



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

Next Meeting:

Meeting Wednesday
March 7th

Packet and Pocket tricks

Magic 101: 6:30 PM
Johnny Harper

Dielmann Recreation Center
11400 Olde Cabin Road
Creve Coeur, MO 63141

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President's Message

By: Mike Niehaus mrniehaus82@gmail.com



I want to thank everyone who helped with the Spring Parade of Magic. It takes a lot of work to make a theatre show possible. We are very fortunate to have a theatre to use for our shows. Ring 1 only does two theatre shows a year. Our members walk into the theatre hours before the show, and work hard to make it a success.

Join me and thank everyone who works hard at making Ring 1 successful.

MAGIC HUMOR:



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!



Steve Barcellona 6th

George Van Dyke 6th

Richard Paul 7th

Steve Finkelstein 12th

Jeffrey Collier 19th

Sister Michael Therese 20th

Henry Schaper Sr 23rd

Ram Suntha 24th

Schedule of Events 2018-2019

Deadline for April Spirit:

March 23rd Email your submissions to:
jennyjonesmk@gmail.com

2018

March 7th

Packet and Pocket tricks

April 4th Close Up Contest

May 2nd Special Event Magic
(Birthday, Anniversary)
Club Elections

June 6th Dinner Table Magic

July No Meeting

August 1st Ice Cream Social



What's New in Magic



There is so much magic available today how can anyone keep up with the best deals, what's hot, what's not and what's new. In order to help, we are starting a new agenda topic for our Ring 1 Meetings – What's New in Magic. The objective is to educate our member on what are the hot deals, the best websites and the newest and best magic effects. The plan is to try this topic for 3 months and get feedback from the club. Each month there will be a short presentation/discussion followed by the opportunity for others to share and ask questions.

Steve Finkelstein will lead the discussion at our meetings. Be sure to come with your new magic and questions.

Ring Report

Mike Niehaus led Magic 101. He asked one of the members to perform a magic effect. John Skarin volunteered. He performed a card trick. While John was performing his effect, Mike recorded John's performance using his phone without asking for permission. He asked John after the effect how he felt about being recorded. The discussion among the members focused on whether a magician (entertainer) should allow videotaping of their performance. The pros and cons of allowing videotaping were discussed. The outcome was that each individual must decide for themselves if videotaping is beneficial for them. At the end of the discussion, Mike shared one of his favorite effects—the Incredible Flexible Mirror (Doug Henning performed this effect in late 1970's). This is one of Mike's favorite effects and he shared that it is still reasonably priced.

After the break, several announcements were made. The annual Spring Parade of Magic will be held on February 24th at the Kirkwood Community Theatre. Mike encouraged the members to bring their family and friends to this show. Members were encouraged to pay their annual dues if they hadn't already. D. Jay Lenz announced that he is still recruiting volunteer magicians for Project Magic. This monthly visit to Shriner's Hospital began in 1981. The children and their families look forward to Ring 1 members' visits. Chad Jacobs announced that the Society of American Magicians, Assembly 8, will be hosting a lecture on February 8th featuring Gregory Wilson. Non-members of S.A.M. will be asked to pay \$20. Steve Finkelstein reminded members that the JDRF Type One Nation Summit will be held on February 17th. This year the event takes place at the Marriott St. Louis Grand Hotel located in downtown St. Louis. At this event, Chad Jacobs has volunteered to be the MC of the magic show. The performers are as follows—D. Jay Lenz, Dan Todd, and Steve Queen. Several other members have volunteered to teach close-up effects to the children after the magic show.

Steve Finkelstein volunteered to be the guest lecturer for the evening. He always does an excellent job. He prepared colored handouts for the members which were very informative.

First, he distributed a handout entitled "What's New in Magic". This listed several magic websites which he really likes. He explained each one and told the members why he likes these sites. The handout also included several effects from each of these websites. For example, he shared that one of his favorite websites is Magic 4 Less. This website always advertises free shipping with a purchase of \$50 or more. It also has sales often with unbelievable low prices. He recommended that all the members should sign up on their website, so they can receive sale notifications.

Next, he handed out another handout entitled "Math Magic Lecture." This included various effects sorted in three groups--basic, intermediate, and advanced. This handout explained in detail most of the effects he taught to the members. Even the most advanced member learned a new effect from this lecture. He shared several effects based on the magic square principle. He brought several different examples of "Mental Logs" so members could see the variety available. He even taught members how to make their own math effects. The members all seemed to enjoy learning "Grey Elephants in Denmark." It is amazing how this simple effect works 99% of the time. He also provided the members with blank forms, such as magic squares, so they could make their own. Steve always shares his enthusiasm for math magic with all the other members.

Steve is a valued member of the Ring and always does an exceptional job when he lectures. Thanks, Steve, for all you do for the Ring!

Visitors are always welcome to the Ring's meetings and activities. The presentations at each meeting are varied and are interesting to all who attend.

Sandy Weis

Members can pay on-line at "IBMRING1.com" OR, send a check to:

Please pay your DUES!

**DUES DUES DUES!!!
ARE DUE!! \$15.00**

PAY YOUR DUES

Sandy Weis

[1429 Midland Blvd. St. Louis, Mo. 63130.](http://1429MidlandBlvd.com)

Ring 1 dues remain at \$15 for the year.

Ring 1 Members,

I am pleased to announce that our April Ring 1 meeting on Wednesday, April 4th will be our Annual Close-up Contest. If you **are** interested in competing this year **you must notify me by April 1, 2018**. I will reply back to you as an acknowledgement confirming your participation. As you may know we have two levels in the contest: “*Advanced*” and “*Beginner to Intermediate*.” (definitions/criteria are below). Please let me know which category you want to compete in. If there is any question I will have the final decision. Note: If there are less than 3 participants in each category we may decide to combine the contestants into one category.

Advanced Category: A person who has placed 1st in any stage or close-up magic contest (relative to the contest being entered); or is a professional magician, earning a living through magic, full or part time; or lectures on or teaches magic; or placed 1st in the Beginners to Intermediate Group contest (relative to the contest being entered).

Beginner – Intermediate Category: A person who has not placed 1st in any stage or close-up magic contest (relative to the contest being entered), does not earn a living, either part-time or full-time as a magician, and does not lecture or teach magic regularly.

We were asked to give a definition of close-up magic as a guideline. Below is a definition to be used only as a guideline. The judges will have the option not to score a contestant if they think that the act performed is a stage or parlor magic act.

Definition: (for guidelines only)

Close-up magic or **table magic** is performed in an intimate setting usually no more than ten – fifteen feet from one's audience and is usually performed while sitting or standing at a table. Close-up magic can combine sleight-of-hand manipulations with flourishes using small, common objects like coins, cards, shells, cups & balls, etc. The two principal forms of close up magic are card tricks and coin tricks but any small item can be used for sleight-of-hand performances including dice, bottle caps, ropes, sugar cubes, sponge balls, pebbles, pens and cups and balls. It's not uncommon for close-up performers to combine several of these objects in a single trick routine. In addition, 1 or 2 volunteers may be asked to participate and seated at the table.

The contest rules are detailed below and posted on our website. A positive change this year is the close-up act is being extended to 8 to 10 minutes.

The contest will be held at our regular meeting location. We encourage each Ring One member to bring guests as the contest is open to the public.

Thanks,

Steve Finkelstein
[314 409 6869](tel:3144096869)

Close-up Contest Rules

Contest Rules (revised Feb 17, 2018)

General Rules for I.B.M. Ring 1 Close-Up Contest

1) To enter an IBM Ring 1 contest, you must notify the contest chairman by a date chosen by the contest chairman and published in the Spirit. If you should win the contest, you, at the discretion of the Ring President chair or emcee the contest for the following year.

2) Contests will have two contest categories, Beginner to Intermediate and Advanced. Within each category there can be a Youth division (under 17 years) and Senior division (17 years of age or older) if warranted. Division is determined by the contestant's age on the day of the competition. Divisions may be combined at the discretion of the contest chairman and the Ring 1 president or his designee

Definitions of each category are as follows:

Beginner – Intermediate Category: A person who has not placed 1st in any close-up magic contest, does not earn a living, either part-time or full-time as a magician, and does not lecture or teach magic regularly.

Advanced Category: A person who has placed 1st in any close-up magic contest; or is a professional magician, earning a living through magic, full or part time; or lectures on or teaches magic; or placed 1st in the Beginners to Intermediate Group contest.

3) The total number of contestants, including both categories, will not exceed 20.

4) The contest must have five (5) or more entries in order to award 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes. If there are four (4) entries, 1st and 2nd prizes will be awarded. If there are three (3) entries 1st place only will be awarded, and if there are fewer than three entries, a certificate of participation will be awarded.

5) Contestants will be accepted on a first come first-served basis. Date that applications are received will prevail. A back-up list will be maintained.

6) Contestants must appear at the set-up location at the time designated by the contest chairman. Late arrival may be disqualified.

7) All contestants are responsible for placement and removal of all their own equipment.

8) Performance in ALL contests must be between 8 minutes and 10 minutes in length. Points will be deducted for times that are under 8 minutes or over 10 minutes. One point will be deducted for every 30 seconds over 10 minutes or under 8 minutes.

9) All contestants must be members in good standing in Ring 1 and the International Brotherhood of Magicians. Performer's assistant's need not be members of the I.B.M. or Ring 1.

10) Contestants may be disqualified for using "blue" material at this family-friendly event.

11) The contest chairman will determine the order of the performance. Detailed questions, comments or considerations should be directed to the contest chairman.

12) Since the contest is meant to be a learning experience, judge's comments and criticisms should be noted on the contest form, this is done strictly for the benefit of the contestant. Summaries will NOT be mailed to contestants.

13) Decision of a Winner of a contest is never easy; therefore, judge's decision of the outcome will be considered final.

14) Judges will deliberate individually with the Contest Chairman after the completion of the last contestant to validate scores. Individual scores may be adjusted during this deliberation. The announcement of the winners for all contests will be determined by the Board of Directors. All judges critique sheets must be tallied and verified by the contest chairman.

15) If there are too few Youth Contestants to hold a division contest in either category, they will be allowed to perform in the Sr. Division Contest of their appropriate category.

16) I.B.M. Ring 1 will have the right to use the likeness of contestants for publicity purposes of promoting the I. B. M. or Ring 1.

17) The first and second place winners in the Beginner to Intermediate category may compete the following year in the Advanced Category, but the second-place winner is not required to perform in the Advanced Category. The first-place winner in the Advanced category of the previous year's contest are not eligible to compete within the same division the following year; however, they may perform an act at the contest show and have their performance evaluated by the judges if time permits. This option is at the discretion of the Contest Chair. The Contest Chair is ineligible to compete also.

18) Judging criteria outlined will be applicable to both stage and close up contests.

19) The minimum number of judges required to constitute an official judging panel is three. The panel will be guided by a Chair appointed from within the panel. The judges will evaluate the performance/s based on criteria outlined below.

20) One Lay judge will be chosen and will only judge the Appearance, Stage Presence/Audience Appeal and Entertainment Value.

21) There will be a Timer who is responsible for timing each performer. A minimum of 8 minutes and a maximum of 10 minutes is acceptable. Penalties of 1 point for each 30 seconds over or under the time allowed.

22) Performers are required to sign up for contests no later than one week prior to the event or a date advertised by Ring 1. Those signing up for performances will not be informed of who else is signed up to perform until after the sign up cutoff date. Last minute entries, (day of the event) will be allowed at the discretion of the contest chair.

23) Sufficient time between acts will be provided to allow the judges to adequately evaluate and rate each performance and to provide appropriate comments.

Judging criteria terms and definitions:

· Appearance: Personal appearance, with emphasis on costuming, apparel and grooming. The contestants costume shall be appropriate to the act.

· Stage Craft: The appearance and handling of the apparatus, special lighting effects, use of the microphone. Stage technique, movement on stage, use of stage space, etc.

· Stage presence / Audience appeal: Is the contestant comfortable, at ease, confident? Was the performer able to hold the audience's attention? Does the contestant control the show?

· Ability and Technique: The dexterity and extra skill used in performance. Was the audience surprised? Was the technique concealed in the delivery or by the use of miss direction? Were there any errors or flashes? How well did the performer handle technical difficulties or mistakes?

· Presentation: Was the act routined? Was there a theme or continuity to the program? Choice of material, handling of the props, and/or assistants, use of the available stage space?

· Entertainment Value: The most important of all the qualities because a performer could be "Perfect" in all other criteria and fall short on having an entertaining act. Was the reaction spontaneous and/or prolonged? Was the response appropriate to the situation?

· Originality: Was there originality in effect, method, or presentation? Covers standard as well as novelty presentations, new principles, concepts, or ideas displayed in the act.

· Time: One ranking point will be deducted for each 30 seconds outside the performer's allotted 6-minute minimum or 8-minute maximum. Only one judge will record the score for the Time category. That score will be entered to each of the other judges Judging Forms.

Rating Method: Contestants will be evaluated individually, in each of the above categories using a 10-point rating system as follows:

1. = Bad
2. = Very Poor
3. = Poor
4. = Mediocre
5. = Fair
6. = Good
7. = Very Good
8. = Excellent
9. = Outstanding
10. = Perfection

· Judges should offer constructive commentary to entrants, give them feedback of what, in the judges' estimation, the entrant did well or not so well and explain the scoring given. The post event workshops provide an opportunity to expand upon comments made during the contest.

Specific Close-Up Contest Rules

1) There are no microphones in the close-up competition room. You may be performing for up to 60 people.

Packet and Pocket Tricks!

March 5th Ring 1 Meeting Theme

How many times has someone found out you were a magician and then asked you to do a trick for them? It happens all the time! We need to be ready. That is where having a packet trick or a small trick in your pocket, ready to perform will make you look like a miracle worker.

At the March 7th Ring 1 meeting, you will have your chance to see lots of those types of tricks, that you can choose from and add to your own repertoire. We all have our favorites. Some of for Kids and some are for the entire family. No matter what they are we want to see them. Some may ask, what is a Packet Trick?" Packet tricks are usually small standalone tricks or props, such as special cards, coins, bills or other small props that are all contained in one container or wallet. Pocket tricks refer to tricks that you can carry in your pocket, such as coins, thumb tip, hot rod, credit cards etc. It is hard to narrow the definitions down to specifics, so let's not and see what everyone brings in to perform.

If you would like to show off your favorite packet trick or pocket trick, call Terry Richison, who will be leading the meeting and let him know. You can reach him at 314-791-9108. Please call as soon as you can to get you on the schedule. I hope to see you all there with your pockets full of packets!

Terry

It is with a heavy heart that I let you know that long time I.B.M. member Robert Arenz passed away today after a battle with colon cancer. He was 89 years old. I had the privilege to perform for Bob in October as a surprise from his family. He was the most optimistic person I have known, when facing a terminal illness. His family has asked for a broken wand ceremony to be performed.

Arrangements:

Funeral was Sunday, Feb. 18, 2018 at 1:30pm

Boyer Funeral Home

[313 Benham St](#)

[Bonne Terre, MO 63628](#)

Terry Richison

[314-791-9108](#)

JDRF Family Day

Thank you to Ring 1 for their continued support for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation family day event held on February 17th at the Downtown Marriott Hotel. A special thanks to the magicians who help make the kids smile and adults act like kids. The event started with a stage show for the children. Performers included D.J., Chad Jacobs and Dan Todd. Following the stage show the following magicians amazed the attendees with their close-up magic – Johnny Harper, Larry Minth, D.J., Dan Davis, Chad Jacobs and me. We are looking forward to the next year's JDRF event so there is plenty of time to start practicing so you can participate.



For Sale

A Great Collection of Magic Magazines especially for those who have never subscribed or possibly lost a few issues. Magic is noted for its striking colorful covers with an array of outstanding contributors, not to mention a ton of great material to use in your shows.

119 issues are available.

These would be cash and carry from Woodriver, Illinois. No Shipping.

The best offer will be accepted. Call 314-791-9108

Below is a list of what is still available.

Year Published	Monthly Issues Available.
1997	June
2000	Oct
2001	Sept - This was the 10th year anniversary issue
2002	Feb, March
2003	July, Dec
2005	Aug, Sept, Oct
2006	Feb - sept Nov Dec
2007	March April, may, Dec
2008	March, April, July Aug, Sept - Dec
2009	Complete year
2010	Complete year
2011	Complete year includes the 20th anniversary (Sept)
2012	Almost Complete year less October
2013	Almost Complete year less October
2014	Almost Complete year less Jan & July
2015	Complete year
2016	Jan – Sept less June & July, Sept was the last issue published.

Bring A Friend To A Meeting

Officers

President

Mike Niehaus 314-691-0507

Vice President

Johnny Harper

Sgt at Arms

Steve Queen 314-651-9162

Secretary

Al Zibits 636-273-9974

Treasurer

Sandy Weis 314-378-4403

Board Members

Steve Finkelstein 314-409-6869

Terry Richison 314-791-9108

Marty Kopp 636-359-0201

Jenny Jones 636-633-2207

Past President

Dan Todd 314-409-7066

jennyjonesmk@gmail.com

Stay up to Date:

www.IBMRing1.com

For the latest info

International Brotherhood of Magicians

St. Louis Ring 1

Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm. (Except July) at the Dielmann Recreation Center 11400 Olde Cabin Rd Creve Coeur, MO 63141.

Meeting Agenda

6:30 Magic 101

7:00 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 St Louis Lambert Airport:

Take I-70 West to I-270 South, Take the MO-340 E. EXIT 14, Turn slight left onto MO-340/Olive Blvd, turn right onto Old Ballas Rd, Turn left onto Olde Cabin Rd Dielmann Recreation Ctr, 11400 OLDE CABIN RD 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. Merge onto Olive Blvd/MO 340 E. Exit 14, Turn right onto Old Ballas Rd, turn left onto Olde Cabin Rd Dielmann Recreation Ctr, 11400 OLDE CABIN is on the right

Project Magic

HELP NEEDED

Darryl "D. Jay" is still in need of magicians for Project Magic. The Ring 1 commitment to Shriner's is now on THE 3RD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH. Please see D. Jay if you are available to help. His email is djay1000@yahoo.com

Shriner's has changed their time from 6:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and we must be out by 7:15 p.m. The best way, if coming from downtown or IL, is to take 64 and exit north on Boyle St. and turn left onto Clayton St. If coming from West County, head east on 64 and go North on Boyle and then left on Clayton St.

We have to go to the front desk and we show a photo ID. The room is on the 3rd floor. Take a left after getting off the elevator and towards the area where there is a sitting area with large flat screen TV. It will be a small room (smaller than or meeting room). The new address is 4400 Clayton Avenue St. Louis, MO 63110

If you have any questions, please call me.

Thank you,

Darryl "D. Jay"

March Darryl Lenz & Ted Schnarre, **April** need 2 volunteers, **May** John Davit + 1 volunteer, **June** need 2 volunteers, **July** need 2 volunteers, **August** need 2 volunteers, **September** need 2 volunteers, **October** Darryl Lenz + 1 volunteer, **November** need 2 volunteers, **December** Darryl Lenz + 1 volunteer.

CONVENTION CORNER

- IBM 2018 Annual Convention Grand Rapids, MI July 4 – 7, 2018

**Round Table Meets informally Saturdays at 1 PM Schnuck's balcony lounge
12332 Manchester Road St. Louis MO 6313**