



December Spirit 2008

Editor: Ted Schnarre

Up Comming Meetings

Youth Meetings 5:30 to 6:15

Magic 101 6:30 to 7:15

Meeting 7:30 to 8:45

December 3 rd	Christmas Party
No Youth Meeting or Magic 101	
January 7 th	Sleight of Hand
February 4 th	Valentines Magic
March 4 th	Close Up Contest
April 1 st	Everyone Performs
May 6 th	Stage Contest
June	To Be Announced



December 3rd

Regular meeting – 7:00PM



The meeting will start off in a festive mood with some great holiday food organized by Larry Skorepa. Everyone has his or her choice of bringing a covered side dish or donating \$5 per person in attendance. The meeting is open to all members and their immediate families. Please contact Larry at (636) 394-

2968 and let him know what you are bringing.

Then we will begin the Ring 1 Annual White Elephant Gift Exchange hosted by Terry Richison.

Traditionally, a "White Elephant" is something lying around the house that you don't want (some horribly ugly item that someone gave you as a gift.) For our meeting we are asking you to bring a magic item for our white elephant get together. Here are the rules:



White Elephant Gift Exchange



There is no requirement to come to the meeting that you have to participate in the White Elephant exchange. Each person wanting to participate in the Gift exchange must bring a WRAPPED, COMPLETE magic effect,

INCLUDING INSTRUCTIONS if needed. The effect does not have to be new, but it must be in presentable and working shape and no less than \$5 in value if new.

Participants will sit in a circle with the packages in a pile in the middle. Each person participating will draw a number out of a hat. The lowest number goes first and selects a present from the pile. Once a present is selected from the pile of gifts, the trick is unwrapped for all to see. The next person may choose from the wrapped pile of gift or may "take" the present from one that has been selected by another. The person that lost the gift may choose to select a gift from the unopened pile, or may take a present from another person. A single gift can only be stolen a total of 3 times. This is continued until all of the presents are exhausted or everyone has a gift. As an added bonus, it is a known fact that there will be at least one gift that will be worth over \$50 and New to boot! You might be the lucky one!

The meeting will be open to immediate family members. Anyone who brings a gift is allowed to participate in the White Elephant.

We would like to get a rough number of people that are coming we will have people call or email Larry Skorepa at toolmanlarry@sbcglobal.net or (636) 394-2968.



Good Point

The other night a member came up and asked me if there was anything he could do to help out. Sure," I said. What did you have in mind; there is plenty to do?" His response was that he wasn't sure.

‘Whenever you come to a meeting, everything is done. You just sit down and socialize and wait for the meeting to start. The Spring show is announced and everything is already set. You just wait for the show date.’ Well it was a nice compliment to hear that everything seems to run so smoothly. Trust me it not as easily done in the background as it is perceived out front. That may be a reason we have members not getting involved with the running of the club. The Ring has board meetings the third Monday of the month at Ted Schnarre home.

Meetings starting at 7 pm and we try to be finished by 8:30 pm. All members are invited to attend these meetings (I'll even wave the cover charge for you!)

This is where everything is discussed and planned so the meeting nights can be informative and still fun. A great example of someone getting involved was Ben Stuparits. Ben came up with the meeting we called Grab Bag Magic. We gave Ben a budget to work within, and he bought the supplies, organized the evening and the meeting was a great success. So just because everything is running smoothly doesn't mean we don't need help with the planning and execution. Please don't hesitate to come forward with your ideas. I have not received any response from anyone regarding taking care of the refreshments at the meetings. You could be in charge and appoint different members to pick a theme for snacks for a meeting or do it yourself. Please get involved; we want your input and help. I am not able to read minds yet and I keep being told just ask people. I do ask in the newsletter and at meetings but do not get much of any response. We will help you and not just turn you loose with no guidance.

Ted

2009 I.B.M. Convention in Nashville

The end of the year is drawing near and if you have not registered for the, you might want to do so before Dec 31st. On Jan 1st the registration price is increasing! Right now, adults are only \$210 but will increase to \$250 and Youths are only \$120 and will increase to \$140. If you have children under 6, they are still free. The convention starts June 30 and will be wall to wall magic until July 4th. The evening shows will be held in the Grand Ole Opry House and the Ryman Auditorium (the Original Grand Ole Opry House. The July 4th evening show will get over in plenty of time to see America's 4th largest fireworks in downtown Nashville. The rest of the convention will be in the fabulous Gaylord

Hotel and Resort. Room rates are at a ridiculously low rate of only \$120 (including resort fees) plus tax. A normal room would average \$350 for this weekend. What a deal! Shimada will be one of the headliners and will be honored for his 50 years in magic! Here are some others that have been booked with more to come! Charlie Frye & Company, Jason Byrnes, An-Ha-Lim, Yugi Yamamoto, Kyle Eschen, Jason Latiner, Rich Bloch, Timo Marc & Scott Lamb.

You can register online at <http://www.magician.org/portal/en/node/212> or get more information there too. Don't procrastinate.



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hat is expected of me as a member of Ring 1?

You probably haven't thought about that before; however, on the other hand consciously or unconsciously you no doubt have thought about what you expected to get from joining Ring 1. And if you have been coming to Ring 1 meetings for even just a few times, you realize that you do receive a lot from being a member.

You have come to expect and get quality meetings with excellent lectures, chances to learn from and perform for helpful magicians in a variety of types of magic venues and focused performance types. Then too you enjoy the camaraderie of persons who share common goals and interests with you.

The Ring membership is a network of individuals who provide information, through, e-mails, *The Spirit* newsletter, meetings and personal contacts, on latest magic events and effects. You keep up on activities of both local and international magicians. It is almost like having a very supportive family who answer your questions, encourage you and help keep you involved and growing in your magic interests.

But what about me as a member? Your membership has to be more than just paying dues. If that was all Ring 1 received from its members it would be a very poor magic club. It would be concentrated on making money and not helping you in the ways you would want.

Ring membership means personally getting involved and expressing what is wanted and needed by you from Ring 1. It's attending and helping with Ring meetings, being on committees and assisting

in any way that you can with the Ring's shows and other activities.

At its best membership means involvement in meetings and events from the start, such as providing suggestions of concepts and ideas and taking them on to planning and execution stages. It means volunteering and not waiting for someone to ask you for help.

Ring 1 has had some marvelous leaders and members who just are or were always there to help out where and when ever needed. The result has been great meetings, shows, contests, communications and more.

With your participation, involvement, commitment, experience and willingness to give your time, ideas and abilities with others like you, Ring 1 will continue to be the successful Ring it has been for so long.

In short think, let me contribute my time, my ideas, my expertise to make Ring 1 this year, and each year thereafter, a year that will be noted by me and the rest of the members as one that was absolutely sensational.

Adapted for Ring 1 by Dave Snetsinger

John Calvert Lecture

- A living legend

By Terry Richison

At age 97 John Calvert is still making the magic happen. I.B.M. Ring 1 and S.A.M. Assy 8 hosted John Calvert's lecture on Thursday Nov 20, 2008. John and his lovely wife Tammy spent much of the time before the lecture greeting and getting to know the St Louis members. John started off with an always clever line that he "thought I (he) would do a different kind of show tonight, a good one."

Well not only was his performance a great one but everyone walked away with some magical and historical knowledge. John started the evening with his cigarette act with a caveat that smoking is harmful and should not be attempted even by a professional. Almost every effect presented used audience members to help make the entertainment happen. From "destroying Dan Todd's watch and restoring it to perfect condition to several rope ties and escapes using Trudy Monti, Barbara Redman and Phyllis Bender. Being the macho 97 years young that John is, he had to do a little showing off. I demonstrated quite successfully how he could overpower Bruce Dyvig and Bob Blattel and then several others of even greater weight statures. With two people standing beside him, facing the opposite directions, John was able to take their hands as if they were shaking hands, and push them off of their feet without even moving his feet. John also presented one of the best "Spirit Cabinets" I had seen in years. Jeff Lefton happily joined in the fun and ended with the waste basket on his head. There was a break in the lecture where John put on his "historian hat and took questions of famous magicians from days gone by. He also expounded on his days in the movies. Rounding out the evening was John's second sight routine with the help of Don and Barb Burgan. Even when the method was revealed, it was agreed that his presentation was outstanding. Of course, the performance/lecture ended with Casper the dancing hank which ended the night on a high note. Even sitting ten feet away all the magicians were fooled. Everyone headed back to John's memorabilia table for pictures, posters, books about everything from his movie days to the grand illusion shows that he still tours with. Thanks to Randy Kalin who ran the music for the evening. I would have to say, that John Calvert is one of the most down to earth and giving performer we have had in St Louis. For those of you that missed his lecture, you missed seeing a legend!

Dues Are Due



Dues are now due for the 2009 Year,

\$15.00 is a bargain.

The easiest way to pay is on line, simply go to the home page of our web site, left column at the bottom click dues and pay on line.

You can bring your check or cash to the Christmas Party and pay your dues.

If paying by check, send your check along with your **Name, Home Phone, Work Phone, Cell Phone, Email and Address** to:

Larry Skorepa
446 Bush Drive
Ballwin, MO 63021
Phone: 636-394-2968

Rope Magic Night

The meeting was well attended by 35 members and a good variety of rope tricks performed. First we had two guest with us for the evening our territorial representative Dennis Burke was in town for work and stop by for the meeting. It's great

when Dennis drops by he always has something to offer at the meetings. Also in town was Dave Steiner to do the annual audit at the IBM's National Office located in St. Louis. I would like to thank Josh Routh, Harry Monti, Terry Richison, Dennis Burke, Henry Shaper and Sister Michael Therese Bauer for sharing their rope tricks with us. A big thank you to Steve Zuehlke and Marty Koop for teaching at Magic 101, and Josh Routh, Blake Douglas for conducting the Youth meeting.

Parade of Magic

Mark your calendars' for Friday February 13th 2009, for our annual Parade of Magic Show at the Kirkwood Community Center. This is a great time of year to be spreading the word about our show. If you are doing a show, you may want to mention everyone if anyone is interested in seeing more magic, fill them in on the show, and also mention it to your family and friends while you're together for the holidays. It is good to plant the thought seed early.

Here is wishing you and yours
a **Merry Christmas** and a
Happy New Year

