



Upcoming Events

Monthly Meetings are 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 3rd Monday of each month at 1627 Preston Park Ln., St. Louis, MO 63146. Meetings begin at 7PM.

NO REGULAR MEETING ON APRIL 6TH

April 16 – Spring Show

Contact Terry Richison or Ted Schnarre if you would like to help!

May – Officer and Board Elections

May 4 – Close-Up Contest

Contact Ray Belz if you are interested in performing.

May 7 – Central Ill. Get Together

– Springfield, IL (see ad)

June 1 – Regular meeting

“How to be an Emcee”

June 28 – July 2, International

Brotherhood of Magicians

National Convention, Reno NV

www.Magician.org

Aug 3 -Ice Cream Social

Aug 11-13 Midwest Magic Jubilee

www.MMJubilee.com

First 50 registrants get their spouses in for FREE!

Sept. 9 – President’s

Banquet – Orlando Gardens

October Weekends – Haunted

Hayloft at Purina Farms

2005 Annual

*IBM Spring Parade
Of Magic!*

April 16th 1:30 and 7:30

Ring 1 of The International Brotherhood of Magicians
Proudly Presents Their



Coming to the
Kirkwood Community Center

111 S. Geyer Rd

Saturday, April 16, 2005

Show times 1:30 and 7:30

Tickets: \$8 /Adults & \$6/children

Tickets can be purchased at the
Theater Box Office

For further information please visit www.ibmring1.com or call 636-947-1517



Next Project Magic for April

Performing at 6:45 PM on April 20th for

Project Magic are:

**Steve Buesking, Terry Richison, Ted Schnarre and
Steve Zuehlke**

PROJECT MAGIC

Thanks to

**Bob Blattel, Robert Campbell and John Davit
for their performances at the Shriners
Hospital!!**

Next Show is on

April 20, 2005 at 6:45 PM

Magi-Fest

Review

Steve Zuehlke

The 74th annual Magi-Fest was held over Super Bowl weekend. Although my team didn't win, I had a great pre-game in Columbus, Ohio at this year's Magi-Fest. With 74 years behind this great convention, they have it down to a science. On hand this year were St. Louis members Steve Zuehlke, Terry Richison, Harold D. Russell, Tom Westerheide, Steve Buesking and Jeff Lefton. Jeff elected to fly due to prior commitments while the five of us drove.

One of the highlights was the drive up to the convention. 8 hours of me driving while listening to some great magic stories by my fellow passengers. Although the Magi-Fest mirrors the Midwest Jubilee in format, this biased reviewer's opinion is "Don't miss this year's Jubilee." While the Magi-Fest is always great due its long tradition, our Jubilee has so much more to offer.

This years entertainers included Stephen Bargatze, Eric Buss, Nels Cremean, Richard Forget, Mathew David Stanley, Danny Archer, The Magic of Stewart and Lori and Tony Chapek. Lectures (there were only 5), Jay Sankey, Bill Jarvis, Barrie Richardson and Danny Archer.

The hit lecture was Jay Sankey! He had 300 + people there and totally energized. You could tell when he sold out of almost everything he had after the lecture. Barrie Richardson had a fresh new lecture on Mentalism. Barrie has a way of consuming his audience so that you are riveted through his final words. The evening shows had the potential to be

great shows. Unfortunately, they did not live up to their potential. There was a bright spot on the Saturday night show and that was Tony Chapek. His interactive magic and video was outstanding. And speaking of standing, the audience was on it's feet with a standing ovation, before he even finished his act!! The good news is that he is already booked for the Midwest Magic Jubilee and you will have chance to witness this pure marvel for yourself.

One of the highlights this year was my fellow co-pilot Terry Richison's entrance into BOTH the stage and close-up competition. Although Terry didn't place in the events, he received lots of good comments in both stage and close-up! A great piece of advice for those who perform.... One of the comments I most heard about Terry was his appearance! He looked sharp for both events which is a task in itself since the competitions start at 8:00am. A piece of advice, "All the world is a stage. So dress like it!" Congrats to our own Terry Richison.

Rumor has it that next year's Magi-Fest will be a complete blowout since it will be their 75th Anniversary. This is a convention that you should consider attending.

Magic Magazine

For those who subscribe to Magic Magazine, check out the March issue. I was surprised to open the cover and see a picture of our own Shep Hyken. Shep has written a great two-page article which is a must read for any serious worker. Even if you don't do magic full-time, Shep's advice will make you a better person. Congrats Shep and hopefully we will see more in the future issues.

Where to buy Magic? *Steve Zuehlke*

I would like to think that everyone is on Steve Bender's mailing list. If not, drop him a line and have him add you to the list. I recently was over at Steve's with the latest newsletter in hand. Needless to say, when I left, my wallet was a little lighter than when I arrived. He has some really neat stuff this month. Don't let these deals slip away. Speaking of dealers, don't forget to support Conrad Dunn's shop at Mid-Rivers Mall and Dennis Hampel's shop on the east side. Both of these long-time magicians promise to order anything you may need. If you see something in a magazine or catalog, call these two gentlemen first before spending your hard earned dollars on some out-of-town dealer or some fly-by-night internet dealer.

2005 Spring Parade of Magic!

April 16th

Mark your calendars for the Annual Ring 1 Spring Parade of Magic Show. This year promises to be one of the best so far. We have a great line up that will keep the audience on the edge of their seats! Scheduled to perform is **Keith Smith, Ray Belz, Steven Sheilds, Tim Shegitz, Terry Richison and Brian Boyd. Chuck Levy and John Davit** will be wowing the audience with their fantastic close-up magic prior to the shows.

We also want to thank **Steve and Audrey Levit, Larry Skorepa, Mike Sirota, Dave Snetsinger, Don Rataj and Sr. Michael Therese Bauer** for helping make things operate smoothly behind the scenes.. A special thanks to **Ben Stuparits** for our poster design. Please print off copies of the show flyer and distribute to your friends and around your work place. There will be 2 great shows, 1:30PM and 7:30PM. Most of all we need help getting the word out to our family and friends. Tickets are \$8 for Adults and \$6 for Children. Advanced ticket sales can be made by calling 636-947-1517

Michael Close Lecture April 18th

It is that time of the year again that all anxiously await. It is time for a guest lecturer. The past few years have brought Ring One 12 incredible standing room only lectures. On Monday, April 18th, Ring One will be host to one of magic's most well-known magicians. This is the guy other magicians go to for guidance and critique. He has authored numerous books, videos, and invented many small miracles we call close-up magic.

This lecture is not just an educational experience--it's a lot of fun. You'll laugh, you'll be amazed, and you'll leave knowing more about the world of magic. OK, who is it you ask. Straight out of the Houdini lounge in the Monte Carlo hotel in Las Vegas will be Michael Close doing a new lecture that features routines from his ground-breaking ebook CLOSELY GUARDED SECRETS. Michael will also discuss some old favorites from his critically acclaimed WORKERS series.

Listen to what others have said....

"Michael just lectured in Houston last night to a crowd of 60 magicians. Everyone was very impressed with Mike and his thinking on magic. He really wants to make everyone a better magician...Do yourself a favor and catch Mike's lecture if he is anywhere near your area. You won't be disappointed."--- GARY PLANTS, HOUSTON, TEXAS

"This may be the best lecture I have ever seen in my 29 years of magic."--- JIM SHORT, OKLAHOMA CITY, OK.

So, there you have it. Make plans to arrive early as this caliber of lecture will truly bring out a strong crowd. Time again is at 7:30pm at the Best Western Westport Park Hotel, 2434 Old Dorsett Road, Maryland Heights, MO 63043. **Directions:** From I44 or I64/40, take I-270 North. Take the Dorsett Road exit. Turn right, then make a quick left turn. From I-70: Take I-270 South. Take the Dorsett Road exit, then left to the 2nd light, then turn left on Old Dorsett Road.

2005 Ring One Elections

A Nomination Committee was appointed to create a slate of officers for years 2005-2006. The committee submitted the nominee's names to the Ring Board and they have approved the slate listed below. All candidates indicated their willingness to serve if elected.

All additions to the ballot were made by the March 15th deadline. A ballot will be sent to qualified voters thirty days before the May Board Meeting at which the votes will be counted. All Ballots are to be mailed to Henry Schaper at 241 Tapestry Dr., Oakville, MO 63129. Officers assume their positions after the June meeting.

The nominees for offices are:

President: Terry Richison

Vice President: Ted Schnarre

Secretary: Steve Buesking

Treasurer: Larry Skorepa

Sgt. At Arms: Eugene Schafer

Board Members (Elect Four)

Ray Belz Chuck Levy Harry Monti

John Reider Ram Suntha Steve Zuehlke

Board Member per Constitution:

Past President Keith Smith

A Little Bit of History

Jim Creighton

Back in the early '70s, when I joined Ring One, there was this kind of cranky old guy who sat in the back of the room during lectures and kept up a flow of comments, often unflattering, in a whisper that could become embarrassingly loud.

The “cranky old guy” was Joe Scott, and I soon found out that Joe was actually one of the major figures in St. Louis magic history. Later, when I decided to do a story about him as part of a series on St. Louis magicians that I was writing for the Post-Dispatch, I also discovered that he was a very nice man, despite the dim view he sometimes took of visiting lecturers and his frank approach to expressing his opinions.

I was thinking about Joe because of that great little quiz that ran in February's Spirit, the one where you had to match performers' stage names with their real names. Joe's real name was Piskulic. His family was Croatian, and he grew up on the South Side along with a buddy who also showed up in that quiz: Paul Braden.

Joe told me that he used to hang out in the Barr Branch Library at Jefferson and Lafayette after school in the winter, mainly to stay warm. That was where Joe Piskulic and Paul Braden discovered the books on magic that started them on the path to becoming Joe Scott and Paul LePaul.

Early in his career, Joe and another young St. Louis magician, William Warfield, toured across the Midwest with the full-evening Warfield and Scott Show, playing dozens of cities and small towns over a four-year span. But Joe really became an institution in his hometown, doing hundreds and hundreds of shows in a 30-year career.

In those days before the big suburban malls, the hot shopping spot was Famous-Barr's downtown store, and its Christmas parties were eagerly awaited by generations of St. Louis kids. For 13 years, Joe was the featured magician at those holiday parties.

In the 1940s, he performed for even more St. Louisans on the excursion boats President and Admiral. “One year, we worked 116 consecutive days on the Admiral's afternoon cruises, playing to audiences of well over a thousand in the ballroom of the huge boat.”

People who saw Joe's stage shows probably remembered his card sword best, but he was also a good close-up magician. When I interviewed him for

the article, he suggested that I meet him at the bar of a well-known South St. Louis restaurant. That turned out to be just the first of several South Side bars and taverns we hit that night. Everywhere, people knew Joe, and usually they asked him to do a trick.

Joe was pushing 70 then, but he wowed those folks under very difficult conditions. It was sort of like Matt Schulien or Heba Heba Al taking his act on the road instead of performing in his own bar. I can't remember everything Joe did, but I do recall a signed card that vanished and wound up in a small coin purse. He also fried people with the ashes through the hand.

And Joe was still going strong long after I was ready to call it a night.

Editors Note: Jim was a writer for the Post Dispatch before retiring to California.. Thanks, Jim, for your contribution to the Spirit. We are looking forward to reading more in the upcoming months.

The Central Illinois Get-Together May 7th

Central Illinois Magic Get-Together on May 7th, 2005, which will be hosted by IBM Ring 239 at the Center for the Arts in Springfield, Illinois. We have an awesome line-up of entertainers, lecturers, and dealer's.

Another reason to come to Springfield is all of the cool Lincoln historic sites, especially the brand new Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. Also, while in town, you should try to see Frank Lloyd Wright's Dana Thomas Home.

Call or e-mail Jeff Harpring at 217-496-2462

magic4u@famvid.com if you have any

questions. They are also making some plans for a special night before event to be announced soon.

Send your registration in early to get the best seating! We are looking forward to a really fun day!

Mentoring Program

In the near future, you will be receiving a letter from our Mentoring Leaders **Steve Finkelstein and Ram Suntha**. If you would like to sign up as a mentor or would like to be mentored, please fill out the form and return it to Ram. If you receive your Spirit via regular mail, it will be attached to this issue.

The World Magic Summit

Review

Steve Zuehlke

This year's event is held in beautiful Las Vegas at the Orleans Hotel. Three and a half days of some awesome magic. Making the trip this year were **Steve Zuehlke, Karl Grice, Jeff Lefton, Harry Monti and Shep Hyken** along with one-time resident, **Joe**

Dobson. An outstanding line-up, featuring a host of some of the biggest names in magic. For those who have not attended this wonderful convention, you really don't know what you're missing. So much took place that it would be hard to review the entire convention, but I will try to give some of my personal favorites. One of the big draws is the stage contest. Contestants must submit a video of their act prior to the convention along with a non-refundable deposit of \$100.00. Out of the submissions, the WMS selects 5-6 of the best acts that compete for a \$5000.00 purse. Needless to say, the talent was outstanding. Taking first place was Rafael from Italy. He presented a very unique dove act with a flair for comedy. Very original. The unique aspect about the judging is that the audience picks the winner and he was the "hands down favorite." On hand to present the award were none other than **Siegfried and Roy**. YES, Siegfried and ROY! When the curtains opened to reveal Roy sitting there in his wheelchair, the place went wild. With a 5 minute standing ovation, there was not a dry eye in the house. Not to make light of the situation, but imagine 1,000 plus people in one room all crying. A pretty tough act to follow.

Another highlight was the teen competition. With 14 acts in the stage category and 6 in close-up, the attendees were assured that magic is moving in the right direction. All the acts were fantastic, with ages ranging from 13 to 20 years of age. Some really unbelievable magic! With that in mind, now is the time to start practicing for next year's stage contest. I know this reviewer has been motivated and I am already practicing for next year.

On Tuesday evening, **Karl Grice and I** took a ride to Binion's Horse to catch the magic act of former member **Mike Douglas**. Mike is currently opening for a comedian, Vinnie Favorito. Mike not only presented his polished lounge act, but serves as emcee for the show. An outstanding job; the audience LOVED him. We had a chance to talk to Mike and he has a lot of projects in the works. We wish him the best of luck!

Also on the agenda was a stop to see the Mac King

Show. Mac presents his show twice daily to sold-out crowds at Harrah's Casino. The show is outstanding and great for the old and young alike. In the audience was our own **John Apperson** who was in Vegas for some official S.A.M business.

All and all, a great time was had by all. If you ever get the chance to make the trip, you won't be disappointed.

Who is Performing Where?

Thursday Evenings, 6pm-8pm - MOUNTAIN GRILL located at 8924 Watson Road in Webster Groves, MO. **Chuck Levy**

First week in April. 2 lectures at the World Clown Convention – Peoria, IL - Steve Bender

A Special Congratulations to Brian Boyd, Don Burgan, Terry Richison, Eldon Roark, Troy Roark and Steve Zuehlke, on completing their Marathon 30 City Tour. They presented over 200 shows in 6 weeks! If you would like to be invited next time, contact Terry Richison.

The Midwest Magic Jubilee Organizational Meeting

Open to All IBM Members!!!

We want your help!!!

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

The next meeting will be

April 5th at 7:00PM

at EME Steel

182 Northwest Industrial Ct.

Bridgeton, MO

Call 314-514-0215 for directions.

www.mmjubilee.com

2005 Committee Leaders

Linking the Rings – Tom Westerheide, Ray Belz

Mentoring – Ram Suntha, Steve Finkelstein

Lectures – Keith Smith, Harry Monti

Spring Show – Terry Richison, Ted Schnarre

Close Up Contest – Ray Belz

Presidents Banquet – Henry Schaper, Sr., Dave Snetsinger, Larry Skorepa, Keith Smith

Theper & Youthsayers

Award Review Committee – Dave Snetsinger

Meeting Chairpersons

Project Magic – Jerry Novak, Henry Schaper, Sr.

Emcee Night – Shep Hyken, Keith Smith

LEE ASHER LECTURE

Review

Steve Buesking

The S.A.M. hosted **Lee Asher and Jason Dean**, exceptional close-up magicians, at Syberg's. Lee was touring the Midwest – his only lecture tour for 2005 - with Jason filming his performance. Some may remember Lee as one of the featured performers at the Midwest Magic Jubilee in 2003.

If you do not remember him, Lee Asher is a high-energy performer. What separates this lecture from the many lecturers we've seen in years past is his desire that everyone participate in the lecture. When teaching an effect, Lee ensures that everyone has a deck of cards, or a handful of cards, to follow along. To reinforce a point, Lee moved from one side of the theatre to the other, to demonstrate, or correct a handling. While it may seem a small point, I wish every lecturer had the same desire to reinforce what is being taught at that moment, as opposed to being locked on the stage.

Much of the lecture dealt with card effects – some a repeat from the Jubilee – and a Coins Across routine using poker chips. The material is very commercial, and within the realm of the average magician. (If I can do this stuff, I know it is within the abilities of the club.)

Afterward, about a dozen people went out for beverages and late dinner, including Messrs. Asher and Dean. Perhaps the funniest bit of the night, was the waitress coming to our table, looking Lee in the eye, and saying: "Excuse me, but aren't you the 5 Card Stud?" (One of Lee's teaching videos is a movie called the 5 Card Stud.) Lee looked at Jason Dean, accused him of setting him up, but Jason was innocent. Practical jokes and Steve Zuehlke (hidden in another part of the restaurant.) -- a combination to watch out for in the future.

There is a great deal of material on Lee's website: <http://www.leeasher.com>. I highly recommend this gentleman as a lecturer, instructor, and magician to be studied.

One aside: The room where the lecture was held was as nice as any room I've attended for either club. I highly recommend that the club look at this location for future close-up contests and lectures. The room price is approximately \$150, the seats are theatre-style, looking down on the stage, so every seat was a good seat for the lecture.

It's Magic! Where Dreams Become Reality!

Review

Steve Zuehlke

March 12 and 13 were the dates for our own Terry Richison who presented his full evening illusion show "It's Magic! Where Dreams Become Reality" at the Lincoln Theater in Belleville, Illinois.

Terry's advance publicity paid off BIG as there wasn't an empty seat in the house. Terry's Sponsor, the oldest Chrysler dealer in the nation, had some of the new 2006 models on display under the bright lights of the theater. Very impressive!

Terry opens with a soliloquy about his "Dreams" with lights pitch black. It really sets the mood. The lights fade up as Terry's assistant is dancing as she hooks up lines to a curtain that quickly rises 6 feet and then falls, instantly revealing Terry in the center of the stage. He proceeds directly into his version of the "light chamber" effect with his assistant Katie. The illusion drew gasps from the audience.

Terry's show is 2 hours of some great magic including many tried and true classics such as Eggs Over The Head (a la Slydini's Fly Away Paper Balls), Fire Insurance, The Floating Rose, a Comedy Cut and Restored Rope, and Terry's signature Bill in Lemon effect. Closing the first half of the show was Terry's rendition of Red Skelton's recitation of The Pledge of Allegiance. This routine brought the entire audience to their feet and tears to many people's eyes. One of Terry's other illusions was the Ladder Suspension with his daughter Alexa. A very moving story that always gets the audience on Terry's side. Also featured were: Origami, Twister, Interlude, Sub Trunk, A Vanish and Reappearance in the audience and a new effect that Terry has recently added, the Atomizer Illusion. This was an amazing effect where an audience member is selected and is told that he or she can be teleported anywhere in the world! Terry goes into the audience to watch as his assistant takes over the illusion. When the audience member (an 11 year boy) is asked where he would like to go, the boy replied "back to my seat." That line bought the house down. If you ever get the chance to see Terry's show, don't miss it. It's well worth it! You'll laugh, cry and be amazed!

MENTALISM IS MARCH MADNESS FOR RING 1

KEITH SMITH

The March meeting was truly a paradigm of what happens when a moderator of an event puts a lot of time and effort in the planning. A big thanks goes out to Steve Finkelstein for all his dedication to the evening's success. Steve began the evening with a handout that I'm sure all will definitely hang on to. It referenced books, articles, dvds, and effects that highlight some of mentalists best. If you missed the night, I highly recommend that you get your hands on this valuable consensus handout.

Steve then proceeded into giving a series of demonstrations that left all in attendance in awe and wonderment. Steve demonstrated some commercially available



Steve Finkelstein and Eugene Schaefer

mentalism, some make at home, as well as some of his own creations. All seemed to be especially impressed with his level of knowledge in the vast arena of magic we call mentalism.

The meeting then shifted gears towards all interested to perform. Eight volunteers presented feats of mentalism, with Andy Pearson up first.

He showed us Z-Ray Vision, where he was able to discern which of several match-boxes contained an ESP symbol chosen by a spectator. President Keith Smith

performed Larry Becker's "Casino Royale," a three-part fooler, and Robert Campbell was able to predict the date of a penny chosen from a transparent bag



Keith Smith & Ben Stuparits

filled with pennies of different dates.

Matt Hampel effectively demonstrated his PK ability by causing forks to



Robert Campbell & Keith Smith

bend, break and their tines to droop. I don't think we've had a ring member

do metal bending

before. Eugene Schaefer successfully predicted that a freely chosen

card would match a card he chose by counting.



Matt Hampel

Secretary Henry Schaper, Sr. opened his wallet to show that it contained a card matching a card freely selected

moments before. In a lighter moment, rope master John Davit

correctly predicted that he

would cause a series of knots to appear suddenly in a short length of rope.

Ray Belz concluded the show by presenting Mason's "Predict-A-Total," a really

astonishing prediction of the total of three sets of three numbers all selected by the



Ram Suntha & Ray Belz

audience Prizes for participation were award by a drawing of numbers, as has become tradition.

The prize table had over 12 items with a lot value packed in. Whether one had received first or last

pick, all went home with something they could put to use. It was exciting to see how many members came prepared to perform.

Those in attendance saw routines with bending

spoons, matches, cards, casino chips, prediction boards, boxes, and many more. All routines and effects were highly entertaining and as usual kept most staying after the meeting to learn more.

Steve also set up a mini table for some items he had for sale. This has been a great addition to numerous meetings. We felt as a board two years to go away from the traditional one meeting flea market and rather allow any interested member the opportunity to sell or trade items at all meetings.



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

Johnny Thompson

Joshua Jay

Jimmy "Cards" Molinari

Duane Laffin

Michael Lair

Tony Miller

Danny Archer



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Saturday, May 7th, 2005 In Springfield

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The 28th Annual Central Illinois Magic Get-Together

Featuring: JADE

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For more information
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magic4u@famvid.com

\$45 per person
 Extra evening tickets
 are \$12.50

Make Checks to IBM

Ring 1 of The International Brotherhood of Magicians
Proudly Presents Their



Coming to the
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111 S. Geyer Rd

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Show times 1:30 and 7:30

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