



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

January 2020

Jan 8, 2020, 6:30pm

Magic 101: Tarbell Ch. 3 (Coin Magic) with Jeff Lefton

Ring 1 Meeting

Gimmicked Decks with Steve Queen

Dielmann Recreation Center

11400 Olde Cabin Road

Creve Coeur, MO 63141



pageborders.org

Happy New Year!

President's Message

As we begin a new decade, I want to wish everyone a very Happy, Healthy, and Safe New Year! Now is the time of year to make your New Year Resolutions. While we are all making our new financial and health promises to ourselves, I think it is time to also take a look at our club. We need to start off by getting our dues paid up. This will help the club to bring in some great lectures and guests. The first half of my term as president has just flown by. I want to thank everyone who worked so hard last year to make our meetings, shows, and lectures a big success and special. I am extremely impressed by the level of enthusiasm that our club exhibits. We need to harness that enthusiasm to help build our club membership, especially the youth. Without the youth members, our club membership will diminish as the years go by. The youth also give the opportunity for our elders to mentor and pass on the important aspects of the club as well as magic in general—ethics, classics, and presentation just to name a few. We also need to look at ourselves to see what qualities, opportunities, and talents each of us have to offer the club. It takes a lot to keep Ring 1 moving forward. It is not just performing or teaching. We need to hear your new ideas, people to work back stage, help organize events, and host meetings. Let me know what you can give back to the club to help Ring 1 continue to be one of the best clubs in the United States. There is always room for improvement and you can help by volunteering in 2020.

We would like to find a “Pumpkin Patch” type place to replace the Haunted Hayloft. So, let's start contacting those businesses that might be interested in having the Ring perform during the Halloween season. Remember, “if everyone does a little, no one will have to do a lot.”

Terry Richison

Elections to Be Held In March

Ring 1 elections are slated for the month of March 2020. It will prove to be an exciting year. We will be forming a nominating committee to compile a slate of officers. If you have any interest in running for an office or as a member of the board, contact Terry Richison and let him know what you would be interested in being nominated for. Your name will be passed on to the nominating committee, once formed. This is your chance to be involved.

Do You Have Something To Sell Or Trade?

All members in good standing can advertise their item(s) for free. Just include a picture and description of your item along with your contact info to Gary Chan at gschan2000@outlook.com.

Did You Know??

Sometime, in the late 1920's, a few unhappy members of the local Assembly of the Society of American Magicians decided that they were not getting their money's worth from the 50 cent annual dues they were paying. These individuals, led by one Andy Buel, contacted the I.B.M. and asked if they could establish a local club in St. Louis. They were told "Yes" and formed themselves into a "Chapter." Other Chapters were soon formed by magicians in other communities.

Representatives of these various Chapters met to determine a name for their groups, and our Andy Buel came up with the name "RING". This suggestion was quickly embraced by the conferees. It symbolized the idea that all the Chapters (or Rings) were linked together a la the classic "Chinese Linking Rings." The conference further decided to change the name of the monthly publication from the "Bulletin" to "The Linking Ring."

As a reward for its leadership at this conference, the I.B.M. elected to designate Saint Louis, RING #1.

Ring 1 History Books

We are searching for our Ring's history books (scrap books). Anyone with information, please contact Steve Zuehlke at steve@sligosteel.com or 314-231-3050.

Attend Board Meetings

The Ring is like our government. Owned by the people or in this case, the membership. Each and every member of the Ring has a say in how things are ran, conducted, etc. You don't necessarily have to be a board member for your voice to be heard. The board meetings are open to all. If something is on your mind, let your voice be heard.

See you at next board meeting!

Steve Zuehlke

Monthly Recap

The Holiday Meeting took place on December 4th. The following magicians performed magic effects before the meal: John Davit, Terry Richison, Al Zibits, and Steve Finkelstein. The Ring provided sandwiches, and the attendees were encouraged to bring side dishes or desserts. There was plenty of food. In fact, members were able to take home extra sandwiches. Members were encouraged to bring a White Elephant Gift for the gift exchange. This year, gifts had to be worth at least \$5 and had to be a magic item which was new or gently used. On their turn, members could either pick a wrapped gift or take one from another member who had already opened their gift. Gifts could only be stolen 3 times. Several members were really pleased with their gift. As usual, everyone wanted the certificate for two free President's Banquet tickets. This year, one of the member's sons won the certificate and everyone felt they shouldn't take it from him. Some members, who really didn't like or want their gift, will probably wrap their gift and bring it back for next year's gift exchange. The members look forward to the gift exchange every year.

The Veterans and First Responders Holiday Magic Show took place on December 8th at the Kirkwood Community Theatre. Scott Credit Union (they also sponsored it last year) sponsored the show. There were Scott employees who gave the attendees water and snacks. They also had a drawing and one lucky winner received tickets to an upcoming Fox Theatre Show. Sligo Steel also provided monetary assistance for the show. Pasta House supplied \$5 coupons for all attendees. The Ring appreciates the assistance these organizations provided. Before the show, several magicians (John Davit, D. Jay, Steve Finkelstein, John Skarin, and Chuck Levy) provided close-up magic for the attendees. Steve Zuehlke was the Master of Ceremony for the stage show. The performers were as follows: Johnny Harper, Christian Misner, Steve Queen, and Terry Richison. Also, the following members helped to make the show a huge success: Hal Scharf, Gary Chan, Chuck Peterson, Al Zibits, Sandy Weis, and Dave Goldfarb. Terry "Mad Dog" Walthaw and Al Zibits both helped with the lights and sound. The audience seemed to thoroughly enjoy the show.

The Ring recently lost one of its members—Don Burgan. He was a member of Ring 1 and also Ring 325, which is located in Branson, MO. He enjoyed 60 plus years in magic and will be missed. Ring 1 members performed a Broken Wand Ceremony, as requested by the family.

Terry Richison informed the members that the Ring's Vice-President, Steve Queen, will be taking over the President's duties. Terry will be away for a few months and the Ring will really miss him while he is gone.

The Ring always welcomes visitors to its meetings and events.

Sandy Weis

Stage Magic

Personally, I grew up doing stage magic as did most everyone. As time goes by, close up has gained popularity and stage magic has taken a back seat. I often hear with in the club, "why are the same people always on the stage shows?" Simple, no one does stage magic anymore. Even the local and national conventions are hard pressed to find new, good talent. Everyone wants to do close up and a lecture so they can sell product. Even within the our Ring, every lecturer we bring in is close up magic. Stage magic is great. It plays big, its great for kids (I personally have never done a kids birthday party using a deck of cards), you can command a higher performance fee and since not everyone does it, you should be in demand. And again, there are a TON of books devoted to this subject. And you don't necessarily need a ton of money. Gene Anderson did an entire act with a newspaper and a pair of scissors. Tabary did an entire act with a piece of rope. Cardini did an entire act with a deck of playing cards and a couple of cue balls. Try working on a few stage effects and when asked to perform at the next meeting, blow everyone away by NOT BEING THE CARD GUY.

Steve Zuehlke



Congratulations, Officer Steve Queen!

Our own Officer Steve Queen receiving an award for saving a student's life!

"I don't talk about work much on Facebook, but I do have to say my assignment as SRO has been my favorite part of my career so far, and this was a nice moment to share with the kids."

Steve Zuehlke

Thank you, Sandy

The Linking Ring Magazine - One thing I look forward to each month is receiving my Linking Ring Magazine. I usually read all the ads first, then the President's page, then right to the Ring reports, starting with Ring One. It's always nice to see what happened at the last meeting, especially if I didn't attend the last meeting. I actually read ALL the reports just to see what is going on with the other Rings. And after reading them all, I think I can honestly say we have one of the best scribes in the organization, Sandy Weis. She does a fantastic job. And a thankless job. The next time you see Sandy, please make sure you thank her. Kudos to Sandy Weis!

Steve Zuehlke

Veteran's Show Recap

Sunday, December 8, 2019, was the date for our annual Veteran/First Responder/Holiday Show! With over one hundred fifty in attendance, the show was a HUGE success. A big thanks to sponsors Scott Credit Union and Sligo Steel. We are in the BLACK.

This year, we had a TON of volunteers to assist, which is FANTASTIC and exactly what we need for our organization to thrive! Sandy Weiss and David Goldfarb were in the lobby to help with tickets and seating. Gary Chan was on hand to man the magic store. Steve Davis took photographs. Chuck Peterson took care of stage manager duties and did an outstanding job. Close-up performers included John Davit, Steve Finkelstein, Darryl "D. Jay" Lentz, John Skarin, and Laurence Levy. Everyone I spoke with loved the close-up magic. Terry "Mad Dog" Walthaw and Alan Zibits were on hand for light and sound and did an excellent job. There were also many Ring 1 members in attendance!

Performers included Steve Zuehlke who served as emcee. He performed a cute routine with a young girl who was awarded a teddy bear for her help on stage. Terry Richison did an excellent Cut and Restored Rope routine with a young female helper who stole the show. Up next was Officer Steve Queen who featured an Appearing Can of Red Bull, a great Linking Ring routine, an excellent version of Professors Nightmare. He closed with a Rope Tie. Next on the bill was Johnny Harper who did a fun mentalism bit with a couple of kids, and he closed with a Russian Roulette effect with fish hooks in his mouth. Very cool and he left the audience guessing as to how this was done. After a short intermission, a Scott Credit Union representative, Terry, awarded four tickets for an upcoming event at the Fox theater. A great prize to the lucky winner in the audience, Adam. Next on the bill was Christian the Magician. Always full of energy, he performed with a Face Book placard and closed with a touching mentalism routine, involving his daughter and twenty audience members. Talking about playing big, closing the show was Terry Richison who did his classic levitation piece with a little girl as a tribute to his late father. This piece always tugs at the heart.

Thanks to EVERYONE who helped make this show a success, and let us not forget our Veterans for the sacrifices they have made for our country.

Steve Zuehlke

Obituary: Simon Aronson Passed Away

"Just heard the awful news that my dear friend Simon Aronson—whose brilliant work is the foundation of a huge portion of my own—has passed away. So many laughs. So many miracles. A huge loss to me personally and to the whole community of magicians." - Eric Mead

"My loved Simon Aronson had passed away. He was a master and a friend, always available for everything. He always treated me as a little brother. He was a genius creator and an incredible person who loved, respected and worked deeply for our art. We'll miss him. Very sad." - Woody Aragon

"Simon was a true friend and confidant for many years. Our friendship began with our mutual respect and passion for card magic. However it quickly grew into something much bigger. We shared many personal talks and we were always there for each other. He taught me many things not relating to magic which I will remember most. He was one of the smartest people I've (sic) had the

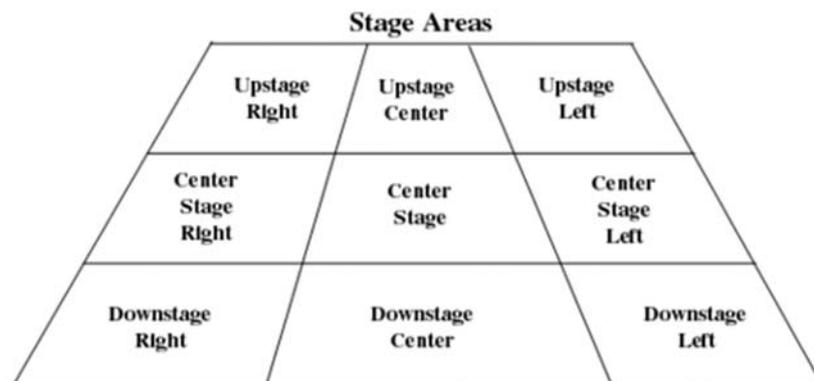
privilege of knowing. Just knowing him made me a better person. A great magician & friend who will live on forever in my heart. I will always miss him and wish I could say goodbye just one more time. I did get to visit with him and Ginny several times recently. My heart goes out to Ginny and Mergel. RIP Simon and thank you for being a part of my life! Till we meet again..." - Bill Malone

"Simon was a frequent patron at the Columbus Magi Fest and was very instrumental in donating scholarships to up and coming young magicians. Something he did without fanfare. I had just seen him at last year's event and was looking forward to seeing him in January. A great loss to the magic community." - Steve Zuehlke

Stage Directions

After our recent performance, it occurred to me that some people do not understand theater terminology, so I thought I would share this with everyone. These directions were imperative to our stage manager Chuck Peterson and our lighting director Terry Walthaw.

Stage directions include center stage, stage right, stage left, upstage, and downstage. These guide the actors to one of the nine sections of the stage named after the center and four directions. Corners are referred to as up right, down right, up left, and down left. See diagram below.



"Upstage" means away from the audience, towards the back of the playing area. "Downstage" means close to the audience, near the front of the playing area.

"Stage right" and "stage left" indicate the point of view of the performer standing in front of an audience. Their mirror images are "house right" and "house left," which describe the same directions, but from the opposite side—as if you are looking at the stage. Read this line again as many people get confused. Nothing worse than you telling the lighting director that you will be entering from Stage right, only to appear in the dark on Stage left.

Communication is KEY and all cues, and directions should be written out BEFORE the show and gone over in tech rehearsal. That means the stage manager gets a set of cues, including the sound engineer and the lighting director. EVERYONE needs to be on the same page to ensure the success of the production.

Steve Zuehlke

X Marks the Spot

Steve Buesking was showing me a trick the other day over breakfast and it reminded me of something I used to do years ago. A simple card trick using a double backed card and a double lift. Simple right?

Place the letter X on the back of the double backer. Use a thick black marker. Place this card on the bottom of the deck with the X facing up. Have a card freely selected (be careful not to expose the bottom card when spreading the cards) and place the selected on top of the deck face down. Cut the deck once burying the selected card somewhere near the middle. This will place the X card above the selection. Spread the deck until you come to the X card. Cut the deck at that point placing the X card on top. Do a double lift and leave the face up double on top of the pack. Thumb off the face up selection and when you turn the card over, the X has vanished!

Patter: I used to say something about pirates burying (chosen card gets buried in the middle of the deck) their treasure and marking their map with an X. Spreading the cards to reveal the X (the treasure / chosen card). But then hiding their map because if someone found the map with the X , they would know where the treasure would be. Then the X vanished off the back of the card. Something along those lines if I remember correctly. Be inventive and come up with your own story. Instead of an X, you use a question mark. Lots of ideas to be explored using double backed cards.

Next month, I'll share a great one using a double facer!

Steve Zuehlke

The Evolution of Ring One or the Lack There of...

I joined the Ring when I was fifteen years old ... 41 years ago. And, yes, a lot has changed in forty-one years. When I was younger, we used to have a Youthsayer Show. This was a show put on entirely by the youth of the Ring. This included talent, ticket sales, lights, sound, etc. This was a big production that was held at Kirkwood Community Center. We actually had full dress rehearsals as well prior to the actual show date. Some years, there were so many youths that there wasn't enough time in the evening for everyone to perform. When this happened, you got to perform the following year. Each year, we presented the Youthsayer Award to the most outstanding youth performer. This was quite the honor to have your name on this prestigious award.

Sad to say, I can't remember the last time we had a Youthsayer Show. The reason for this is simple. The club has no youth. No youth means no growth. The Ring is open to suggestions on this subject. How do we get more youth involved? What can we do to get more youth involved? This is one of the biggest and most important issues facing our Ring. Are you on the PTA (Parent-Teacher Association)? Can you help get the word out at schools or with your children's friends? Please drop Gary Chan a note and he will publish your ideas or thoughts in the next Spirit.

As a side note, while attending the recent President's Banquet, my wife made the comment, "Where are the young people at?"

When I was younger, we had a cut-off date for the stage contest for the Midwest Magic Jubilee. The reason for this was there were so many people who wanted to compete, the contest

would sometimes run up three hours in length! Today we are hard pressed to get enough contestants to compete to even have a stage contest.

Veteran's Show/Spring Show/Haunted Hayloft – I always hear the same comments. “It's always the same people.” The only answer that I can come up with is that nobody does stage magic anymore. Or should I say, good stage magic. My granddaughter has done a magic act for her fourth grade talent show but I wouldn't consider putting her on a paid event for the club. When I first joined the club, the norm was that everyone did some close-up magic and some stage magic. Most of us started doing children's birthday parties. As the years went by, close-up magic has moved to the front of the line, leaving stage magic to take a back seat. I really think everyone should have at least a good ten to fifteen minutes of magic that can be done on a stage. This doesn't have to involve expensive props either. Ropes (any good cut and restored routine, Professors Nightmare), cards (Cards Across, Card to Lemon, Six Card Repeat), coins (Misers Dream). Etc. Remember, it's all in the presentation.

Before paying for the next hottest download of the latest and greatest card trick, pick up an old book and learn a few good standup/stage tricks. Who knows? You may like it!

Rant Over,
Steve Zuehlke



<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=1292563870951057&set=a.340501132824007&type=3&theater>

St. Louis' own Steve Davis will be at the Wildey Theater in March! The Wildey is one of the best venues in town, and there is not a bad seat in the house. Downtown Edwardsville is alive and well with plenty of top notch places to eat with several in walking distance of the theater. See you there!

Ring 1 Volunteer Activities

Volunteer your time so that we can grow and improve our Ring for everyone. Moving forwards, we'll publish a consolidated list of volunteer activities for our membership in the monthly SPIRIT. Opportunities from most to least recent:

#	Task	Contact
1	Bring new magicians or send in ideas. We need to grow our membership, especially youth magic.	Terry Richison & Steve Queen See last page for contact info.
2	"Spring" Show on Feb 15. Volunteer for any of multiple roles at our next stage show at the Kirkwood Community Theater!	Terry Richison & Steve Queen See last page for contact info.
3	Website management. Help us maintain our website (www.ibmring1.com).	Terry Richison & Steve Queen See last page for contact info.
4	Help assemble the SPIRIT a couple of times this year. The work consists of assembling articles that others write, editing, and then emailing out the newsletter.	Gary Chan gschan2000@outlook.com (857) 342-2349
5	Project Magic (Shriner's Hospital). See next page for details.	Darryl "D. Jay" djay1000@yahoo.com
6	Attend the monthly Ring 1 board meeting. See page with the calendar of events for more info.	Terry Richison & Steve Queen See last page for contact info.

Volunteer for Project Magic

Volunteer to place a smile on a child's face at the Shriner's hospital on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm and finish by 7:15pm. We are looking for two magicians for each month.

Date	Magician 1	Magician 2
Jan 21	John Davit	D. Jay
Feb 18	Volunteer!	Volunteer!
Mar 17	Volunteer!	Volunteer!
Apr 21	Volunteer!	Volunteer!
May 19	Volunteer!	Volunteer!
Jun 16	Volunteer!	Volunteer!

Contact Darryl "D. Jay" at djay1000@yahoo.com to sign-up!

Directions to Shriner's, 4400 Clayton Avenue St. Louis, MO 63110: If coming from downtown or IL, 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.

To check-in, go to the front desk and show a photo ID. The room we will be going to is on the 3rd floor. Take a left after getting off the elevator, and go towards the area where there is a sitting area with a large flat screen TV. It will be a small room (smaller than our Dielmann Recreation Complex meeting room).

Darryl "D. Jay"
djay1000@yahoo.com

Write for the SPIRIT

We are always looking for SPIRIT material. These can be anything from ideas, tricks, tips, magic-related stories/articles, where you are performing, interesting websites, items you are selling, etc. With cell phone technology today, instead of texting at the dinner table, write Gary a paragraph or two for the club to enjoy.

A few weeks ago on Facebook, I saw the 10 Day Performer/Artist Challenge. Let's have the Spirit Article challenge. I nominate Steve Buesking to write or submit an article of interest. Steve, once you submit your article to Gary, send this challenge to another member of the club. Once that person submits an article, he/she would send the same challenge to another member of the club. Etc.

Steve Zuehlke

Grow Our Membership

How many of you interact with children who love magic? If your answer is anything other than zero, you have someone who could be a good fit for our magic club! If you perform magic and discover a child who may be a good fit to be a magician, share information about Ring 1 to the child's parents. We need to grow our membership, and reaching out through our current members is the best way to grow.

Gary Chan

Pay Calendar Year 2020 Dues

It is that time of the year when the local dues of \$15 are due. Only \$12.50 for the second person in your household. You will be receiving a Dues Notices from Secretary, Alan Zibits. If any of your information, phone numbers, e-mail addresses, etc. have changed, please let Alan Zibits know at alan.a.zibits@boeing.com.

To pay online: Go to <http://www.ibmring1.com/>. Click "Buy Now" in the bottom-left. Either log into PayPal or click "Pay with Debit or Credit Card". Fill out the form and pay. After payment via PayPal, you may receive an error titled "Multiple Choices" due to a misconfiguration. Regardless of whether you see an error, as long as PayPal issues you a receipt, you've paid.

To pay by mail: Write a check payable to "IBM, Ring 1" for \$15. Write "2020 Dues" on the memo line. Mail the check to Sandy Weis, 1755 Elkins Drive, St. Louis, MO 63136.

To pay in person: Bring a check (see details above) or cash to a monthly meeting. Give it to Sandy Weis.



"OF COURSE, BLACK MAGIC IS MORE EXPENSIVE THAN WHITE MAGIC. DO YOU THINK THAT THE PIGMENTS ARE FREE?"

Date	Event
Jan 8 6:30pm	Magic 101: Tarbell Ch. 3 (Coin Magic) with Jeff Lefton Gimmicked Decks with Steve Queen Giveaway is a gimmicked deck
Feb 5 6:30pm	Magic 101: Tarbell Ch. 4-5 (Coin Magic) with Jeff Lefton Impromptu Mentalism with Steve Finkelstein Giveaway is related to mentalism
Feb 15	Spring Magic Show
Mar 4 6:30pm	Magic 101: Tarbell Ch. 6 (Thumb Tips) with Steve Finkelstein One-minute Tricks (host TBD)
Apr 1 6:30pm	Magic 101: Tarbell Ch. 7 (Impromptu Magic) with Steve Queen Rings, Ropes, and Chains (host TBD)
May 6 6:30pm	IBM Ring 1 Close-up Contest
Jun 3 6:30pm	Magic 101: TBD Money Magic (host TBD)

Board Meeting Dates: Jan 22, Feb 26th, Mar 25, Apr 22, May 27, Jun 24, Aug 26, Sep 23, Oct 28, Nov 18, Dec 13

6:30pm IBM
7:30pm Jubilee

Location: Experience on Demand, 16020 Swingley Ridge Rd, Chesterfield, MO 63017. (Register with Terry Richison so that you get any last-minute location change notifications. His contact info is on the last page.)

Contribute and help shape the future of our organization. All members are welcome!



Calendar

Other (not Ring 1) Magic Conferences and Events

2020 Magic Conventions

<https://www.themagicwordpodcast.com/magic-convention-guide>

I.B.M. Convention

Pittsburgh, PA; July 8-11, 2020

<https://www.magician.org/convention/online-registration>

Magic Roundtable

Schnuck's, 12332 Manchester Rd, Des Peres, MO 63131

The St. Louis Magic Roundtable has been meeting every Saturday for roughly 40 years. It currently meets on the mezzanine at Schnucks in Des Peres at 1:30 every Saturday. There is no cost involved, but any food consumed must be purchased in their store. Bring some magic or a book. Discuss, show others, practice. Or just visit and be social. Questions? Contact Harry Monti at 636-399-5391 or MontiMagic@aol.com .

International Brotherhood of Magicians St. Louis Ring 1

Role	Name	E-mail	Phone
President	Terry Richison	terryrich@charter.net	(314) 791-9108
Vice President & Sgt at Arms	Steve Queen	stevequeen85@gmail.com	(314) 651-9162
Secretary	Al Zibits	Alan.a.zibits@boeing.com	(636) 273-9974
Treasurer	Sandy Weis	sweis50@yahoo.com	(314) 378-4403
Board Member	Steve Finkelstein	sfinkelstein1@sbcglobal.net	(314) 409-6869
Board Member	Marty Kopp	martin.kopp@gmail.com	(636) 359-0201
Board Member	Steve Buesking	svbuesking@gmail.com	(314) 732-5678
Past President	Johnny Harper	johnnyharpermagic@gmail.com	(505) 977-8768
Spirit Newsletter	Gary Chan	gschan2000@outlook.com	(857) 342-2349

Happy New Year!

Submission Deadline for Next Spirit:
January 24, 2020
E-mail your article to Gary Chan at
ring1newsletter@finderstellers.com

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