

September



the International Brotherhood of Magicians

RING #1

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

Living Legends

September 1, 2021

6:30pm: Meet & Greet with I.B.M. Int'l President Ken Scott
7:00pm: A discussion with Virginia & John Apperson and Trudy
& Harry Monti, moderated by Tom Reilly

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

*Our Guests of Honor have requested that all attendees either
have had the COVID vaccine or wear a mask.*

President's Message

by Scott Smith

I am so excited for our first in-person meeting September 1, 2021, at the Creve Coeur Dielmann Recreation Center, 11400 Olde Cabin Rd., Creve Coeur, MO 63141. This is the same place we have met for years. Since it has been a while, I wanted to include the address. This meeting is thanks to Steve Zuehlke. He put this amazing meeting together and made it happen. Thank you, Steve! Thank you, Thomas Reilly, for coming to the meeting and emceeding this event. I am excited to see some amazing Rings 'N Things world famous metal products that Tom will be bringing with him to show. Our two local celebrities will be amazing: I could listen to these guys talk about magic for hours. This is going to be an amazing meeting because not only will we have John and Virginia Apperson, and Harry and Trudy Monti, but none other than Ken Scott our new IBM International President will be there in person. What an amazing first time back. For those of you that have not been vaccinated, please wear a mask in respect for our Prestigious Experienced Magicians! From 6:30-7 PM there will be a meet and greet with our International President Ken Scott. I will be there by 5:30 PM to start setting up if anyone would like to join me to get the room set up. If you are wanting to meet in person again, make sure you show up on September 1 because this will determine if we go back to Zoom or continue in person. I personally prefer to meet in person.

I am looking for ideas for October's meeting, let me know if you have any suggestions. November we will be having our Close-up Contest, so start putting your presentation put together. We will have a Board meeting September 15 on Zoom.

I would like welcome our newest member, Brent Lipp! I hope you can make our meeting September 1.

Magic seems to slow down a little over the summer, and this summer was no different. The Fall season is starting and that normally means that people will stop going to the beach and vacations and start getting excited about magic. I have seen a few of my friends performing in public. The 5 magicians that I know that are street performers have told me that they are back to about $\frac{3}{4}$ of where they were before COVID. This is great news. My wife met a magician performing 2 weeks ago in Boulder, CO. His name is Connor O'Carraig. Keep an eye on him. According to many big-name magicians that are posting on his Facebook page, he is an up and comer. He is on a trip from Boulder to Maine. He is now in Omaha, NE. He is posting new pictures every day and getting bigger and bigger crowds. My wife was very impressed which annoys me because she is never impressed with my magic. I guess I am lucky she tolerates my magic at all.

Please support Ickle Pickle (<https://icklepicklemagic.com>) every chance you get. He is the last of our brick-and-mortar magic shops anywhere near St. Louis.

If you ever want to pick up magic that is 6 months to a year old at a substantially discounted price, check out Bobby Bowden. He sells under the Facebook page called Random Magic: Buy

and Sell New & Used Magic! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/359275351256455> Most of his stuff has a regular price of \$25-50, and he sells it for less than \$10. I was able to buy Greg Wilson's Split Focus Coin trick for \$119. It is still selling for \$199 at all the magic shops including Greg's own website. Bobby gets magic at a huge discount from Murphy's Magic when they have too much stock. Every now and then, I will tell him to put a grab bag package together for me for \$100. The last time I did this, I got about 40 items and several of them were decent. Some of them resembled a grocery store toy, but it was still fun to mess around with. Right now, Bobby is selling the new Visible Trick that was just released by Craig Petty last week for \$40 and Bobby is selling it for \$30 including shipping. When Bobby does this, he normally has a limited supply. He only has 2 left out of the 4 he has coming in on Monday if you want this new trick. Josh Weidner and I bought 2 of them last night. Luke Dancy just did a Murphy's Magic demo with Craig Petty this week about the release of this new trick. They are not trying to be sneaky; it is an invisible deck. The difference is that it comes with 4 hours of video teaching us how to do things we never thought of doing with an invisible deck.

Dues will be coming due soon and if you have not paid this year's dues, please help us by paying your dues. This will ensure that we keep doing Zoom meetings as well as in-person meetings. Dues can be paid on our website: <http://www.ibmring1.com/dues-payments> . If you prefer, write a check payable to "IBM, Ring 1" for \$15. Write "2021 Dues" on the memo line. Bring the check to the meeting. Alternatively, Sandy has been so kind as to allow us to use her address to send in your dues. Her address is Sandy Weis, 1755 Elkins Drive, St. Louis, MO 63136.

I am trying to call all the members. I will leave a message if you don't answer and follow it up with an email. If you have not heard from me within 2 weeks, I might not have your information. Please contact me at scott@plato.com or call me: 618-610-5947. I am so excited to get things going again, I love magic!

April 1-3, 2022, we are lucky to have The Senior Tour in Collinsville. Steve Buesking and Steve Zuehlke have put this convention together and has some amazing magicians coming to town. The Senior Tour is scheduled for April 1-3, 2022. Final talent line up is Chris Korn, James Molinari, Allan Ackerman, Mike Powers, Howard Hamburg, Steve Reynolds, Doug Conn, and a rare appearance by Gary Plants. While there is no dealer room, Andrew Hyder from Tennessee Magic Emporium will be on hand with a nice display of books and effects. Steve Z. assure us this will be an event that you don't want to miss. Limited seating so reserve your spot early. Registration opens at 4:00 pm. The convention starts at 7:00 pm Friday and will conclude Sunday at 11:30 am. Registration is 150.00 per person. Payment can be made via PayPal to stlsteve2009@yahoo.com . Make sure to include your name(s) as you would like them to appear on badge. A special room rate of 109.00 is available at the Collinsville DoubleTree. Make sure to mention The Senior Tour to get the room rate and a voucher for two complimentary breakfasts for Saturday and Sunday. Location: The DoubleTree by Hilton Collinsville 1000 Eastport Plaza Dr, Collinsville, IL 62234 US 618-345-2800

Scott Smith
President
I.B.M. Ring 1

June Ring 1 Report

by Sandy Weis et al.

Ring 1 members were looking forward to their first scheduled in-person meeting on August 5th. However, this meeting was cancelled at the last minute due to the Delta variant and replaced with another Zoom meeting. The members who attended enjoyed the evening and learned a lot from the other magicians. The Ring is planning an in-person meeting on September 1st.

Dan Todd shared that he is busy teaching chess through the St. Louis Chess Club. He is very creative and modifies magic effects so they include a chess theme. He recently converted *The Silent Treatment* so that it has a chess theme in it. The force is done with a dartboard effect. In the end, he shows that the selected chess piece was in his mouth the whole time! He has performed this effect twice now and received great responses. A magician recently requested a list of effects he uses which includes chess. Dan sent him a list of 53 effects. Amazing!! Dan told him that some are easy to figure out while others need some explaining. The easiest and one of his oldest favorite effects is *Foiled Fooled Again*. His chess piece cards version of it still baffles the kids. He made two sizes and uses them both.

Michael McClure reports that the days following the I.B.M. Convention have been relatively slow, but this has provided him a welcome opportunity. He is working with his son on the development of a historically-themed Magic tabletop board game with the expectation of an early 2022 release. He received the support of several important creators and magic performers, and he will be seeking additional help from other interested magicians very soon. The game's goal is to provide a fun, educational gaming experience for both magi and fans alike, while funneling some of the profits to support the education of young practitioners of our art. We need to nurture and encourage the next generation of magicians to ensure that audiences in future decades can still benefit from those beautiful "moments of wonder" our craft provides. The game mechanics may also spark an interest to pursue further magic explorations in gaming hobbyists that were not already a part of our fellowship ... at least that is the plan! Michael also continues to expand his research into the early history of Ring 1. Check them out on our website: www.ibmring1.com

Magicians in the St. Louis area have regularly met for years (forty years or more) at the Schnucks Des Peres Store, 12332 Manchester Road every Saturday for the *St. Louis Magic Roundtable*. Magicians bring magic tricks and enjoy talking and learning about magic. This location is temporarily closed and *The Roundtable* is now meeting on the first Saturday of each month at 1:30 pm at Panera Bread, 1074 Sunset Hills Plaza, Sappington, MO 63127. On June 5th, approximately twenty magicians attended. Even out of town magicians attended (Dan Fleshman, Jim Holmes from Branson, and Keith Alan from Marion). Both Randy Kalin and Dan Fleshman brought their bag of tricks and kept everybody entertained. Thanks to Trudy Monti-Monteith for organizing and advertising this monthly event.

Variant Musings

by Zuehlke

After our summer break, August 5th was our first scheduled IN-PERSON Ring meeting. At the last minute, the Delta variant appeared and forced us back to Zoom Land. With only eight members in attendance, it seems like most of us are “burned out” on the virtual world and want to be back in person and be more like most other venues that have re-opened for business. The August 5th meeting was short and sweet with several members performing their favorite effects and even teaching the methods. Looking forward to next month’s live meeting with a panel discussion with past national Presidents, John Apperson and Harry Monti, hosted by Tom Reilly. This promises to be a great evening of fun, history and magic and will include some faces that haven’t been seen in a longtime. You don’t want to miss it.

I HATE CARD TRICKS - Just kidding, I love card tricks. I really do. In fact, when I get the Linking Ring, usually the first thing I read is Mike Power’s Card Corner. Some reasons that cards are so popular are the facts that they are cheap and you get fifty-two of them. Another reason is they are relatively inexpensive. At the turn of the century and through the depression when money was tight, it was one of the few things a magician could actually afford. Add to that the different arrangements fifty-two cards have, you have an inexhaustible supply of material.

Card magic can be broken down into several categories. Of course, this is only my opinion. The first category is self-working/subtle card magic. These effects work virtually by themselves without the aid of any sleight-of-hand. Usually these effects use mathematics or pre-arrangements. There are some great effects that are totally self-working. And what’s nice, they always work! Keep in mind that most laypeople know a few self-working tricks themselves. Try to stay away from effects that use a lot of counting. Nothing will put an audience to sleep faster than counting cards. Kind of like counting sheep!

The second category is sleight of hand card magic. This can be broken into two groups: card tricks for magicians and card tricks for laypeople. Card tricks for magicians are just that for magicians only. These effects are interesting but are generally boring for the layperson. These are the things we do for each other or the late night sessions at a magic convention. Maybe that’s why some of us find card tricks boring. But remember, these ideas and crazy plots become the stepping stones that lead to some of the current effects that are being sold on the market today.

While there are hundreds of books on card magic, a few recommended reads would be Karl Fulves’ Self Working Card Magic and Karl Fulves’ More Self Working Card Magic as well as John Scarne’s Card Tricks. These books require NO SLEIGHT OF HAND and are loaded with good, clean card magic designed with the lay person in mind.

If you want to dip your toe in the water and want to learn some basic card sleights, I recommend Royal Road to Card Magic.



Danny Archer owns the smoke and mirrors theatre in suburban Philadelphia, and he is offering a discount for virtual viewing for magicians and their friends and family only. The code is "MAGICIANONLY" (without the double-quotes). This discount is good for any live show/Video on Demand show/rental until Oct 14, 2021.

The show has an opening act plus a featured magician. The shows are identified as family or adult entertainment. The cost is typically \$20 and is \$10 with the code.

<https://streamingliveshows.uscreen.io/catalog>

Scroll down until you see "Upcoming Shows" or "Available to Rent /Video on Demand". Scroll to the right to view all shows.

Click on the show you want to see. Click the purple "Get Access Now" button. Create an account and a password.

On the payment screen, enter your PayPal or credit card information and, on the right where it says discount code, enter "MAGICIANONLY" (without the double-quotes).

The watch code you will get via email is unique to you only... if you share the code with someone else, only one of you will be able to view the show.

It is OK to share the code with your friends and family so they can purchase tickets also.



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.

Upcoming Events

Magic Conventions

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

I.B.M. and Ring 1 Events (US Central time)

Date	Event
Sep 1, 2021, 6:30pm	St. Louis Magic Living Legends (in-person)
Sep 15, 2021, 7pm	Board meeting (virtual)
Oct 6, 2021	Meeting, Topic TBA
Nov 3, 2021	Ring 1 Competition
Apr 1-3, 2022	The Senior Tour (in-person conference)

2021 Mid-West Magic Jubilee cancelled.

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

Magic Round Table

Most should know that St. Louis has a Round Table, a gathering of local magicians that have been meeting every Saturday for the last forty years or so. Check out our Ring One Facebook page (link below), hosted by our own Michael McClure for updates as to when the Round Table will meet next.

<https://www.facebook.com/IBM-Ring-1-137745769621072>

Magifest

Magifest in Columbus, OH, is Sep 16 - 18, 2021. Several of our members will be attending. If you are interested in planning something together with other Ring 1 members, please contact Scott Smith (contact info on last page).



Virginia & John Apperson



Trudy & Harry Monti

Living Legends

September 1, 6:30pm, Ring 1 Meeting

We'll open the meeting with a meet and greet with I.B.M. International President Ken Scott! We'll continue the evening with TWO St. Louis Magic Living Legends, John Apperson and Harry Monti, and their wives. Behind every great man stands a great woman, and these two are no exception. The evening will be moderated by Tom Reilly, who is an apparatus historian and has one of the biggest collections of Rings N Things (RNT) products in the Midwest. Tom has graciously agreed to bring a small display of RNT props for all to look at. RNT made some of the finest metal products as well some unique apparatus that has yet to be duplicated in quality and workmanship. John and Harry were both instrumental in RNT's success. Hear these two past SAM National presidents talk about the founding of the company, how they came up with prototypes, and the unique finish that was applied to all of their products as well as Harry's performing days at the famed Magic Castle. Find out from their wives what attracted these two ladies to the "magic." Both women have assisted their husbands on stage in numerous shows across the country as well helped behind the scenes at numerous magic conventions across the country.

Our Guests of Honor have requested that all attendees either have had the COVID vaccine or wear a mask.



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Guests of Honor

Harry and Trudy Monti

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618-345-2800**

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**Special room rate of \$109.00
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What's wrong with this photo?