7:30 Meeting Theme

9pm Workshop / Social Time

Board Meetings held the 3rd Monday of the month. If you have something for the good of the club please contact one of the officers. All are welcome at the board meetings.

Directions

From the St Louis Airport:

Take I-70 West to I-270 South, Take the Dorsett Exit, Turn Right onto Dorsett, Turn Right onto McKelvey Hill Rd (McKelvey Hill turns into McKelvey Rd) Go ½ of a mile and the Maryland Heights Community Center is on the right.

From I-64(Hiway 40), I-44 or I-55:

Take I-64(Hiway 40), I-44 or I-55 West to I-270 and go north.

Take the Dorsett Exit, Turn Left onto Dorsett

Turn Right onto McKelvey Hill Rd (McKelvey Hill turns into McKelvey Rd)

Go ½ of a mile and the Maryland Heights Community Center is on the right.

Stay up to Date:
www.IBMRing1.com
For the latest info

This Just In...

I.B.M And S.A.M. To Hold 2014 Joint Convention...Location St. Louis!!

The International Brotherhood of Magicians and the Society of American Magicians have announced a unanimous agreement to hold a joint convention in St. Louis, Missouri on July 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 2014. Following the success of the North American Championships of Magic recently held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the two organizations also will host the 2nd FISM North American Championship of Magic concurrently with the joint convention. Venue for the five day event will be the 1075 room Renaissance St. Louis Grand Hotel, with 55,000 square feet of meeting space, located six blocks from the Gateway Arch and adjacent to two theaters under consideration for shows and contests. The name of the convention will be the IBM/SAM 2014 Combined Convention. The steering committee has named Shawn Farquhar and Mark Weidhaas as co-chairs of the convention.

