

February

# 94 Years Of Magic!



International Brotherhood of Magicians

"Spirit of St. Louis"

HAPPY  
Valentine's  
DAY

# RING ONE

The SPIRIT | Official Newsletter of I.B.M. Ring 1  
February 2021 Edition

## Erik Tait Lecture

Feb 3, 2021  
7:00PM CDT



Link for Wed evening (Audio and Video):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86076820286?pwd=aG54d3NBVkRWcE9pUXNvYlRUNkRYUT09>

Dial-In (Audio only): 312-626-6799,,86076820286#,,,\*428716#



## President's Message

by Terry Richison

We had a great start to the New Year with the Jason Dean lecture. There was something for everyone. I know that I picked up a few gems. We are going to continue on with another great guest speaker, Erik Tait from Penguin Magic, thanks to Ring 1 and the Midwest Magic Jubilee!

Erik is going to give us a behind-the-scenes look at Penguin Magic. He will also regale us with some great stories regarding some famous Ring 1 members and more. This is shaping up to be a very fun meeting. Erik has won awards for both standup comedy and magic throughout North America, appeared on Penn & Teller: Fool Us and was the 2018 International Brotherhood of Magicians Gold Cups Close Up Competition Champion. He graduated with honors from the prestigious Humber College Comedy Writing and Performance program, which means Erik can academically prove why he is hilarious. Beyond that, Erik is the only magician in the world with a degree in funny. He has put academic theory into practice on some of the most prestigious stages in the world, including The Magic Castle, Second City Toronto, and the Hollywood Improv. His client list has some of the most recognizable brands in the country including Honda, Macy's, and Bark Box. Be sure to join us on Feb 3 at 7:00PM CST for a fantastic evening of magic and fun with Erik Tait. You can join the meeting at 6:45 PM CST by using the link on the front cover.



I have a couple other reminders: Our I.B.M. Ring 1 dues are due. See [page 7](#) for payment instructions. Also, the elections are coming up. We are looking for a few magicians to join the I.B.M. Ring 1 Officers and Board of Directors. Please let me know if you would like to be an officer or on the board to help lead the Ring into the future. I can't run for president again, so the president's position is definitely needing to be filled. I will offer any help needed for whoever takes that position. Let me know what you can give back to the club to help Ring 1 to continue to be one of the best clubs in the United States. Remember, there is always room for improvement and you can help by volunteering in 2021!

Valentine's Day is coming up soon so be sure to tell the ones you love how much you really love them! Sindie and I will be celebrating our 40th wedding anniversary on Valentine's Day. I can't imagine finding someone better to spend my life with.

A handwritten signature of Terry Richison in black ink.

I.B.M. Ring 1 President

## Ring 1 Report

by Sandy Weis

Another month has passed and we are still experiencing the pandemic, but Ring 1 continues to regularly meet via Zoom. Magic is being shared among us through this medium. Hopefully, the vaccine will help end the pandemic, and we can meet again in person for meetings and activities. The Ring has scheduled another virtual lecture in February. Eric Tate from Penguin Magic will be featured. The Ring's close-up contest, banquet, performances, in-person meetings, etc. have all been postponed indefinitely. However, the Ring has continued to remain active through Zoom. Ring 1 has hosted lectures and its members have been invited to participate in other Ring's lectures.

Steve Zuehlke shared the following: With Zoom being the new norm, Ring 1 was treated to a lecture by Alan Fisher from Murphysboro, Tennessee. A bunch of nice guys and Alan did not disappoint; there was something for everyone. What I loved about Alan's lecture was NO CARD TRICKS. Alan was gracious enough to offer downloads of several effects at no charge. This is the third lecture we have been invited to by other Rings. It's nice to see different faces from all over the country. I would not be surprised if this becomes the new norm. I would suggest to other Rings that they give this a try.

The Magi Fest, previously scheduled for February, was postponed until May and now has been postponed until September. The new dates are September 16-18th and will be at the Renaissance Hotel in Columbus, Ohio. This is one of the best conventions to attend. I hope the world is back to normal again as I attend this every year.

Jerry Christensen wanted to remind members to read their "Linking Ring" monthly. Hopefully, everyone noticed that he was featured in the December 2020 issue, page 75. The following is a summary of his article: He was introduced to magic at the age of nine when his grandfather performed some simple table tricks for him. His parents bought him a Foodini Magic Set for Christmas which began his career in magic. He continued to further his knowledge of magic through books, conventions, and magic shops. He obtained a Doctor of Optometry degree from Ohio State and also received masters and doctorate degrees in physiological optics. He moved several times; however, he maintained his interest in magic, focusing on close-up and card magic. He moved to St. Louis in 1980 and was the Founding Dean of the "new" College of Optometry at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. Jerry retired in 2007 and still lives in St. Louis. He has had tricks published in several magic magazines. Ring 1 is proud of his all his accomplishments!

Silly Jilly shared that she created a new, organized, and mobile-friendly website, <http://sillyjilly.com>. Check it out! The pandemic gave her time to learn WordPress. She started her previous website 20 years ago. She would update it every month, sometimes by just sticking new information at the top or bottom of the LONG page. Her original site has a lot of information, but she states that it is a mess (<http://sillyjillytheclown.homestead.com>). One will notice that she is advertising her shows on her website. However, she is giving her customers a choice: they can pay her directly or donate the money to one of her favorite charities. For example, she has already raised \$1,164, which is at 58% of her goal, to HELP FEED AMERICA. Way to go, Silly Jilly!

On January 14th, The Society of American Magicians, Assembly 8, invited Ring 1 members to attend a virtual lecture featuring Paul Draper. What an outstanding lecture! It wasn't a typical formal lecture; instead, Paul encouraged viewer participation: he requested that the participants let him know what they wanted to view/ learn, etc. Prizes were awarded at the conclusion; however, one needed to be a paid S.A.M. member to participate. All three winners, Steve Zuehlke, Mike McClure, and Harry Monti, are all members of both I.B.M. and S.A.M. Congratulations!

Several members shared their condolences regarding the recent death of Siegfried Fischbacher. Harry Monti shared that he first met Siegfried in 1972. From that day on, Trudy and Harry had the pleasure of seeing the Siegfried and Roy show once or twice a year. Later, during one of Harry's performances at the Magic Castle, he had the pleasure of performing in the Close-up Room with Siegfried in the very first row. Siegfried was so complimentary, and Harry cherishes that experience.

I recently watched a new episode of Penn & Teller: Fool Us. I was so impressed with one of the magicians who fooled Penn & Teller, Malin Nilsson, a female magician from Sweden. If you haven't seen her perform, check out her act. It can be viewed on YouTube. What an amazing performance!

## COVID-19 Vaccine

We generally try to keep this newsletter magic-focused, but given how much COVID-19 has impacted our club, I thought it would make sense to share the following link for vaccine registration: <https://stlcorona.com/covid19-vaccines/>

## Senior Tour

As you may recall, the Senior Tour event last year was indefinitely postponed, and Illinois continues to be in a partial lockdown for large social gatherings. With the vaccine on the horizon and when it is safe for us to meet, we will have one of the BEST conventions to hit this area in a long time. If you are into close-up magic, you won't want to miss this. More details to follow as they become available. In the meantime, stay safe!

## Magicians Saved Magic Inc.

Magic Inc., a nearly 100-year-old Chicago magic shop that's been a staple of the city, was pulled back from the brink of closure after magicians from around the country came together to keep the doors open.

News article:

<https://abc7chicago.com/chicago-magic-inc-store-penn-and-teller-david-copperfield/9205859/>

Magic events:

<https://www.magicinc.net/collections/magic-events>

# *Erik Tait*

*Behind the Scenes at  
Penguin Magic  
&  
More Funny Stuff!*



*Feb. 3, 2021  
7:00PM CST*

*Online At*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86076820286?pwd=aG54d3NBVkRWcE9pUXNvYlRUNkRYUT09>

*I.B.M. Ring 1*

*Midwest Magic Jubilee*



## Valentine's Day Magic Tricks

With Valentine's Day around the corner, you may wish to brush up on magic tricks appropriate for your significant other!

The following trick is free:

A free trick from SansMinds: <https://magicticks.io/sansminds-valentines-day/>

The following are paid for tricks:

Anniversary Waltz

Healing Hearts by Mago Martin, Jeff McBride, and Eugene Burger

Linking Hearts by Paul Romhany

O.C.L. by Ben Williams

Souvenir Linking Loverbands

That's Amore by Nathan Kranzo

Twilight Angels by Paul Harris

You can probably easily find the above at your favorite magic store. In case you're wondering why there are no direct links here, links to specific stores are included only when the tricks are free, related to a Ring 1 member, or something that our Ring 1 lecturer/guest/sponsor is offering. Otherwise, we're not promoting a specific magic store.



## Pay Ring 1 Dues

Annual membership is \$15 and is a bargain, considering our lineup of performers, lecturers, and activities! If any of your contact information has changed, please let Alan Zubits know at [alan.a.zubits@boeing.com](mailto:alan.a.zubits@boeing.com).

- To pay online: <http://www.ibmring1.com/dues-payments>
- To pay by mail: Write a check payable to "IBM, Ring 1" for \$15. Write "2021 Dues" on the memo line. Mail the check to Sandy Weis, 1755 Elkins Drive, St. Louis, MO 63136.



## Volunteer for Shriner's

Volunteer to perform either by streaming with Zoom and/or creating a short video of performing one or two simple effects. It also works if you want to teach one or two effects that kids can perform. Contact D. Jay at [djay1000@yahoo.com](mailto:djay1000@yahoo.com) .

## Upcoming Events

2021 Magic Conventions: <https://www.themagicwordpodcast.com/magic-convention-guide>

### Ring 1 Events (US Central time)

Date	Event
Feb 3, 7pm	Erik Tait lecture
Feb 17, 7pm	I.B.M. Ring 1 Board Meeting
Feb 17, 7:30pm	Midwest Magic Jubilee Board Meeting
Mar 3, 7pm	David Jonathan lecture
Mar 17, 7pm	I.B.M. Ring 1 Board Meeting

All members are welcome and encouraged to attend all of the events, including board meetings.

## Be an Officer

How would you like to be an Officer or Board member of Ring 1? Maybe you have thought about it but didn't know what to do about it. Now is your time. We are looking for people who are interested in becoming active in the leadership of the club to help guide it into the future. Ring 1 is 90+ years old, and you can help shape the next 90 years. If you are interested, please contact Terry Richison at [Terry@magicoterryrich.com](mailto:Terry@magicoterryrich.com). You can help make the Ring continue to succeed by becoming an office or board member.

## Jason Dean Lecture Review

by Steve Zuehlke

With the help of Steve Buesking, Ring 1 sponsored a lecture via Zoom, featuring Jason Dean on January 6th. Steve also invited several people from around the country as a goodwill gesture on behalf of Ring One. And it worked! The lecture had forty-six people in attendance. While Jason's lecture was all cards. Nothing was beyond the reach of the average performer. Jason has been diagnosed with MS and has lost a lot of his motor skills with his hands. This has given him time to reevaluate his methods and make them as simple as possible. Jason is extremely well-read and shared his thoughts on some old classics as well as some brand-new material. Most of us cringe when we hear the name Erdnase. Jason shared two great "moves" found in this classic text, "The Expert at the Card Table," which has been published since 1902. Both moves proved to be very simple. As Jason stated, "you have to dig to find the gold." He showed a great false overhand shuffle as well as a great pass and a great card force using the Charlier Cut. The Charlier Cut is the infamous one-handed cut that most of us use to "show off" instead of use it as intended.

Jason also shared a cute idea with a "cheat sheet" for the Mnemonic Stack that can be used right under the spectator's nose without any fear of detection. He graciously gave these away just for the asking! As John Mendoza would say, "What a guy!" Another great effect he shared was using the "Loewy Palm," with Jason giving great insight to the "fear" of palming. The only way to get good at it is to do it. The fear of the unknown is frightening for anyone. As Jason stated, "put your toe in the water and see how cold it is." Also, he covered a virtually no sleight, two card prediction. This kills for laypeople and is so simple. Jason did a great take on a Danny Fleshman's "Oil and Water" routine, eliminating the need for a double backer. Again, Jason's streamlined version made this effect almost sleightless. Speaking of double backers, Jason shared a great color changing card using nothing more than a double lift proving it's all in the presentation. Opening the lecture was Jason's take on Hofzinser's Four Card Problem. Jason made this problem solvable with a very unique gaff making this effect well within the reach of the average card worker. Another high point was a trick done with only ONE HAND. From the onset, Jason showed his hand empty and placed his hand in his pocket for the entire duration of the routine. Terry Richison, a participant, selected a card and the card vanished. The deck can actually be handed to the spectator and he/she can spread through the cards himself/herself. The card has vanished! With that, Jason removed his hand from his pocket, holding the selected card. Strong magic! My favorite effect was Jason's closer in which three cards are selected and then revealed by three different predictions with a KICKER ending. At the end of this effect, all can be

examined, and Jason gives the deck to the spectator as a gift with one of the predictions written on the card box itself. Killer magic for the layperson!

Jason had many things to sell after the lecture with everything reasonably priced. He also offered a “special” which contained EVERYTHING presented for 110.00! The last effect was that price alone. He shared that all proceeds will be used for his upcoming stem cell therapy.

## **Paul Draper Lecture Review**

by Steve Zuehlke

On January 14th, our local SAM Assembly #8 had a lecture presented by Paul Draper and invited Ring 1 as its guest. Much appreciated! Paul is a full-time professional based out of Las Vegas. Paul’s talk was very informal, letting us ask questions. Paul is Disney Land’s resident magician. When COVID shut down the park, he foresaw the need for virtual shows long before the rest of us. Paul showed us how to set up a home Zoom studio for under two hundred dollars. He explained sound/microphones/cameras/video/lights, etc. Very educational if you plan on doing virtual shows. Paul also shared a great mental routine using ESP cards and explained along the way why most of us find mentalism boring. Paul is very engaging. He also shared some great tips on playing for the camera and explained the perception of what we (the performer) see in our computer monitor versus what the spectator sees on the other end. Our own Silly Jilly was in attendance and shared that she has been taking Paul’s three-day Master Class through McBride’s Mystery School as well. Paul was influenced by Eugene Burger, so if you enjoyed Eugene’s style, you are going to love Paul. If your Ring is looking for something other than the “same old boring card tricks”, I cannot recommend this lecture high enough. A solid ninety minutes of education and entertainment.

After the lecture, the Assembly gave away three attendance prizes for those who stayed till the end. The prizes included two different DVDs and the grand prize of an hour of Paul’s time, a one-on-one via Zoom. Yours truly won the latter and I immediately set the meeting up for Saturday morning. I just basically wanted to know more about Paul Draper, so I prepared a list of questions and we just talked. Paul is originally from Utah and graduated from UNLV and has called Vegas home ever since. While holding two degrees, including a PHD, Paul knew he could make more doing magic. Paul was one of the first mentalists on the strip, long before most people knew what mentalism was. He has worked for Penguin Magic, in charge of filming their lectures and trailers. He also mentioned that the trailers are staged. While the spectators are real and total laypeople, they are compensated in some fashion and told to be “over the top” with their reactions.

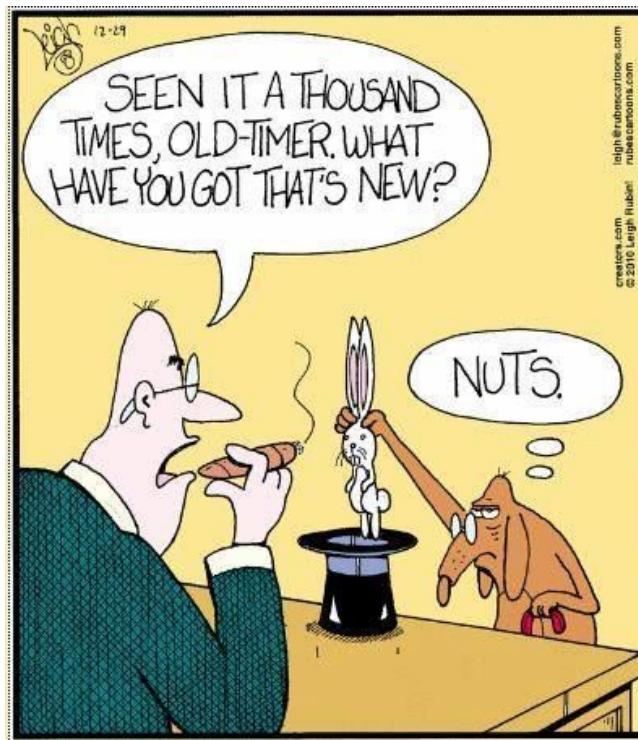
The first magician he ever saw was Blackstone Jr. From there, he was hooked. Heavily influenced by Eugene Burger, Paul is only one of a few to be asked to sit on the board of McBride’s mystery school as well as being one of the instructors. Paul currently is the resident magician at Disney Land. He only works six days a month. He submits a schedule to Disney a month ahead of time letting them know his “off days”. Talk about a dream gig! I asked Paul if he used an agent. His reply was nobody wakes up and says, “what can I do for Paul Draper today?” While he does have his name listed with several agencies, he mentioned nobody can sell yourself better than you.

Good advice. I also asked about the current state -of- affairs with Facebook, Twitter, Instagram etc., and the current flack Justin Flom has come under for exposing magic for “likes” on Facebook. Paul mentioned something Eugene Burger told him once. “Make your choice. Your “job” or your “career.”” Paul also explained that when you hit a million views on Facebook, you get a check! Well-spoken. I also asked Paul how important magic history is. He stated, “Very important. You have to know who came before you so you can understand how to improve on the effect.” I asked him about bad magic. He mentioned there is no bad magic or bad tricks, just bad presentation. We talked a bit more and then said our goodbyes. If you ever get a chance to see Paul lecture, or catch him at a convention, make sure you do!

## Downloaded Tricks

by Steve Zuehlke

Not sure how many of you buy downloads but that seems to be the new way to market and sell magic. Not all, but most of these are a single trick or just a single sleight that can be found in most magic books. I recently saw a move that the creator said was inspired by our own Chris Kenner. As soon as I watched the trailer, I knew that Chris was inspired by his mentor, our own John Mendoza. And, of course, John published the move almost forty years ago in a book. You can still find the book for approximately twenty-five dollars. The download was ten dollars for one “move.” Another recent download that I saw is a trick I have been doing since high school. Also priced at ten dollars. Something to keep in mind with these “trailers” is that not all appear as it is. Some of these trailers just flat out lie. Once you get the download, you will soon find out that it doesn’t work just like the trailer showed. The camera is a great tool. And so is the EDIT function. Let the buyer beware. As side note, you usually see a few effects on these trailers that are NOT INCLUDED in the download. Very misleading indeed.



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