

November

94 Years Of Magic!

International Brotherhood of Magicians

"Spirit of St. Louis"



RING ONE

The SPIRIT | Official Newsletter of I.B.M. Ring 1
November 2020 Edition

Steve Zuehlke Lecture

Tips & Tricks

Nov 4, 2020

7:00PM CDT



Zoom information will be sent out via e-mail.

Happy
Thanksgiving



President's Message

by Terry Richison

Hi Everyone,

We had a great meeting last month with Jeff McBride as our guest. There were almost 60 members that joined the meeting. Jeff shared a ton of material. It was great to see everyone and great to hear back from almost everyone regarding how much they liked the meeting. The results were overwhelmingly positive. Thanks again to Steve Finkelstein for setting up the Zoom meeting for us.



During this season of Thanksgiving, we must not forget those who support us in our endeavors, everyday of our lives. We need to be sure to show a little gratitude to those who support us. It might be your spouse, your children, or a friend. They really give up much more than we know. Make sure you let them know how much you appreciate all they do, and show them how much you care for them. Because of those special people in our lives, we can spread our magical joy to millions throughout the world.

With all the stress and turmoil in all of our lives and in the world around us, we as magicians need to take it upon ourselves to make sure that we bring a little joy into everyone's life that watches us perform. Whether you are performing live or online, there is nothing more rewarding than to see the smile and hear the laughter of those that we entertain.

Speaking of entertaining, make sure to attend the Ring 1 November 4th meeting. Steve Zuehlke will be presenting an informal talk about tricks, ropes, cards, DVDs, theory, card revelations, card control, books and a whole lot more. He will also teach a few card tricks and a rope trick that everyone can do. So, bring a pad and paper to make a few notes. There will also be some surprise performers that will be attending as well that will be performing a few miracles. Meeting details will be sent out in a separate email.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry Richison".

I.B.M. Ring 1
President



Ring 1 Report

by Sandy Weis

Ring 1's Board is meeting monthly and thinking of ways to keep our members active and interested in magic. Eight Board Members participated in the last Board meeting. The Close-Up Contest and the Banquet have been postponed. However, D. J. Lenz contacted Shriner's Hospital and they said they would be interested in having Ring 1 members provide online magic to the patients since the Ring's visits have been suspended. All agreed that a lecture via Zoom with Jeff McBride on October 7th would be entertaining and educational for the members. Steve Zuehlke offered to provide a teach in via Zoom for the November meeting. He will cover a variety of magical effects and will be happy to answer any questions members may have. He has requested that if there is something one would like to see or need help with, drop him a note. He promises that there will be something for everyone!

Jeff McBride's lecture was entitled *Transforming Eye Candy into Soul Food: The 8 Steps to Effective Online Magic*. Ring 1 members and their guests could view the lecture at no charge. Jeff shared that this new lecture will give participants new tricks, exciting and practical tools, and techniques that they can use immediately! He also focused on magic effects which are suited for Zoom and other online platforms. He taught concepts and magic effects that he performs in his show. Members were asked to bring questions because after the lecture/show, Jeff would stick around and take questions from everyone. Feedback from the participants was overwhelmingly positive. Everyone really enjoyed his presentation. Steve Zuehlke and Steve Buesking donated two brand new and autographed books (*The Magician and the Cardsharp* by Karl Johnson and *The Secret Life of Houdini* by William Kalush and Larry Sloman) as attendance prizes for this lecture. I really enjoyed the clip he shared featuring a tour of his house. It is amazing!!

The I.B.M. JAM Live recently featured Jonathan Levit with an exclusive lecture and Live Workshop. He presented a wide range of effects. Judging by the comments in the room, everyone loved it. Jonathan is from St. Louis and was a member of Ring 1 while he was growing up. He now resides in Hollywood and is a regular performer at the Magic Castle. His parents, Audrey and Steve Levit, were also members and supporters of Ring 1. Ring 1 members are proud of the accomplishments Jonathan has achieved.

Several of our members have visited the new location of Ickle Pickle Magic located in Park Hills, MO. Jill "Silly Jilly" Schmidt loved visiting the new location and spent two hours perusing. The store is located an hour south of downtown St. Louis. She bought eight tricks, including a confetti bucket that she will put throw streamers in which Ickle Pickle Magic smartly recommended. Steve Epner also took a trip to Park Hills, which you will read about later in this newsletter. If you want to learn more about Ickle Pickle, there is an interesting article to read at dailyjournalonline.com. The Daily Journal is a newspaper in Park Hills, and it featured Ickle Pickle on the front page!

Dan Todd shared that he made a Slate of Mind using chess cards and the students love it. He also gets great reactions with his Chess Coloring Book. He has helped over 100 scouts earn

their Chess Merit Badge so far. Girls are members of Boy Scouts of America now and attend Chess Merit Badge classes too. He is teaching online chess classes this fall at one of the same schools that he has taught at for several years now, Fairview Elementary School in Jennings. He teaches five days a week. The Chess Club and Scholastic Center of St. Louis has challenged their instructors to increase their skill sets and improve their ratings. Dan is constantly creating new effects he can use with his students. Dan recently lost his mother to COVID-19. She was a huge fan of his magic.

Steve Zuehlke shared the following: “Another month of lockdown. Hard to believe how time flies by so quickly. While our meetings have been cancelled, not all of us are afraid to venture out. This month, nine of us got together for a day of fun for our “own IBM meeting.” It was great to see the familiar faces again. We had coffee and doughnuts, then out came the tricks. All of us perform, teach, and mentor each other. Lunch is served, then back to magic. I personally picked up a great tip for the Push through Shuffle, learned a new version of the Cannibal Cards, John Mendoza’s Throwing the Switch, a great Coins Across routine, and Cardini’s Color Change. A mini five-hour session!”

Michael McClure shared the following: “I am very thankful for the varied and high-quality content of magic lectures being offered over the internet. It is heart-warming (and sanity sparing) that so many stellar performers are sharing their time and talents to help all of us improve in the practice of our art. The IBM continues to lead the way in providing much needed distractions from these strange and limiting times. One thing has permanently changed in our avocation ... the virtual performance is here to stay. No matter what degree of normalcy returns in the coming months, a new audience has been groomed for continued entertainment through remotely produced shows. Our IBM Ring 1 has also changed our face on the Internet. I have just finished our new website and launched it in mid-September. With the encouragement of President Terry Richison and several members of the Board, we now have an improved presence and public appeal to attract new members and entice non-practitioners to take up the study of the many forms of magic. I ask that Ring 1 members submit images of themselves in action so we can showcase the fun we have to share. The world is invited to visit www.ibmring1.com to see what the excitement is all about!” E-mail a photo of your performing magic to watson7654321@gmail.com . Your photo may magically appear on our Ring 1 website!

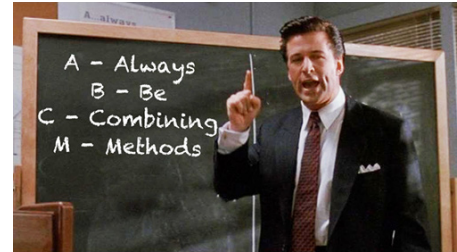
Max Maven Live Lecture

With a career spanning decades, Max has created and published more original magic and mentalism than just about anyone you can name. He has appeared on countless TV shows in multiple countries (and languages!). He has received the Creative Fellowship from the Academy of Magical Arts, and the Allan Slaight Lifetime Achievement Award. Max has crafted a new lecture for the virtual stage, emphasizing mentalism along with principles that can be applied to all varieties of magic. Watch the live broadcast from your computer or mobile device on Tuesday, November 3, 2020, at 8pm Central!

<https://www.facebook.com/IBMMAGIC/>

November Meeting with Steve Zuehlke

Steve Zuehlke will be presenting a teach-in for our November 4 meeting. He will cover a variety of magical effects and will be happy to answer any questions you may have. If there is something you would like to see or need help with, drop Steve a note at stlsteve2009@yahoo.com. There will be something for everyone!



Ickle Pickle

by Steve Epner



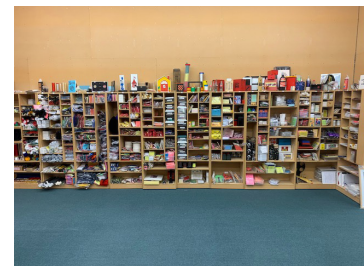
Many of you have similar memories to mine. Going around the back of Steve Bender's house to the magic basement -- it was a dream place. So many cool and some very unusual effects. And most importantly, Steve. He would show you all of the best stuff and take time to make sure you could present what you bought. I never went there without a bag or box of new toys when I left.

Now, there is a new sheriff in town. DJ has taken over. I decided to take a trip down to Park Hills and see the new Ickle Pickle. From 141 (Woodsmill) and Ladue, it was about an hour and 15-minute drive. A bit boring, but easy to do. Was it worth it? You bet.

DJ met me at the door – properly masked (Thank you, DJ). We unloaded some books and magazines for his lending library and then started to look around. Most of you have seen the place on his videos or the presentation he did for the Ring.

Parts are pure old time Ickle Pickle. That is where he is still sorting through all of the “stuff” that came out of Steve's basement. The rest is very organized. Cards are all together, rope is in one place, and mentalism has its own shelves. There is plenty of room to walk around and get lost in thoughts of what you want to take home.

One surprise for me was the fact that DJ has his own boxed magic sets. With the holidays coming up, think about any budding



magicians in your family, even older ones. These are interesting kits and can give a beginner plenty to do while cooped up in the house.

I went looking for some of my old favorites – some of which are lost in my boxes of magic. So, I got a new “Chained” (the ring that links onto a chain). For my friends that love puns, I got the “Square Knot” (and have already got some great laughs). Then, I couldn’t resist an old “Ickle Pickle Nickel.” That was one of the first illusions I got from Steve years ago. We got some gag gifts and even a miniature set of linking rings to amuse myself.



If you miss going to Steve’s basement, consider getting together with a few magic buddies and taking a drive. There is not much else to do in Park Hills, but the drive is worth the fun and the ability to see, buy, and get your selections without waiting for shipping. That is pure magic!

Be Famous: Provide a Headshot of Yourself

We want to make it easier for everyone in the club to learn each other’s names. This will make it more welcoming for new members, too! Please e-mail a photo of yourself to Gary Chan at gschan2000@outlook.com . By sending in a photo, you are consenting for Ring 1 to use your photo for our organization’s purposes (e.g. our website, newsletter). We won’t sell your picture.

Genii Magazines for Sale

Genii magazines for sale. Forty-three years of Genii magazine, from the initial issue in 1936 up through 1979. The first three years are bound as displayed in the photo. These magazines are in 11 magazine boxes like the one shown in the photo. All told, there are 516 issues (or there would be if William Larsen, Jr. hadn’t skipped a few issues to catch up). These magazines, filled with all manner of tricks, vintage ads, magic scene news, convention reports, and magic history, make for great reading. All this for the reasonable price of \$180. Contact Jerry Christensen at jerchristensen@sbcglobal.net .



Focus

by Paul Gordon (republished with his permission)

Lots of magicians have trouble learning magic because they have a problem focusing on one thing at a time. For example, if you want to learn magic from a book it’ll probably take you a week to read it (properly) and another few weeks to try out the content. The same goes for learning marketed routines. It takes time, concentration, and focus. It should also be a joy. Dai Vernon said that if practice is a chore, you best take up another hobby. He also said that magicians go to their magic drawer to find their cups and balls but find rope, coins, and cards instead and subsequently

get waylaid from the cups and balls routine. Focusing is almost a skill in itself, but it's essential for good magic learning. So, may I suggest the following: Pluck a book off your shelf and read it. Once you have read it, read it again with the props nearby. Do this for at least a week before you watch another dvd/video/download etc. You'll find it hard, but I hope you trust me enough to know I'm saying all this to help you. Another reason that magicians come and go is due to the fact that they can't see the woods for the trees due to trying to learn everything at once. They get fed up and can't cope. So, slow down! There's really no rush. X ♥ Paul Gordon MIMC

Magic History

by Steve Zuehlke

Most of you know that I love magic history. While it may not seem important, everyone who practices our art should be well-read. While "jamming" with Jimmy "Cards" Molinari, I found it fascinating he knows the origin or every trick/move he performs. This prompted me to go out on the Web and find out what other people think. Read the comments below. I am glad I am not alone in the world when it comes to magic history. Or history, in general, for that matter.

- It couldn't hurt to know how magicians explored ideas and themes in performance over time.
- Also, now that magic is starting to vet its literature it would be useful to know whose life's work you are using in your act so you can seek them out if you have questions.
- I was always of the school of thought (to steal a quote) that those who do not know history are deemed to repeat it.
- There are so many "inventions" today that have been published in periodicals from fifty years ago. Mike Caveny's and Todd Karr's great tomes are of tremendous value. By reading the biographies of past performers, you can see their development and how they grew.
- Plus, I feel that just reading these books gives me a deeper respect for magic's rich history. That's one reason why I started my one podcast, to record interviews with magicians and share them freely with the community. Their stories (and the ones told by Caveny, Karr and all the others) tell us so much."
- You must respect your predecessors for laying down what we know today.
- Read Steinmeyer's "Hiding the Elephant". If you don't immediately fall in love with the history of magic, then you ain't a magician. Once you've read Steinmeyer's book, watch "The Prestige" on DVD. Even though it's not real history, it has the feel of the era down pat.
- Then read all of the books you can find by the pioneers and perfectors of the magic craft: Hofzinsler, Hoffman, Maskelyne, Annemann, Bobo, Blackstone, Hugard, Corinda, Tarbell, Hay, Scarne, etc. You'll get a real feel for where magic came from, and how it has progressed.
- One thing you'll find that will surprise you - there's almost nothing you can 'invent' in magic that wasn't already invented, in some form, 100 years ago! But knowing the history will allow you to appreciate the subtle twists and embellishments that contemporary magicians have added to the old principles to make magic even more magical than it was when they found it.

Just Google a few of the names mentioned above and a whole new world will open up!

Learn Zoom

With so many great lectures and other events going on the Zoom platform, it's useful to learn how to use it effectively. Check out Zoom's instructional videos:

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206618765-Zoom-video-tutorials>

Upcoming Events

2020 Magic Conventions

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

Ring 1 Events

Date	Event
Nov 4	Magic lecture led by Steve Zuehlke
Dec 2	To be announced

Board Meeting Dates

Board meetings will be held at 7pm on Nov 18 and Dec 16.

Register with Terry Richison to receive the online meeting information. His contact info is on the last page.

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

Volunteer

I know that we are currently fairly light on member requests due to COVID-19, but we are always open to ideas. If you have ideas or wish to volunteer, please contact Terry Richison (contact info on last page).

Project Magic at Shriners will be converting to online. More info will be published when it becomes available.

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