



Greetings fellow Ring 1 members,

With regrets, Steve Buesking is stepping down from being president of our club. He is engaged in volunteer work with a domestic and sexual violence shelter. He will be volunteering many hours per week and will be there on several evenings. Therefore, he has decided to resign as president of ring 1. The duties of president now fall on my shoulders. I welcome the opportunity to serve the members and the club but wish it could have been under different circumstances. Let's give Steve all of our support, prayers and best wishes as he moves into an area to help others who are suffering the different domestic traumas in their lives.

Terry Richison has graciously accepted the position of vice-president, as I transfer to president. Jerry Collins has agreed to be on the Board of Directors. This was done in accordance with the constitution and by-laws of our club at the last Board meeting. Please give Terry and Jerry all your support and congratulate them for stepping up to the challenges.

A big shout out to our newest members: Abraham Bellers, Paul Gregor, and Zi Teng Wang. Please take the time to get acquainted with them. They would enjoy hearing about your background in magic, for inspiration.

October 9 will be our annual President's Banquet. It will be held at the Rosalita's Cantina in Des Peres, MO. There will be close-up entertainment before dinner and a live show after the installation of officers, reconditions and awards. Please let Scott Smith know if you are coming and how many will be attending in your party.

We need volunteers for Ranken Jordan Children's Hospital magic show. I am looking for two to three more volunteers for the second Monday in October. Please arrive by 5:30 p.m. to check in at the front desk. For first time performers, they will take your driver's license and scan to create a day pass for you. The address is 11365 Dorsett Rd, Maryland Heights, MO 63043. We are slated for 1 hour of show time. Masks must be worn while in the building. If on stage, the mask does not have to be worn. There is no interaction with the children. Staff from the hospital will step in for them. If performing off stage, a mask has to be worn.

The November date for Ranken Jordan is TBA for the moment. After the October performance, I will be speaking with the Activities Director about future dates for the rest of this year and for next year.

Our fundraiser show for October 22nd has been canceled due to unforeseen circumstances. The show will be re-scheduled next year. More information will be posted when a venue and date has been determined. A special thank you to the members who volunteered to perform and to those who were willing to work behind the scenes to make this event a success.

Our October meeting will feature Steve Finkelstein teaching how to perform the bill switch. He will demonstrate how to change a \$1.00 bill to a \$100.00 bill and back again. He will show simple techniques to perform this amazing effect. It is an effect that packs small and plays big. He will supply the \$100.00 bill (monopoly money).

Our November 2 meeting will be held at the Dielmann Recreation Complex and will include a zoom meeting featuring Lance Burton. Lance is from the St. Louis area and began his career back in the late 1970's. I remember seeing him perform while I was a stage hand. He is truly amazing.

A special thank you to Gary Chan and Paul Gregor for assembling and publishing the monthly Spirit. They put a lot of work into the newsletter.

D. Jay Lenz

Ring 1 Report

Ring 1 held their annual close-up contest in September. Gary S. Chan won the contest last year; therefore, he was responsible for organizing the event. He did a magnificent job! He made sure all facets of the contest were finalized before the event. This even meant revising the contest rules so everything would run smoothly. This took a considerable amount of time. The Board met numerous times and made several revisions before the Board finally approved it. Since it was so detailed and explicit, there were no issues during the contest. Gary did a great job of advertising the contest. The room was completely full! It seemed as if there was a larger audience than in previous contests. He also made sure everyone who was assisting with the contest knew what their role would be. The roles of the members were as follows: Contest Chair-Gary S. Chan, Pre-approval Board-Randy Kalin, Scott Smith and Gary S. Chan, Judges (Magicians)-Mike McClure, Jesse Bader, and Jeff Lefton, Judge (Layman)-Joe Malec, Timer-Steve Buesking, and Score Tabulators-Randy Kalin and Gary S. Chan. The Ring thanks all these volunteers for their assistance!

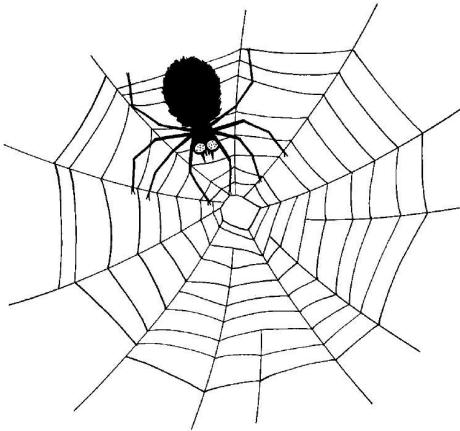
There were four contestants in the intermediate category. First, Abe Bellers selected three volunteers from the audience to assist him with his routine. The routine consisted of several effects that went together and each one predicted a number, a card or a color. During the routine, he told several jokes which the audience enjoyed. The next contestant was Dave Goldfarb. Dave has been attending meetings for years and really enjoys cards. His assistant was told to look at one card and then somehow he counted the cards and then read the assistant's mind. The next effect involved flipping a coin. He was able to predict beforehand how many times the coin landed on heads or tails. The next contestant was Jeff Halcomb. He chose children in the audience to assist him with the effects. The kids were hilarious and stole the show! He was able to tear monopoly money up and then restore it. He did a coin trick which ended up changing places in the volunteer's hand. He then had each child pick a card and he was able to find the cards in the deck.

Last was Paul Gregor. He did several sleight of hand effects with coins. First, he had a few silver half dollars appear from nowhere and proceeded to disappear and reappear the coins in many ways. Then he used a one inch coat button which kept mysteriously transporting back to an empty card box, after being vanished or placed in the pocket. At the conclusion of the routine, after the button transformed into a jumbo coin, large objects appeared to be removed from the box. Including an egg! All of these intermediate contestants did a remarkable job. It takes a lot of preparation, skill, and confidence to enter a close-up contest for the first time.

Congratulations!!

There were five contestants in the Advanced Category. Zi Wang was the first contestant. He used three volunteers for his routine. He had them pick a card and he was able to find it in the deck. He stated that it took him five years to learn this effect. He did several other effects and each time was able to find the volunteers' cards. Next was Steve Queen. Steve's routine consisted of storytelling regarding his children. For example, he talked about the cost of raising a child and changed his hundred dollar bills into dollars. He even did an effect which compared the game of hide and seek with his children to finding a card that was playing hide and seek. Steve Finkelstein was next. First, he did a coin matrix where the coins moved from the corners of a mat to another location. Then he had a volunteer assist him with a wine glass effect. He had four wine glasses and, mysteriously, the aces ended up in the volunteer's glass at the end. Next was John Davit. He performed several effects. The first one involved his tie -- which end was longer? Then he performed effects using paper clips, ropes, and cards. At the end of his card routine, he was able to find all four aces in four different ways.

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Last was Raleigh Muns. The theme of his routine was Star Trek. The question he asked was, “What will future magicians do?” His effects involved a colored cube, square circle, levitation, and several others. One other added note—Abe used Brian Styles as his volunteer. As the contestants asked for volunteers, Brian was almost always picked. He enjoyed assisting and was a great volunteer. In the future, everyone who was present will remember Brian as the most popular volunteer.



The judges met and the scores were finalized. In the Intermediate Category—1st place—Paul Gregor and 2nd place—Abe Bellers. In the Advanced Category—1st place—Steve Queen, 2nd place—Zi Wang and 3rd place—Raleigh Muns. All of the contestants did a magnificent job! Since Steve won in the advanced category, he now will be in charge of the close-up contest next year.

Congratulations to all the contestants!

Photo: back row L to R: Jeff Halcomb, Steve Queen, Paul Gregor, Dave Goldfarb. front row L to R: Raleigh Muns, Zi Wang, Gary S. Chan, Abe Bellers.

On the second Monday of every month, members of Ring 1 are visiting Ranken Jordan Pediatric Bridge Hospital in Maryland Heights. Dan Todd shared the following—“D. Jay Lenz, Jill (Silly Jilly) Schmidt, John Davit, and Dan Todd (The Great Todd) performed at the hospital in September. There were over a dozen patients and as many staff members in the audience. Silly Jilly warmed up the audience as the audience members arrived. D. Jay performed the linking ropes, cut and restored rope, fooled again rabbits, and a production box that was shown empty and, after it was closed, it produced silks and also a spring snake which the kids got a huge laugh when it appeared. Silly Jilly was a hit, of course, with spring snakes from everything! The kids loved her. John Davit was, as always, debonair and handed out dime-in-rings. I was last with my blue genie gag, 3 frog monty, and my newest creation, a 5 card repeat to Speller variation, with giant UNO cards. I tell my experience of playing UNO and how it usually goes down. No matter if I use only one hand to represent each player, I always have 5 cards after discarding. The freely selected UNO cards are freely placed in an 8 card holder (4 foot long) and the reveal is all the same color and 1-8...I closed the show with a comical 50’ multi-color paper production from the mouth routine. Dan also added that on the first Friday of the month he performs his CCTV magic show at Children’s Hospital. This involves patient call-ins and often he receives positive comments after his show when he sees the patients, their families, and the staff in the halls.

Gary S. Chan, Ring 1’s Spirit Editor and 2021 Close-up Contest winner, was recently interviewed by Jeannette Batz Cooperman for “The Common Reader.” This is a publication of Washington University in St. Louis which offers the best in reviews, articles and creative fiction engaging the essential debates and issues of our time. The title of the article is “How to Become a Mentalist” which is dated September 12, 2022. It is very interesting and I highly recommend reading it. The direct link to the article is as follows—<https://commonreader.wustl.edu/how-to-become-a-mentalist/>.

The Ring always welcomes visitors to its meetings and activities.

Sandy Weis





RANKEN JORDON



The next Ranken Jordan performance is October 10th. November is TBA. Visitors must report to the front desk after entering the hospital. First

volunteers must provide a valid ID so the staff can scan it and keep it on file. Visitor sticker must be worn while in the building and returned before leaving. All volunteers must wear a mask while in the building. The only exception is when a performer is on the stage. Then we don't have to wear a mask. There is no interaction with the children. One of the staff will stand in the place of the children. No fire, any latex products (non-latex is fine), and no live animals.



Anyone wishing to perform can e-mail D.J. Lenz at djay1000@yahoo.com





October Meeting agenda:
\$100 Bill Switch
Lecturer - Steve Finkelstein

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
Oct. 7, 2022, at 7 p.m.	Ring 1 Meeting - Steve Finkelstein Lecture - \$100 bill switch
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.	***CANCELLED*** Magic and Mahem, at the Florissant Civic Center Theatre
Nov. 2, 2022	Ring 1 Meeting - Lance Burton + Ring and String/Ring on Rope
Nov. 14, 2022	Ranken Jordon Volunteer Performance, TBA
Nov. 14, 2022	Blue Strawberry, Tim Shegitz magician & improv comedy act from The Improv Shop
Dec. 7, 2022, at 7 p.m.	Ring 1 Meeting - White Elephant Gift Exchange
Dec. 12, 2022	Ranken Jordon Volunteer Performance, TBA
Dec. 12, 2022	Blue Strawberry, Matt Hampel, magician & Mark Howell, mentalist
Dec. 17, 2022	Magic Show for Veterans at Kirkwood Theatre
Apr. 20-22, 2023	The Senior Tour at Double Tree in Collinsville, Il



PMA ANNUAL PICNIC & More!!

September 25

Marquette Heights - Pavilion by the ball parks

Gather at 5:00pm - Eat at 5:30pm

The Great Nicola Magic Fest

October 7 & 8

Monmouth, IL - About 60 miles northwest of Peoria, Il.

wchistorymuseum.com Check the EVENTS link.

Peoria Magic Gathering

Saturday, October 22, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Show 7 p.m.

Free: Flea market, Lectures

Show: For tickets visit: <https://www.peoriamagic.com/>

S.A.M. Assembly 8 event - Houdini and National Magic Week



Save the Date and Celebrate

HOUDINI

And National Magic Week

Thursday - October 27, 2022 - 7:00 p.m.


*St. Louis Activity Center, 5602 Arsenal
Society of American Magicians, Assembly No. 8*

By special permission from the Magic Castle, Assembly 8 will be viewing movie footage of Harry Houdini discovered 2 years ago in a private library and never before viewed by the public.

You have a unique opportunity to view movie footage of Houdini not available for public viewing. Please join Assembly 8 for this very special and unique evening.

Event is free to S.A.M. Assembly 8 members and I.B.M. Ring 1 members.

We hope to see you there.



Thank you to Steve Buesking
by Gary S. Chan

Steve Buesking's tenure was marked by a focus on organizational basics, including aligning the board on our organization's financials, insurance, Secretary of State registration, and similar activities. Unlike our meetings and events, these activities of the board often go unnoticed by us regular members, so I wanted to call out the work that Steve led. Thank you, Steve, and good luck for your other volunteer work.

Steve Buesking's contact info: (314) 732-5678, svbuesking@gmail.com



I.B.M. Ring 1 Contact Information

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Happy Halloween

