

March



the International Brotherhood of Magicians

Spirit of St. Louis

**RING 1**

THE HOME OF MAGIC IN ST. LOUIS

**The SPIRIT | Official Newsletter of I.B.M. Ring 1**

March 2024 Edition

**“Music in Magic”  
with Christian Misner**

March 6, 2024, at 7pm  
Dielmann Recreation Center  
11400 Olde Cabin Rd  
Creve Coeur, MO 63141





## Upcoming Events

I.B.M. Ring 1, and other events nearby St. Louis (US Central time)

Date	Event
March 6	Ring 1 meeting: "Music in Magic" with Christian Misner
April 3	Ring 1 meeting: Arts and Crafts Magic Lecture with Barb and Steve Zuehlke
Apr 11-13	Gateway Close-Up Convention <a href="https://www.baskervilleproductions.com/gateway2024">https://www.baskervilleproductions.com/gateway2024</a>
May 1	Ring 1 meeting: Ring 1 Elections and Auction
June 5	Ring 1 meeting: "Judgement Day" Fall Show Auditions
July 3	No Ring 1 meeting
August 7	Flea Market & Ice Cream Social
September 4	Ring 1 meeting: Close-Up Contest
October 2	Columbus Smith Halloween Lecture
October 19	Florissant Fall Show
November 6	TBD
December 4	Holiday Party & Gift Exchange

Board meetings are generally held on 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).

The St. Louis Magic Roundtable meets every Saturday at 1:30pm 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>

### Magic Conventions

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

## Volunteer for Ranken Jordan Children's Hospital

Put a smile on children's faces! Performances are on the first Monday of each month. Contact Dan Todd at [Magic@TheGreatTodd.com](mailto:Magic@TheGreatTodd.com) to volunteer to perform.







# Ring 1 Report

by Sandy Weis

The lecture on February 7th was funded by the Midwest Magic Jubilee (IBM Ring 1 and SAM Assembly 8). Therefore, all Ring 1 and Assembly 8 members were invited to attend. Since the Jubilee is no longer offering a convention, the money still in the account is now being used for lectures for its members. Michael Kaminska, the lecturer, is an author, creator, performer, and consultant. He regularly works for many fortune 500 companies, weaving magic into their presentations and hospitality suites. Internationally recognized as one of the top sleight-of-hand artists in the world today, Michael Kaminskas is a thinker, creator, and innovator of magic. The author of several best-selling books for the professional magician, Michael's work has been featured in nearly every trade publication - including a coveted Cover and feature story for the Society of American Magicians - the oldest magic organization on the planet. We were fortunate to be able to book Michael, and he was able to lecture on the Ring's regularly scheduled meeting night.

Steve Zuehlke shared the following: "For our February meeting, we had the pleasure of having Michael Kaminska present his all-new lecture. One of the best lectures our Ring has had in a long time. There was something for everyone. Cards, coins, pens, cups, etc. All the material was commercial, visual, and audience tested. Michael had some interesting takes on routines that most are familiar with. He started off by doing his version of Ammar's Coins Thru the Scarf. This is a great routine and required only two sleights/palms. Next was a great version of Anniversary Waltz. If you don't perform this effect, you need to add it to your repertoire. This effect kills for laypeople. If you are familiar with the effect, you are left with a double backer at the end of the routine. Michael used this card for his effect called Fusion where two selections are placed face-to-face and fused together, leaving the single double back card which can be passed out to the audience. A very clever idea to "ditch" the gimmicked card. His work on the Mercury card fold was outstanding. The fold is done vertically (lengthwise) and was lightning fast. Michael uses this for a card in box which will be released commercially from Penguin Magic in the very near future. If you are familiar with the different versions on the market (Mint Box, Mystery Box etc.), this version not only allows the card to be seen but also heard! Kind of like a rattle box. Very clever! His take on the chop cup was great. Michael showed how to "properly" load the cup for the final load. This combined a bit of "blocking" which makes this move invisible. He also covered several pocket ditching methods using body blocking as well. Things like this only come from years of practicing in front of a live audience, which Michael is no stranger to. Michael also showed us a very clever hot rod routine, his take on the strike vanish, a pen that clings to the fingertips (this was a fooler, as I thought I knew the method), a three-ball routine, a torn and restored card and a great coin to jar routine using an ungimmicked quarter. This was another fooler for sure. Michael had a large selection of merchandise for sale, all of which were reasonably priced. If your club has the chance to book Michael, do yourself a favor, and book this lecture. Hats off to President D. Jay Lenz and Mike McClure for another outstanding meeting. We had approximately thirty-five members in attendance, including Doug Clark who made the drive from Columbia, Missouri. Always great seeing Doug and longtime member, Martin Kopp, also made a surprise appearance."

Sandy Weis shared that Michael performed and explained the following effects during the lecture:




“My CCR, my go to Chop Cup Routine, WAVE, Anniversary Travelers, Sweet Tear, Escape, KFC, D2D, Klinger, Audience Aces, and Silkcoin 2.0. He had most of the commercial items available for sale. However, he was offering to mail effects he was out of postage free to the members.”

Trudy Monti-Monteith has been instrumental in keeping the Magic Roundtable St. Louis going for many years. The group meets almost every Saturday around 1:30 pm at The Dierbergs Food Market located at Lindeman Rd., Des Peres, MO 63131. She has a group on Facebook which has 125 members. On February 10th, the comment was “Great Roundtable today!!!” The following members attended: Jim Svaglic, Chuck Levy, Michael Long, Bob Kochan, Trudy Monti, Steve Steer, Steve Boland, Jim Hodge, Jim Holmes, and Tom Reilly. Jim had a traveling magic shop with him. Trudy had some show & tell, and Chuck Levy entertained with a trick. Chuck Levy commented, “One thing seldom mentioned is that almost every week Trudy brings interesting and informative things to look at and discuss. Thanks again, Trudy.” Tom Reilly commented, “Yes there were 10 of us there including Bob Kochan who brought an old (1972) SAM roster, it was fun (and sad) looking at some of the older members’ names. James Holmes had lots of items for sale.” The group encourages anyone interested in magic to attend the Roundtable. Check the following website for the latest information before attending each week:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/374210993307299>

Dan Todd shared the follow: “On February 2nd, I performed magic on the CCTV at Children’s Hospital. I performed Slydini’s Silks, my version of Uncanny Yarn (they can freely choose one of five colors), my large version of Free Will, Book of Magic production, a jumbo version of Vernon’s Variant using jumbo UNO cards, my personalized Music Box (free choice of five envelopes), and Is There Magic in the Air?. Ranken Jordan did not request a magic performance this month. I had to cancel magic at Shriners on February 13th due to a cold. I will be performing at Shriners on the 29th with closeup in the lobby for patients and families.” The members appreciate his visits to the area children’s hospitals. However, the members would like for him to be able to attend the Ring’s meetings. We would love to see all the magic effects he has created.

Chad Jacobs (Chef Bananas), with his family, attended the Kapital Kidvention which was located in Washington D.C. recently. It is the largest convention for kids’ entertainers in the country. He performed twice and lectured twice. Chad commented on Facebook the following: “The first book I ever picked up about kids’ magic was Seriously Silly by David Kaye in 2017. It gave me the foundation to become the performer I am today. I learned so much. I hoped someday I would get to meet David (Silly Billy). We met in 2022 at KIDabra & KAX Conferences, and to be honest, I was starstruck. For real! Ask my kids. Last week, at Kapital Kidvention I got to share the stage with him. It was awesome!” Chad also commented: “I had an unbelievably awesome time at Kapital Kidvention in D.C. the last few days. Meeting so many new friends and sharing ideas was fantastic. The convention ended with one of the most fun shows I’ve ever been a part of. And, I got to perform with superstars Silly Billy, Christopher T. Magician, and Gene Cordova. It was a dream come true.”



Jill shared the following--Jill “Silly Jilly” Schmidt and her friend, Kathleen “Grandma Glee” Neason from Columbia, MO, also attended this conference



as attendees only. Chad taught a class on branding and a class on his show, plus he was the opening act on the big closing night show. Jill's favorite parts were the classes taught by Christopher T. Magician, Chef Bananas, and Silly Billy. She thoroughly enjoyed the closing night show and especially, the "inexpensive" photographer. Jill and Kathleen did skip one class and instead took an Uber to a school show featuring Washington, D.C. magician, The Great Zucchini. They were impressed by his fast-paced style and got ideas for new routines for their shows.



● Silly Jilly



Silly Jilly and Silly Billy

The Ring has already listed the agenda for each meeting in 2024. There are several lectures, an auction, a flea market, a close-up contest, a fall show, and a holiday party scheduled. Check out the Ring's website for a detailed list. The Ring welcomes visitors and guests to its meetings and activities. The Ring is "growing" and more members are attending the meetings.

## Project Magic

by Dan Todd

Ranken Jordan will have no magic again in February due to continued medical issues there. Shriners Hospital once again asked me to perform for patients and families on Feb 13th and 29th. Cardinal Glennon has not requested a show for this month yet but loved the show on Jan 16th. Children's Hospitals magic on the CCTV was on Feb 2nd with: Slydini Silks as a running gag trying to keep them knotted, my version of Uncanny Yarn with actual free choice of five colors. I toss knitting needles and their yarn into a home made sewing bag and with a little by play, produce a finished knitted Barbie doll sized sweater of that color, my jumbo version of Free Will, Book of Magic drawing and then producing a lost bunny, a version of Vernan's Variant with jumbo UNO cards, Music Box prediction with five choices of familiar tunes punched on strips in card envelopes, and Is There Magic in the Air?

Making new, new versions, or just making a store-bought effect your own is wonderful. It is so much fun physically making the effects and scripting them. Lots of tweaking, rehearsing, and polishing. The end results are great when you get the reactions from the kids.



# Judgment Day!

June 5th at our I.B.M. Ring 1 Meeting will be JUDGEMENT DAY!

Attention members ... at Ring 1 your opinions matter to us, and your point of view is highly valued. Please join us on June 5th and you will become a co-producer of our next Fall Show in October ... just by sharing your opinions.

All members who would like to perform in our only annual fundraising event will be submitting video auditions, and every member present on June 5th will have the opportunity to vote on their favorites. The club's collective conclusions will help the Show Committee fill the stage with our highest rated acts and ensure that the audience is entertained to the best of our ability. The show is set for October 19th at the Florissant Performing Arts Center.

## AUDITIONS:

- Are open to EVERY member of Ring 1
- Are to be short one or two effect performances totaling no more than 5 minutes
- The theme for the show is Magic & FANTASY – including Fairy Tales & Adventure
- Audition videos are to be sent to [watson7654321@gmail.com](mailto:watson7654321@gmail.com) before May 20th
- Auditions need NO special art, music, costumes or editing ... just the act as you would perform on stage. If your act is selected, our committee will provide music and background images to compliment your magic. We are a team in this, and will do everything we can to make you shine like stars on stage!
- Your videos will also be used to help the Show Committee evaluate your tempo and timing
- Any recording method is accepted, as long as the digital file can be downloaded prior to May 20th, and then shared on the TV screen at Dielmann Recreation Center for the club's viewing on June 5th. The easiest way to film your act is to prop your phone up and push record. We can edit the beginning and end to remove any unwanted footage if necessary..
- Let your imagination run wild! Try to think of a fairy tale, legend or fantasy character/story that your favorite act could represent. For Example: Our President D. Jay Lenz hopes to earn a spot and perform a version of his "Professor's Nightmare" but with a nod toward "Goldilocks and the Three Bears." If you remember, the titular heroine had trouble with things always being to big, too small, and only one just right. Therein lies the connection that we would embellish and charm the family audience.
- Please do NOT let a lack of ideas deter you from auditioning ... call or email Mike McClure with any and all questions. Our committee is here to help you "skin" your ideal effect into a moment of wonder.
- Last year's show brought in an equal spread of ages ... one third children, one third seniors, and one third regular adult age. Please gear your act to be family friendly!
- MAGIC & FANTASY – Fairy Tales and Adventure. Examples include: Cinderella, Snow White, Rapunzel, Jack and the Beanstalk, The Frog Prince, Pirates, Sherlock Holmes, Romeo & Juliet, Light-Scare Halloween themes, Wizards, Dragons, Leprechauns ... any fictional story that involves the imagination (and of course, is in the Public Domain). Contact us with your thoughts and we can help you fine tune your next featured performance.

Mike McClure can be reached at 618-826-5125, or by email at [watson7654321@gmail.com](mailto:watson7654321@gmail.com) and is delighted to discuss all ideas and possibilities.

## Music in Magic Lecture with Christian Misner

March 6, 2024, at 7pm  
Dielmann Recreation Center  
11400 Olde Cabin Rd  
Creve Coeur, MO 63141

Our very own, Christian Misner, will offer an impactful, in-person lecture that explores the diverting details involved in adding music to your magic performances. He will share the latest technology, and leave no (Rolling) stone unturned. All in attendance will have something to take away from this lecture, including the knowledge of how to incorporate music in every part of their lives.

Christian can be contacted at [Christian@STLouisMagician.com](mailto:Christian@STLouisMagician.com) or 321-947-0840.



Schaefer & Sons



## Advice

Patrick Page

If you want to be a good magician, all you have to do is to take a few classic magic effects, learn how to do them as they were presumably intended to be performed, AND DON'T TRY AND IMPROVE THEM. To bring something extra to a classic, requires either a considerable amount of experience, or a touch of genius. If you are a beginner, you have no experience, are unlikely to be another Robert Harbin. Once you have a certain amount of performing experience under your belt, you may be able to bring something into your performance which is your own. It could be a move, a subtlety, a line of patter, a certain style, but whatever it is, it will be YOURS. . . then, and only then, someone may say about you, "He's VERY good."

## The Magic of Performance

One of our members suggested that performers watch these videos to learn how to improve their business: <https://www.mattfore.com/magic-of-performing-optin>



What: Murder By Magic, Jeff Lefton's murder mystery-magic show. With special guest, Keith Hadrill, Comedy Ventriloquist

Where: Westport Playhouse

When: Saturday, March 2, at 2pm and 7pm

What do you get when you combine a murder mystery & comedy magic? Murder By Magic! Join us for a unique show where the audience embarks on a murder investigation using comedy magic! Lots of laughs, great magic, and a fun storyline. Rumor has it that there could also be a plot twist at the end! The show is mainly geared toward adults, but children also enjoy it. Don't miss this fun, one-of-a-kind show!

Pick up 2pm show tickets: <https://aftontickets.com/event/buyticket/3px8nq1x1k>

Pick up 7pm show tickets: <https://aftontickets.com/event/buyticket/3px861091k>





## Ring 1 Directors and Officers

Dear I.B.M. Ring 1 members,

The Nomination Committee I commissioned (Steve Finkelstein, Scott Smith, Michael W. McClure) has secured a full slate of candidates for our Elections to be held this May. All have agreed to fulfill their duties in each of their respective offices.

As President of Ring 1, I am delighted to see our younger members show a desire to step into leadership roles. This is something all organizations always strive for. We are extremely fortunate and should all do everything we can to support their efforts to share their time and talents with us during our 2024-2025 fiscal year.

This is the official slate of candidates:

President – Darryl “D. Jay” Lenz

Vice-President – Steve Queen

Secretary – Al Zibits

Treasurer – Sandy Weis

Board of Directors:

Steve Finkelstein

Scott R. Smith

Gary S. Chan

Christian Misner

Michael W. McClure

I thank you for your past support and would be honored to serve my second full year as your President. We can certainly look forward to another year of exciting programming and continued development as THE model Ring in the International Brotherhood of Magicians!

With much appreciation,  
Pres. Darryl “D. Jay” Lenz



## I.B.M. Ring 1 Contact Info

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