



## Jim Krenz Lecture

May 5, 2021  
7:00PM Central



**94 Years Of Magic!**  
International Brotherhood of Magicians  
*"Spirit of St. Louis"*



**RING ONE**

## President's Message

by Terry Richison

Hi Everyone,

This has been a very busy month. Shows for everyone are starting to pick back up. I have performed several After-Prom Parties, Birthday Parties, and even a Life Memorial celebration for a local celebrity. But even though more events are taking place, our meeting place is still not open, so we will continue with our online meetings for a couple of more months at least. I want to thank everyone who attended our last meeting with Craig Petty. What a great lecture! Craig was not selling anything, only giving of his knowledge and talent. I want to give Craig a big thanks for a great lecture. We had over 75 people with us online (Zoom and FaceBook). On May 5th, I expect we will have another great crowd for Jim Krenz. Check out the I.B.M. Ring 1 website ([www.ibmring1.com](http://www.ibmring1.com)) and/or page 10 of this newsletter for some great info on Jim and what he will be teaching, you can watch on Facebook or on Zoom. The Zoom link will be sent out next week.



I have some good news and bad news. The bad news is that we still have not found who has the Midwest Magic Jubilee and Ring 1 History books. I ask everyone to look around again and make sure it is not stashed in a closet or corner somewhere. We just want to get it back. The good news is that a friend and great columnist for The Linking Ring, Rich Heath, recently contacted me. He was in possession of a massive amount of old newspaper articles and history about Ring 1. He is donating them to Ring 1. When I say old, they go back to the 1920s and feature magicians of the day, including Andy Buel, I.B.M. Ring 1 President and the man who came up with the idea of calling the I.B.M. clubs, Rings. This good fortune doesn't replace our missing history books, though. Webmaster Mike McClure has offered to scan, photograph, and help start putting together our history books again. So I want to thank Rick Heath for donating these gems of our history. If you haven't read Rick's column in The Linking Ring, I highly recommend you start. Also, thanks to Mike McClure for all the time he has and will be putting in, painstakingly trying to preserve these newspaper articles.

Don't forget Mother's Day is coming up on May 9th. Be sure to tell your mom or your kid's mom, how much you love her. Remember, she did watch you practice the same trick over and over again and never looked bored. Also, May is the election month for I.B.M. Ring 1 officers and board. Scott Smith has thrown his hat into the ring for president and D. Jay Lenz did the same for vice president. Steve Finkelstein, Mike McClure, and Ted Schnarre are running for the board positions. Sandy Weis and Alan Zibits are running for Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. If no other nominations come in by May 1, this will be the new slate of officers and board for 2021.

See you at our May 5th meeting!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry Richison". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

President  
I.B.M. Ring 1

# Ring 1 Report

by Sandy Weis et al.

Another month of “virtual” meetings, lectures, and conventions! However, it appears that soon, these will be able to resume in person. The members have adjusted to the “virtual world” and it seems as if some of these will continue. For example, Ring 1 has a monthly Board Meeting via Zoom and most Board Members attend. Ring 1 members would like this to continue since members live in such a wide-spread area and this enables everyone to attend. The members are looking forward to seeing others who have not been able to meet virtually.

Michael McClure shared the following: “As the Pandemic is hopefully winding down, I have been trying to take advantage of the educational opportunities provided in every virtual lecture. Many of these top tier performers will soon be abandoning the Zoom format and returning to their in-person schedules. I would encourage everyone to seek out these valuable resources while they still exist, even if you are suffering from Zoom-fatigue. My son and I continue the development of a table-top game with a deep Magic theme ... it will be an homage piece to the great past performers upon whose shoulders we stand. Current performers will also be included in the game, and entertainer Alex Ramon has kindly offered his input and support as we progress. Proceeds from this project will be donated to aid our youth magic educational mission. Our Ring1 Facebook exposure continues to grow, and the recent Craig Petty lecture was very well attended. Future lectures will be viewable LIVE on our Zoom account and simulcast on Facebook. Please continue to check our website at [www.ibmring1.com](http://www.ibmring1.com) to keep apprised of the offerings. While there, be sure to visit our tribute to the earliest leaders of Ring 1. This is an ongoing, growing exhibit that showcases the people who created a viable formula for fun and kept magic alive in St. Louis.”

The Ring has missed seeing Dan Todd at recent virtual lectures. He submitted the following: “I have about 47 Chess Magic Effects that I modified or made. I even made one using Barry Mitchell’s Magic Box. I changed the box’s contents to Gold and Silver chess pieces and modified the routine also. I asked Barry for permission for various levels of use (local, videos, and on-line), and he replied graciously that I could. Very nice man! The Chess Club filmed me recently in order to create several videos of my chess magic to use for the online chess classes. This is the reason why I had contacted Barry. St. Louis Children’s Hospital has made some more changes and will start having me perform again for them using Zoom. We had used videos for a while during the first year of the pandemic. The staff also asked if I would play chess online with a patient (I used to play chess with the patients at the hospital before the pandemic). I didn’t need to wear a gown and gloves, but I really missed visiting the patients. We played four games and I taught him as we played. He said he learned a lot and had fun. On April 3rd, I set up my Zoltar type booth at Strauss Park (in St. Louis) and taught and played chess for a few hours. The Chess Club came by for pictures. On April 10th, I did not use the booth since it was raining and windy, but they added another park, Steinberg Ice Rink area, for more live chess in the Park. Then again for a few more hours at Strauss Park.” It seems like Dan has been quite busy with magic and chess!

On Wednesday, April 7th Ring One and the Midwest Magic Jubilee cosponsored a lecture

featuring England's own Craig Petty via Zoom. He is known in magic circles as one of the greatest sleight of hand artists in the UK. He is currently the co-host of the Wizard Product Review, the largest magic review show in the world. He has created over 30 instructional DVD's on the art of magic. His lectures have been a huge hit worldwide; however, he rarely lectures, so this was indeed a treat. Steve Zuehlke shared the following: "Craig talked for three hours about a variety of things and, considering the five-hour time difference, my guess is he didn't get to bed until sometime around 4:00 AM his time!!! Craig showed a variety of effects using the Invisible Deck and mentioned he has a new project in the works which should be out soon. Lots of clever ideas, including a prediction with a force book and an amazing Cards Across. Had he not explained it, it would have fooled me bad. Craig also did some coin work using a split coin. Great stuff and well within the reach of the average magician. Craig also did a nice coin/sponge tomato transposition ending with the production of a steel ball bearing! He also shared insights on creating and marketing magic, downloads and the reason magicians carry silly things (i.e. Rope, Colored Sticks, Morgan Dollars, etc.). Craig's version of Extreme Burn was well received, too. While Craig could have turned this into a dealer demo, he chose not to have anything for sale. Instead, he wanted us to "like and subscribe" to his You Tube channel. Craig and his eight-year son, Ryland, put out twelve hours of viewing content per week. I have long been a watcher and always find something new and interesting. Hats off to James Gallagher for suggesting Craig, Terry Richison for making the arrangements, and our Zoom Moderator and Facebook Host, Mike McClure. Excellent job to ALL! I believe we had approximately fifty people in attendance, making this one of the more successful Zoom lectures in quite some time."

On April 8th, IBM Ring 1 and Sam Assembly 8 cosponsored a lecture featuring Louie Foxx, via Zoom. Steve Zuehlke shared the following: "Charming, funny, and witty are a few words that come to mind. You can tell that Louie really enjoys what he is doing just by his "laugh" alone. This lecture had something for everybody. Coins, mentalism, close-up, forces, tricks with Alexa, bills, tricks with a cell phone, dice, cups, and so much more. Louie graciously donated his time and the only thing he asked in return was a small donation to either the IBM or SAM Endowment Fund. Talk about giving back to the community! Louie is well-read, well-versed, tech-savvy, experienced in sleight-of-hand, and a DIY guy (Do It Yourself). I enjoyed every trick he presented. His take on a mis-made bill is a classic, and I already purchased his CEE-LO Dice Cup routine. This will be in my bag of worker's material shortly. I CANNOT recommend this lecture highly enough. Hats off to Chad Jacobs for booking this amazing talent and hosting and moderating the meeting. Well Done, Chef!"

D. Jay Lenz has requested that members create a "magic" video and submit it to him. Since the members still can't perform magic in person at Shriners Hospitals for Children, St Louis, the staff would like to show these videos to the patients.

The Midwest Magic Jubilee, which is cosponsored by Ring 1 and Assembly 8, has been cancelled for 2021. Please be on the lookout for information regarding the Jubilee which hopefully will take place in 2022.

Please check out our I.B.M. Ring 1 website, [www.ibmring1.com](http://www.ibmring1.com) regularly. Mike McClure continues to enhance the website often. Thank you, Mike, for doing such a great job! In an effort to

make our monthly meetings more accessible to users who don't use Zoom, as well as to potentially increase our membership, the Ring is posting activities on Facebook. We are now using a feature in Facebook called "Boost" which gets more people to view our posts. This is essentially a paid ad since Facebook shows the posts to more people. Mike contributed his own money to boost our club's post to reach more magic fans and prospective members. Help us reach more people. Simply go to our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/IBM-Ring-1-137745769621072/>, and "like" our organization and also "like" our individual posts.

Jill "Silly Jilly the Clown" Schmidt hired an artist to draw a cartoon of her with a magic wand, a balloon chicken, and a whoopee cushion. She mainly wanted it so she could use it as a coloring page. The color version decorates her website. Check it out on Facebook at Silly Jilly the Balloon Artist and Clown, <https://www.facebook.com/SillyJillyTheBalloonArtistAndClown/>. She asked her friends to give their honest input regarding the cartoon. Several revisions were made and now it looks terrific. She recently purchased a small Showtime Magic Table and planned to use it at almost all of her shows. She used it at three birthday parties and decided a case that weighs 30 pounds empty is usually not worth the carrying effort. For birthday parties, she will use her old magic case, which is designed to hold legal-size paper. At most schools and at Eckert's Pumpkin Patch, Silly Jilly plans to use her new Showtime Table since she loves the shelf and also because the table holds bigger props. With the new table wrap JAM Stone Magic is designing, Silly Jilly feels she will be really looking professional!



## Mentalism

by Steve Zuehlke

Last month, I talked about subtleties in card magic. Subtleties are also used heavily in mentalism. Over the last decade or more, mentalism has become extremely popular. Mentalism has been around before the turn of the century with names like Hellstrom, Alexander, Dunninger, Canasta, Annemann, Corinda, Koran, and a host of others. In recent years, names like Brown, Geller, Randi, Banachek, Maven, and Chan come to mind.

To be a successful mentalist, you need a character. Max Maven is a perfect example. From the moment Max takes the stage, he is in command. Max may say something funny, but he won't tell a joke. He may do a trick, but it will be disguised as a mind reading feat. He doesn't wear flashy clothes nor does he use any props that even hint "magic trick." Can you imagine a clown trying to read someone's mind? It doesn't work. That would be a good example of Pseudo-Mentalism.

You may notice that most mental effects and books seem to carry a high price tag. The reason for this is to keep this material out of the hands of the idle curious. I personally own several books that I paid over \$200.00 for approximately twenty years ago. At the time, this was a small fortune but the material contained is invaluable to the working performer. Another good example are membership dues to the Psychic Entertainers Association which I believe are close to \$500.00 annually!

Like with magic, mentalism has its go-to moves/sleights. Billet switches, equivoque, force bags, nail writers, etc., are all tools of the trade for the working performer. Over the years, these devices have found their way into mainstream magic. Fifty years ago, these names would be unfamiliar to the average magician. Along with mentalism comes a host of psychological subtleties and touches. These are things that separate the Superstars from the average performer. These are also the things that can only be found by reading books on psychology. Many performers will not go to these lengths. Please don't explore this type of entertainment if you're not willing to put forth the effort. That would be like wanting to practice medicine without finishing medical school. Always be learning, watching, reading and studying. Study the great mentalists and ask yourself, "What makes them great?"

Mentalism is truly 90% presentation and 10% method. Remember, you apparently have the ability to read minds. That's a pretty powerful ability to have if it really existed.

If you are truly interested in mentalism, a great start is Karl Fulves book, *Self-Working Mental Magic*. For the more serious student, Corinda's *Thirteen Steps to Mentalism* is a must have book. Another recommended reading is *Psychology of the Psychic*.

Next time, we'll talk about nail writers, thumb writers, and Boon writers. I'll leave you with a mind reader joke: Two mind readers are walking down the street. As they pass each other, one says "You're fine, but how am I?"

I plan on continuing writing for several issues so if you have any questions or want me to talk about something specific, drop me a note at [stlsteve2009@yahoo.com](mailto:stlsteve2009@yahoo.com) and put MENTAL in the subject line.

## Scrapbooks Lost

The club has misplaced its Scrapbooks, and we are desperately searching. Aside from recording our history, these scrapbooks will help us prepare for our 100th anniversary publication. These books contain all types of history of Ring One and cannot be replaced. Someone may have these and not even know it. Maybe accidentally packed up with something else and hidden in a garage or a basement. Last known whereabouts was the Mid-West Magic Jubilee under the direction of Mike Niehaus that featured Oscar Munoz and Stephen Bargatze. Maybe you were on Mike's cleanup crew. Please check your closets, basements, garages, etc., to see if we can get these back into circulation so the members can enjoy them. Also, since they have been missing for several years, we have LOTS OF STUFF that need to be added.

If you have any leads or tips, contact Mike McClure at [watson7654321@gmail.com](mailto:watson7654321@gmail.com) or Steve Zuehlke at [stlsteve2009@yahoo.com](mailto:stlsteve2009@yahoo.com). A FREE SURPRISE for their safe return.

## Books - Buyer Beware

by Steve Zuehlke

As most of you know, I dabble in books. There is a reoccurring theme I tend to notice among dealers that I thought I would share. There are countless examples, but let's say a new book comes out on the market with a retail price of \$50.00. Within months, the book sells out and will not be reprinted. Suddenly, the price skyrockets and can only be found on sites such as Ebay, Abe Books, and Amazon at crazy prices. There is nothing wrong with this. But then suddenly, you Google the book from your favorite dealer and an ad appears reading "suggested retail \$50.00, our price \$42.00" with a note reading, "currently out of stock." What's wrong with this? What's wrong is that, when the book was in stock, the store's price was \$50.00. Only after the book went out of print did the store change the ad copy to \$42.00, knowing they are never going to carry this item again. This is just an outright lie.

Some dealers have a policy of no refunds. Only in-store credit will be issued. Using the example above, their ad reads, "out of stock", but we should be getting more copies soon (knowing full well that they won't). So you send in your payment and wait. After many months of waiting, you contact the dealer only to be told the item is discontinued, but you have an in-store credit coming. Very misleading practice.

And lastly, PDF Downloads. When purchasing a book, please read the fine print to make sure you are paying for a hard copy and not a download. Using the same example above, we know the book is out of print. You have checked everywhere and can't find a copy anywhere. Then suddenly, an ad appears for this book at a price of \$39.95. You can't make this purchase quick enough, but you find out later that you just purchased a PDF version.

**BUYER BEWARE!!!**

## 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>

2021 Mid-West Magic Jubilee cancelled.

IBM and Ring 1 Events (US Central time)

Date	Event
May 5, 7pm	Jim Krenz Lecture
July 8-10	IBM Convention <a href="https://www.magician.org/convention/upcoming-convention">https://www.magician.org/convention/upcoming-convention</a>

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@magicofterryrich.com](mailto:Terry@magicofterryrich.com). You can help make the Ring continue to succeed by becoming an office or board member. All nominations must be submitted by April 30, 2021.

## Pancake Breakfast

Francis Howell Middle School, 605 Independence Rd, St. Charles, MO 63304, is asking for performers for their annual 8th grade pancake breakfast on June 7th, 2021, from 8:30 am to 10:00 am. We have the option of using a portable stage or performing close-up. We will need 3 volunteers for the stand-up performance (20 minutes each) or 5 volunteers for close-up magic. For the close-up, social distancing will be observed. There will be 10 to 15 students per table and then they will move to another table.

We will be wearing masks and all performances will be done without volunteers handling any props.

Please let Darryl Lenz (D. Jay) know if you are interested in performing. We have a couple of months before June 7th to line up performers. [djay1000@yahoo.com](mailto:djay1000@yahoo.com)





## **Jim Krenz Lecture on May 5 at 7pm**

Our next Ring 1 meeting will be on May 5, 2021, at 7pm. Jim Krenz will be joining us live! You can join via Zoom or Facebook Live. Links will be sent out via e-mail to Ring 1 members closer to the event.

Jim was interested in magic since 5 years old. Fifteen of those years were spent working for Jay and Francis Marshall at Magic Inc. He regularly performed close-up at Schulien's Restaurant in Chicago. In 1993, he won the Most Valuable Participant award at the prestigious FFF convention.

He has created over three dozen original effects and techniques, and has lectured about them in nine countries. Jim has studied with Ed Marlo, Jim Ryan, Tony Andruzzi, Don Alan, Eugene Burger, Slydini, Tommy Wonder, and Juan Tamariz.

His lecture contains his original ideas, theories, routines and improvements in close-up magic. Focusing on close-up magic, Jim will teach his hands-off Cards Across (wherein the magician legitimately never touches the cards), his torn and restored card (called Ripper, described by Juan Tamariz as his favorite torn and restored card), his Invisible Triumph (this fools everyone!), and his version of Wild Card, which features his impossible card case load (called Imp-Load) which is performed under direct audience observation.

Here is a quote from R. Paul Wilson about Jim's Imp-Load: "I've been fooled badly by this. My friends have been fooled badly by this. Signed card cleanly goes into the deck, vanishes and appears inside the box that's in full view on the table. Highly recommended."

Interspersed throughout the lecture are Jim's theories on creating and performing magic. Topics include identification of preferred participants, making magic matter, the practice of practice, and crafting creativity.

Also featured are his Coins Across (using his "one-behind principle"), his oil and water (called NeoMix), Coincidencia (a coincidence routine with genuinely shuffled cards), and his handling of John Cornelius' Pen Through Anything, which elevates the routine to the status of a miracle.

**See you on May 5!**

WARREN HAMILTON I.B.M. RING 175 PRESENTS

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