



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

Meeting: Wednesday, January 7th, Pocket and Packet Tricks

Our Next meeting will be Wednesday January 7, 2015 at the Maryland Heights Community Center. Chad Jacobs will be teaching Magic 101 at 6:30 p.m. Jason Stack will be running the meeting. This months topic will be "Pocket and Packet Tricks. So get your favorite pocket and packet tricks ready for this grand meeting of magicians.

MEETING AGENDA

6:30 Magic 101
Quiet please if you are not involved with
 Magic 101
 7:00 Refreshments
 7:15 Meeting

Following the meeting- Workshop and Fellowship till 10 PM

President's Message

By Mike Niehaus mrniehaus82@gmail.com

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season. Our Tribute to Veterans Holiday Magic Show was a huge success. Ring 1 got an enormous amount of support from the press and local radio stations. KTRS and KMOX both supported our show by inviting listeners to the show. The St. Louis Post Dispatch put together an amazing article about the show. Before the show we collected email addresses of the attendees. Ring 1 has started building a data base of people to email about future shows.

It was evident that St. Louis loves magic. The people of St. Louis want to see more magic shows. So start practicing your routines, we need more performers, and more people to get involved in the production of our shows. Our next public show will be the Spring Parade of Magic on February 28, 2015. Once again we will be having the show at the Kirkwood Community Theatre.

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season. I will not be at the January meeting, but I will see you all in February.

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Ring Report: December 2014

By Sandy Weis sweis@psdr3.org

Magic 101 was cancelled due to the Christmas Holiday Party. Timothy Shegitz brought magic effects donated by Robert Cole's family. Robert was a Ring member who recently passed away. Timothy first allowed the youngest members of the Ring to take the items that they wanted. The other members were then allowed to take what they wanted and everything found a "new" home.

The Ring purchased sandwiches and the members brought a dish or \$5 for the holiday party. There was a variety of food and no one went home hungry. In fact, the leftovers were donated to the less fortunate in the community.

There was a brief meeting after the Holiday dinner. Mike Niehaus, the President, informed the members that two of the members recently passed away—Carl "Bud" Dietrich and David Snetsinger. Both were instrumental in promoting magic in the St. Louis area for years. Mike Hindrichs, who has spearheaded Project Magic for several years recently resigned from this position due to work commitments. D. J. Lenz and Jason Stack volunteered to co-chair this committee. They will create a schedule consisting of magicians who will visit Shriners Hospital for Children in St. Louis on the third Wednesday of each month. Mike also spearheaded Magic 101 for several years. He led a group before each regular meeting and taught magic effects. It was suggested that different members could volunteer monthly to lead the group.

The Ring appreciates the time and effort Mike has devoted to these two activities. On December 14, there will be a Charity Magic Show at the Kirkwood Civic Center Theatre. This is a free event for veterans and also members of non-profit groups. There is a press release and interested individuals will be asked to contact Mike N. in order to reserve a seat. This is one way the Ring is giving back to the community. There will also be a Spring Parade of Magic on February 28th at the Kirkwood Civic Center Theatre. This fundraising activity will consist of two shows.

The theme for the evening was "How did you get interested in magic?" This could involve a story, a magic effect, etc. Ray Belz was the first volunteer to share. He said he has always been fascinated with magic. During the 1970's he enjoyed watching magic programs such as "The Magic Land of Allakazam" featuring Mark Wilson. Mark performed the trick "Copenetro" which really baffled Ray. Ray eventually bought this effect and now Ray is a magician and also a huge collector of magic. Next Paul Rygelski shared that he enjoyed watching Mark Wilson and Ernie Heldman on television.

He performed a "Night Before Christmas" effect, which he recently performed for his Parish. He built the props, which were really creative. Then Larry Corona explained that his father was a carpenter. Ernie Heldman would perform at parties for the carpenters. At one of these performances, Ernie did the cut and restored rope routine. When Larry got home, he practiced this effect using his mother's cloth line. He eventually learned the correct way to perform this effect by reading a Cub Scout Book. He also would send away for magic effects that were featured in comic books. Eventually, he started performing shows with illusions. Alan Wolverton was a magician's assistant at a camp when he was eight years old. He remembers that the magician had a big top hat and asked Alan if anything was in it. Alan saw a rabbit but the magician prompted him to say no. Then when Alan was ten years old, his brother, who was eighteen years older than him, sent him a magic kit and this was the beginning of his interest in magic. Laurence Levy purchased magic tricks when he was eight but became easily bored with them. However, when he was eleven, he went to a camp in New Jersey and one of the counselors knew magic. This sparked his interest in magic and he began reading books and meeting magicians who taught him magic. He earned money performing magic at the age of fifteen and is still doing this at the age of 72. Joey Lortz shared that when he was six his grandmother would ask him what hand a quarter was in.

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Schedule of Events 2014 – 2015

January 7th

Pocket and Packet Tricks

February 4th

TBD

February 28th

Spring Parade of Magic
Kirkwood Community Theater

March 4th

TBD

April 1st

TBD

May 6th

TBD

June 3rd

TBD

July

NO MEETING

August 5th

Ice Cream Social

Scenes from a Tribute to Veterans Show



Terry Richison



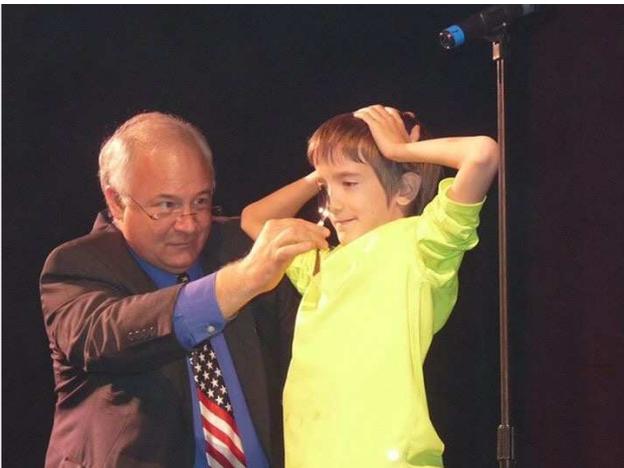
Mike Niehaus



Marty Kopp



Steve Zuehlke



The Great Todd



Ted Schnarre

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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

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(Hwy 40), I-44 or I-55:

Take I-64(Hwy 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.

Ring Report continued...

He didn't realize she was doing the French drop coin trick. She passed away in 2012 but he promised her he would make magic his profession rather than it being just a hobby. He moved to St. Louis a year ago and is one of the Ring's newer members. Darryl (D. J.) Lenz was introduced to magic when he was in Boy Scouts. However, he did not enjoy magic until he began watching magic on television. He thoroughly enjoyed watching "The Magician" featuring Bill Bixby. He performed magic during the 1970's; however, left magic and about three years ago came back to magic. Jill Schmidt (Silly Jilly) was eight when she received her first magic trick. Approximately twenty years ago she took a clown class at Florissant Valley Community College and now performs in about 100 shows a year. Steve Finkelstein shared that he enjoyed watching the television show "Concentration". He then performed an effect based on this show using cards. He asked several members to choose two cards. He was then able to tell these members which two cards they chose. Larry Skorpa shared that he has been a member of Ring 1 for 42 years. He enjoyed the movie "Doctor Dolittle" because he likes animals. Therefore, he uses animals, especially rabbits, in all of his performances. John Davit also enjoyed watching Ernie Helmand on television. While he was in the Navy he would perform magic for the other sailors. Zi Teng Wang viewed a YouTube video featuring a magician performing an effect using four cards. He spent two weeks before he finally figured out how the magician did it. This happened 8 years ago while he was in college studying science. Now Zi performs at various venues in the St. Louis area. Finally, Mike Niehaus shared that when he was eight years old he went to a magic show and decided that he wanted to be a magician when he grew up. However, he grew up, went to college, and left magic until 2008. Now Mike performs as a ventriloquist and as a magician at various venues, including cruise ships.

The members enjoyed listening to the other members sharing their stories. Ring 1 always welcomes visitors to its meetings and activities.