



The Spirit • The Official Newsletter of I.B.M. Ring 1 • Sept 2022

What's Going On

Jeff Lefton, St. Louis' own and known by many of you, just had an article published in this month's Genii Magazine. The article is a review of Nashville, Tennessee's House of Cards. It is an amazing place. Bring your Credit Card because the dinner is \$100 to \$300 per person before cocktails. You will be fed well at \$300. The closeup and stage magic is first rate, too.

I spent a week traveling to the Chicago Magic Lounge in Chicago, the American Museum of Magic in Marshall, Michigan, and the 84th Abbotts Gathering in Colon, Michigan. The Chicago Magic Lounge is a great place for a show. The food is best described as appetizers; there is a ticket charge, based on the performers, much like any entertainment venue in St. Louis. Mac King was worth the drive.

I had never heard of this museum, but the props, posters and paraphernalia once used by Blackstone, Houdini, Doug Henning, among others, were fascinating. A history museum unlike any other. If you are in the area, it is worth your time. In fact, the Board member, who gave us the tour, offered to lecture to the Ring. His name is Jeffrey Alan, and I believe he is part of the International Board of the IBM. Jeffrey is coming through St Louis in November. Please tell someone on the board if interested.

Abbotts was a very different convention experience. There are no hotels in Colon and there is only one flashing stop light. There are five restaurants, two open in the morning and three open after 2 p.m. Colon defines itself as the Magic Capitol of the World. Its junior and senior high school define its athletes as Magi.

You can rent a room, possibly a cabin, should you wish to stay in town. I got the cabin with bunk beds. I got the lower bunk and have envisioned a second career as a contortionist getting in and out of the lower bunk. Bunk beds are not for adults over the age of 50.

The following are a few things that I thought worth sharing from Colon. Lance Burton lectured about magicians quitting on their tricks. A coin trick was taught to Mac King and Lance when they were in high school. A handkerchief is shown on both sides. A coin is placed on the handkerchief. The fabric covers the coin, but it is obviously removed and

the coin appears to be put into the magician's pocket. The handkerchief is opened and the coin returns onto the handkerchief. The trick is repeated with the coin returning again and again.

Later, the final coin revelation is pulling a coin out of a spectators ear, not from the handkerchief. This is a Jim Buffaloe trick found in Bobo.

That was the trick for years. One day while leaning forward to pull the coin from the spectators ear, Lance noticed a water glass on the table behind him. With everyone focusing on the forward motion on the coin, he grabbed the water glass with the handkerchief in his other hand. Tada, a drink was immediately produced. That was the trick for years until Mac King came behind him and placed a beer into his hand holding the handkerchief while pulling the coin. That worked for years.

Years later, Lance was pulling a coin from a friends ear, simultaneously taking his beer with him under the handkerchief, giving a wink, then producing the coin, then the bottle of beer. He offered the beer back to his friend.

Years later Mac King told him, "You don't have to know the person." When pulling the coin from their ear, Mac said, "Here, give me that." The audience thought he was talking about the coin, Mac was taking the person's cocktail under a handkerchief, reproducing the coin then cocktail to great applause. The drink was then returned to the gentleman.

The same trick, tweaked just a little each time, made it a stronger effect over a period of forty years. The lesson: the trick is never finished.

Oh yes, Lance Burton did a shout out for us that will be on the Ring 1 website. I asked Lance and he agreed to do a Zoom style lecture for the Ring assuming the Ring is interested. We will need to check on dates but let the board know if you have a date preference. Lance's lecture was fascinating and was followed by an open Q&A for 25 minutes.

During the Q&A Lance was asked if he would leave retirement from his family farm outside Louisville, Kentucky to do another residency, he replied: "I have a short answer, and a long answer; 1. No. 2. Hell no."

For those getting paid to do shows, I had dinner with a family show magician with the third highest total of magician reviews on Google in the U.S. He found that many people are looking at reviews on Google to make purchase decisions. After he had 20 positive reviews, he found his phone ringing asking him to do more shows.

The most interesting idea was a thank you gift of post-it notes for the person that booked him. A paper wrapped around the post-it notes has 'Thank You' written on it. The wraparound is stuck to the post-it pad by a single piece of double stick tape on the back.

When the flap on the paper wrap is opened to reveal the post-it, there is an inside printed note thanking the client for the opportunity to entertain. There is a single sentence that said, if they enjoyed the show, to please post their thoughts on Google. His QR code to his website was at the bottom of the wraparound.

Any time the pad is used, the client will see the "Thank You". Positive reviews have been received up to four months after the show.

Additionally, a thank you email is sent the next day as additional reinforcement, with a QR code at the bottom of the email.

The total cost for the "Thank you" is less than a dollar. If you want to be noticed, or booked, getting a QR code in your clients' hands appears to work at little cost to you.

Performance idea: Mike Caveney brought four children, two boys, two girls, ages 9 to 12 on stage. Mike brought out a change bag and offered each child to reach in and take some candy as an early thank you. Mike commented on the candy pulled for each child. The first three kids pulled out a Blow Pop, Tootsie Roll, and a boxed candy. The fourth child received a packet of soy sauce from a Chinese restaurant. The children's reactions to the soy sauce packet sent the house roaring with laughter. The effect was done. Each child was offered candy again, but the fourth child got soy sauce packets again. I don't know if the fourth child received compensatory candy or not, but the kid's reactions had 500 people laughing.

An adult party could use small bottles of liquor, and the fourth adult get the soy sauce packets. Just an idea.

In the shared tricks area, Steve Zuehlke shares a Brother John Hamann effect. It is doable by all.

Finally, please don't forget we have a Fall Show on Saturday, October 22 at 2pm and 7pm. Please come, and bring friends with you. A great turnout will make the shows that much more entertaining.

All the best to you and yours,

Steven Buesking

President of I.B.M. Ring 1

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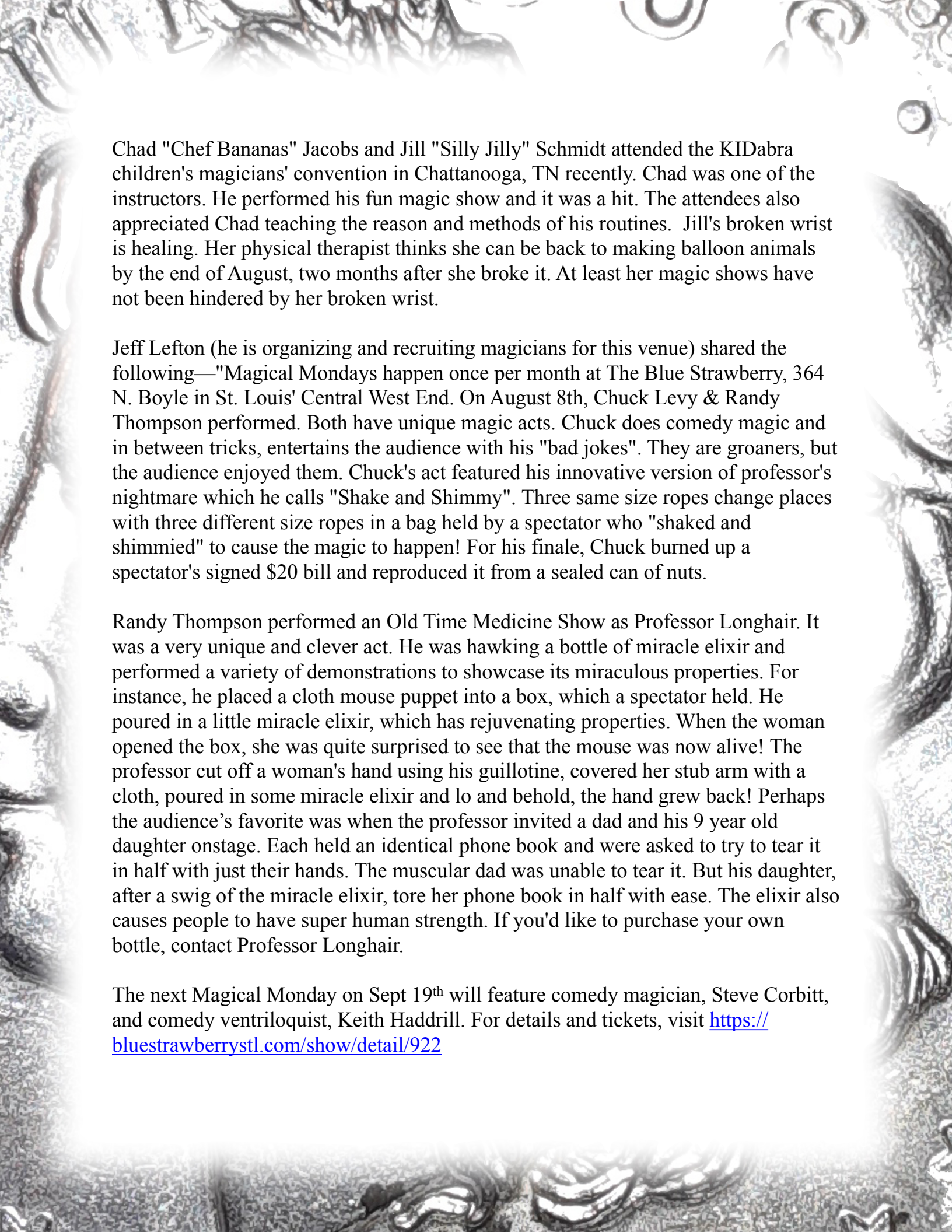
Ring 1 Report

by Sandy Weis et al.

An annual tradition for Ring 1 has been the August ice cream social. However, this year Glenn Morphew was available to lecture during August. Glenn is well known for his appearance on Penn & Teller: Fool Us in 2011 (This can be viewed online. He performed his version of the classic Card to Pocket routine using 6 signed cards. Penn & Teller loved the routine but it did not fool them. It fooled me!). The Board made the decision to cancel the ice cream social and instead have the lecture. When surveyed, members commented that they want more lectures so the lecture was booked. Normally the Ring meets at the Dielmann Recreation Center. However, the President was able to book a room at the St. Louis County Library branch in Clayton. Meeting rooms need to be reserved but are free for patrons to use. This saved the expense of the Ring's normal rental fee. The lecture was titled the "Unconventional Lecture." Beforehand, Glenn sent out a trailer inviting magicians to attend, a list of effects he would be teaching/performing, and several testimonials regarding his lecture.

Steve Zuehlke shared the following--Tuesday, August 9th was the Glenn Morphew lecture. This month the Ring moved its location to the Clayton Library. A great venue that I am sure we will be using it again. To quote our President, Steve Buesking, "The man is brilliant, engaging, and anyone that attends will walk away better than they started. I cannot recommend his lecture enough." Glenn's lecture was jam packed with great material for the working magician, most of which was well within the reach of the average performer. Tricks with rings and ropes (his Ring and Rope routine was awesome with eleven magic moments), dice, finger rings, bills (Glenn did an awesome routine five bills with THREE different changes!!), cards (Glenn shared his in the air one hand top palm and his in the air rub a dub vanish), etc. Along with tricks, Glenn shared insights on practicing, palming, breaking in new material, etc. Very well received. This reviewer loved it. Afterwards a bunch of us, including Glenn, headed over to O'B Clark's for a quick bite to eat where magic kept going for a few more hours.

Sandy Weis shared that she felt Glenn's lecture was excellent. It was very well organized, entertaining, and jam packed with magic. It was a lecture that any magician would enjoy—from beginner to advanced. After the lecture, he had effects, downloads, etc, for sale. He bundled the individual items together and gave huge discounts to the attendees.



Chad "Chef Bananas" Jacobs and Jill "Silly Jilly" Schmidt attended the KIDabra children's magicians' convention in Chattanooga, TN recently. Chad was one of the instructors. He performed his fun magic show and it was a hit. The attendees also appreciated Chad teaching the reason and methods of his routines. Jill's broken wrist is healing. Her physical therapist thinks she can be back to making balloon animals by the end of August, two months after she broke it. At least her magic shows have not been hindered by her broken wrist.

Jeff Lefton (he is organizing and recruiting magicians for this venue) shared the following—"Magical Mondays happen once per month at The Blue Strawberry, 364 N. Boyle in St. Louis' Central West End. On August 8th, Chuck Levy & Randy Thompson performed. Both have unique magic acts. Chuck does comedy magic and in between tricks, entertains the audience with his "bad jokes". They are groaners, but the audience enjoyed them. Chuck's act featured his innovative version of professor's nightmare which he calls "Shake and Shimmy". Three same size ropes change places with three different size ropes in a bag held by a spectator who "shaked and shimmied" to cause the magic to happen! For his finale, Chuck burned up a spectator's signed \$20 bill and reproduced it from a sealed can of nuts.

Randy Thompson performed an Old Time Medicine Show as Professor Longhair. It was a very unique and clever act. He was hawking a bottle of miracle elixir and performed a variety of demonstrations to showcase its miraculous properties. For instance, he placed a cloth mouse puppet into a box, which a spectator held. He poured in a little miracle elixir, which has rejuvenating properties. When the woman opened the box, she was quite surprised to see that the mouse was now alive! The professor cut off a woman's hand using his guillotine, covered her stub arm with a cloth, poured in some miracle elixir and lo and behold, the hand grew back! Perhaps the audience's favorite was when the professor invited a dad and his 9 year old daughter onstage. Each held an identical phone book and were asked to try to tear it in half with just their hands. The muscular dad was unable to tear it. But his daughter, after a swig of the miracle elixir, tore her phone book in half with ease. The elixir also causes people to have super human strength. If you'd like to purchase your own bottle, contact Professor Longhair.

The next Magical Monday on Sept 19th will feature comedy magician, Steve Corbitt, and comedy ventriloquist, Keith Hadrill. For details and tickets, visit <https://bluestrawberrystl.com/show/detail/922>

Dan Todd shared the following: “Performing at Children’s Hospital on their CCTV is interesting when callers do not volunteer to pick a card or think of something. However, the staff at the hospital is willing to help out on camera. Last week I had a caller and it assured me that someone was actually watching my show. Then I found out that they put my performance on the large screen TV in the family play room. I got even more positive feedback and all is well again. We need this feedback. We thrive on it. Seemingly instant gratification, except you had created the show, practiced it often, perfected various aspects of it, and made it your own. Not exactly instant gratification! As an amateur, I always try to change it up. I vary the effects so that those that have seen me last month are going to see a new show. I once had a staffer comment on my rarely repeating effects as a breath of fresh air. They were enjoying each show and never a dull moment. I try. Yes, yes, I know we are supposed to create an act and perfect it like a pro. Well, I like variety and it is my act. Since I get repeat customers, perhaps something is working. Bear in mind that, unfortunately, some patients come back many times to the hospital. One patient has been coming back every week 7-8 weeks in a row. Others have been back in the hospital each month for several months. To each his own.”

Steve Zuehlke shared the following—On July 28th, S.A.M. Assembly 8 hosted a lecture given by Jimmy Molinari entitled “Introduction to Cards.” IBM Ring 1 members were invited free of charge. Jimmy was a friend of Marlo and is recognized as an expert in the field of card magic. It was a “hands-on” lecture and Jimmy personally helped those in attendance perfect their sleights. He also provided complimentary lecture notes to those in attendance.

Darrell Peplow posted a photo on Facebook on August 7th with the caption “Getting ready for Santa”. Besides magic, Darrell also plays Santa Claus during the holidays. (Check out his photo—he looks like the “real” Santa Claus. He attended the recent lecture, and members had to look twice before they were able to recognize him).



The Ring is preparing for its upcoming close-up contest in September. Visitors are always welcome to attend the Ring’s meetings and activities.

Sandy Weis

Ring 1 Close-Up Competition on Sep 7, 2022, at 7 p.m.

Please contact Gary S. Chan at ring1newsletter@finderstellers.com to register as a contestant.

As usual, there will be a beginner/intermediate division and advanced division. You'll receive further details upon registration, but if you are keen to read ahead, here are the contest rules: <https://bit.ly/3B66xma>



International Brotherhood of Magicians
Spirit of St. Louis
RING ONE
THE Home of MAGIC in St. Louis

CLOSE-UP MAGIC COMPETITION



September 7, 2022, at 7 p.m.
Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Open to the public.

Location:
Dielman Recreation Center
11400 Olde Cabin Rd.
Creve Coeur, MO 63141

Contact information:
Gary S. Chan
617-418-4468
ring1newsletter@finderstellers.com

IBMRING1.COM



NOTE:
The deadline
for contest registration
is September 2.



Happy birthday to Harry Monti!

Join us for our annual President's Banquet!

Sunday, October 9, at 5 p.m.

Rosalita's Cantina - Des Peres

12796 Manchester Rd

Des Peres, MO 63131

This year, we are trying something different. We're not collecting money up-front, but each guest is responsible for their own dinner bill. As a group, we need to meet a minimum spend, so please come hungry! RSVP with the number of guests by contacting Scott Smith by September 30, 2022.

Blue Strawberry

Our magical line-up continues!

See page below with scheduled dates.

<https://bluestrawberrystl.com/show/detail/922>

If you are interested in performing, please contact Jeff Lefton at jlefton@q4solutions.com or 314-608-6547.

In the August issue of Genii, there is a review of the House of Cards in Nashville written by our own Jeff Lefton! Congrats.

You must be a subscriber to have access.

<https://geniimagazine.com>

[Volunteer for Ranken Jordan Children's Hospital](#)

Put a smile on children's faces! Volunteer to perform on Sep. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 11, and/or Dec 12.

Contact D. Jay at djay1000@yahoo.com

Magic Trick: Bro John Hamman's Sky Hook

This is an effect Brother Hamman taught to a group at a weekend lecture years ago. To my knowledge, this has not been seen in print. The required moves are a card force and an add-on move. You will also use one duplicate card. You will need to add a pencil dot on the matching card of the duplicate. For sake of instruction, we will use the four of clubs.

Begin by removing the pack from its case but leaving the duplicate in the case as you set this aside. Cut the pack into two piles. Have a pile selected that contains the four of clubs. Your favorite method works here. Force the four of clubs, have the card noted and returned, and let the spectator shuffle. Remember, this selection has a pencil dot on it for easy identification. You take the pack back and PRETEND to remove the selection and HANG IT ON A SKY HOOK above the tabled card box. At this point, you explain that their card has vanished from the pack. You begin spreading a small amount of cards (four to six cards) and turn them face up to show their card is not in this group. These cards are squared and dropped face up on the table. You will continue this process showing small groups of cards, turning them face up and dropping them on the pile on table. While doing this, you will eventually spot the pencil dotted card (the selection). Once spotted, turn a small group of cards face up onto the selection. While spreading the cards to show their selection is not in this group, you will add the FACE DOWN selected card to the group and again, square this packet and drop them onto the table. At this point you have a pile of face up cards on the table with the selected card face down buried near the top of the pack. Continue until all the cards are dealt face up showing their card has vanished. Pretend to reach up to the SKY HOOK to remove their card and say "Oops, I dropped it." Pick up the box and give it a shake. A card can be heard rattling. Reach inside the box and show the selected card.



OLD TIME MAGIC SHOP
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HIGH RIDGE, MO 63049

DAN HARLAN LECTURE



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2022, @ 7 PM

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SEE DAN IN PERSON AT OLD TIME MAGIC SHOP! TICKETS ARE \$20.00. CALL THE SHOP AND GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY OR GET THEM AT OLDTIMEMAGICSHOP.COM!

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Scheduled Events:

The St. Louis Magic Roundtable meets every Saturday at 1:30 p.m. at Dierbergs, 1080 Lindemann Rd, Des Peres, MO 63131. Check the following website for the latest information before attending each week: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/374210993307299>

Board meetings are generally held the third Wednesday of each month over Zoom (virtual meeting), and all members are welcome to attend. To attend, please contact the President and Secretary (contact info on last page).

All events are in-person unless otherwise indicated.

Date	Event
Sept. 7, 2022, at 7 p.m.	Ring 1 close-up competition
Sept. 9, 2022, at 7 p.m.	Dan Harlan Lecture at Old Time Magic Shop
Sept. 12, 2022	Ranken Jordon Volunteer Performance
Sept. 19, 2022 at 7 p.m.	Blue Strawberry, Steve Corbitt & Keith Haddrill (comedy ventriloquist)
Oct. 7, 2022, at 7 p.m.	TBA
Oct. 9, 2022 at 5 p.m.	President's Banquet at Rosalita's Cantina Des Peres
Oct. 10, 2022	Ranken Jordon Volunteer Performance
Oct. 17, 2022	Blue Strawberry, Jeff Lefton, Murder Mystery Magic Show
Oct. 22, 2022. 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.	Magic and Mahem, Two stage shows for the general public at the Florissant Civic Center Theatre
Nov. 2, 2022, at 7 p.m.	TBA
Nov. 11, 2022	Ranken Jordon Volunteer Performance
Nov. 14, 2022	Blue Strawberry, Tim Shegitz magician & improv comedy act from The Improv Shop
Nov. 2022	Midwest Magic Jubilee (TBA)
Dec. 7, 2022, at 7 p.m.	Ring 1 meeting and White elephant gift exchange
Dec. 12, 2022	Ranken Jordon Volunteer Performance
Dec. 12, 2022	Blue Strawberry, Matt Hampel, magician & Mark Howell, mentalist
Dec. 17, 2022	Veteran's Show at Kirkwood Theatre
April, 20-22, 2023	The Senior Tour at Double Tree in Collinsville, IL

I.B.M. Ring 1 Contact Information

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