



Our Next Meeting

I.B.M. Ring 1

February 7, 2024 at 7 p.m.

Michael Kaminskas Lecture



Please join us on
February 7th at

Dielmann Recreation Center
11400 Olde Cabin Road
Creve Coeur, MO 63141

For detailed information about this event, read more at the end of this newsletter.

Upcoming Events

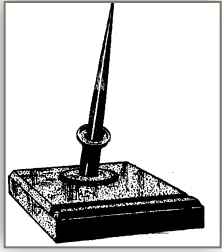
Scheduled Events:

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
February 7	Ring 1 meeting: Michael Kaminskis In-Person Lecture
March 6	Ring 1 meeting: Kevin Kelly In-Person Lecture
April 3	Ring 1 meeting: Arts and Crafts Magic Lecture with Barb and Steve Zuehlke
April 11-13	Gateway Close-Up Convention https://www.baskervilleproductions.com/gateway2024
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



Ring 1 Report by Sandy Weis et al.

On January 10th the Ring had its first meeting of the New Year with approximately twenty-five members in attendance. With inclement weather predicted, a few members decided not to brave the cold weather that we have been experiencing recently. Our meeting was scheduled to be a video night hosted by Steve Finkelstein. Steve, unfortunately, had a family emergency and was unable to attend. Steve Zuehlke jumped in at the last minute and did a teach in on the “Cups and Balls” and the “Hot Rod” routines. While most of the more seasoned members know the “ins and outs” of these effects, Steve's presentations were focused on showing the new members the workings of these two classic effects. Steve started out by showing the different styles of various cups that are on the market as well as a brief explanation of Rings N Things’ history that was founded right here in St. Louis by our own Harry Monti and John Apperson. Steve did a basic “cup and ball” routine with explanations. Steve was assisted by member, Sandy Weis, and guest, Bonita M. Harmon. Steve then had both volunteers follow along with cups in hand as he proceeded to show just how easy this effect was to learn. Steve was nice enough to give both helpers their own set of cups and a magic wand. Both volunteers did an outstanding job and were quick studies as both performed the effect flawlessly with Steve's easy to follow instructions.

Next up was an explanation of the hot rod. Steve showed the basic paddle move stressing the “dos and don'ts” when executing the “move.” Steve brought along an assortment of various hot rods, color changing knives, colored sticks, jumping gems, etc., showing the many different variations of this effect that all involve the paddle move. Afterwards, Mike McClure provided plastic paddles, complete with dry erase markers and stick on gems, so members had the chance to make their own “magic stick.” It was great to see the different variations that other members perform. John Skarin bought his version of jumping gems and shared his great routine with several members of the group as well. Member Matthew Horowitz was fooled by the Hot Rod even though he owns the effect!

Trudy Monti was on hand selling copies of her new book entitled “My Magic Moments Journal.” “My Magic Moments 2024 Journal” is a unique journal for both magicians and non-magicians to use in memorializing their thoughts, dreams, and plans, alongside historic events of magicians throughout the ages. Historic magic moments or events recorded for each day span 400+ years, with 700+ historic magic events regarding 600+ different magicians. Magicians will be reminded each day of those who went before them and helped to elevate their unique art form, AND non-magicians will experience a rare peek into a secret world of entertainment. This is a must have for any magician and is priced at only \$18.99 on Amazon (the price of two cups of coffee at Starbucks!) so everyone should be able to afford to buy a copy. And, if you ask her real nice, she will autograph it too. As always, hats off to President, D. Jay Lenz, for chairing a great meeting and kudos once again to Mike and Susan McClure for providing refreshments for all.

Jill "Silly Jilly" Schmidt shared the following: "A year ago, I got a heartfelt message from Clownvis Presley, a singing clown with an Elvis twist. He inquired about Handy the Clown because "She did lots of parties for me and my friends when we were growing up in West County—St. Louis." I shared that Handy and I were friends and the sad news of Handy's passing in 2017. Clownvis replied, being "crushed to tears," and "She was my ultimate inspiration in everything I've ended up doing." Handy was portrayed by Sharon Cohen. Sharon was a Ring 1 member for many years and loved attending the Midwest Magic Jubilees. Fast forward to December 22, 2023, when my husband and I attended Clownvis' concert at The Red Flag in St. Louis (see photo). Our main draw was knowing that my friend, Handy the Clown, had inspired him. The show was spectacular, mixing Elvis classics, Christmas songs, and Clownvis originals. He even did some quick magic tricks, including multiplying bananas and the appearing flower. My husband told me, "His silliness is right up your alley." We were thoroughly entertained and are looking forward to catching Clownvis again!"



Dan Todd shared the following—"Project Magic at Ranken Jorden Pediatric Bridge Hospital was cancelled in December and I have not scheduled Ring 1's 2024 visits to their facility yet. As soon as I do, I will let the members know. Please consider helping by performing there. Normally it is from 6:00-7:00 pm on the first Monday of each month. Contact me at Magic@TheGreattodd.com or call me to volunteer. As for the other hospitals I perform at, well it's booming! During January 2024, I performed on January 5th on the CCTV at St. Louis Children's Hospital. I will be performing parlor magic at Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital on the 16th and closeup magic at Shriners Children's Hospital on the 9th and 23rd. Interestingly Children's PAWS program added a playing cards deck with those lovable therapeutic dogs. They already had baseball type PAWS cards. I immediately made magic effects and it was easier with the playing cards than with the baseball style cards, since these have pips on the corners of the cards' faces with the dog's pictures and names in the center and matching backs naming Purina and St. Louis Children's Hospital on the cards. Children's Hospital has added a second day each week for me to teach and play chess with the patients." As you can see, even though Dan is retired, he is quite busy visiting these hospitals and sharing his magic skills with the children, their parents, and the staff. The Ring thanks Dan for all he does! (We just wish he was able to attend Ring 1's meetings. The members would really enjoy seeing all the magic effects he has created).

The 2024 St. Louis Kidney Walk takes place on March 24th at Westport Plaza. Several Ring 1 members volunteered last year and performed strolling magic. Steve Finkelstein, Ring 1's contact person, will provide details as soon as they are relayed to him. Members are encouraged to contact Steve if they are available.

Our members, Randy Kalin and Joshua Weidner, along with Jesse Bader and Christopher Barker, have created a group that perform together under the moniker “Disbelief.” They have performed in Kansas, Illinois, Missouri and soon to be more locations. Each of them bring a different skill set to the group. Jesse Bader is an amazing film maker, Joshua Weidner uses his technology and detail skills to create magical mysteries, Randy Kalin uses his years of performing magic to tell stories using magic, and Christopher Barker uses his educational background to provide lessons to interested students. They are performing at various locations and these shows are usually sold out. Therefore, they are being asked by these venues to set a schedule for return visits. The Ring congratulates these magicians for the work they are doing to promote magic. (Please see Ring 1’s website for further information regarding the group).

Another one of Ring 1’s members, Christian (Christian the Magician) Misner, has created a “new” show entitled “The Bucket Show.” This show is a minimalist marvel—no stage, no backdrop, just Christian, a few buckets and magical surprises. The show is scheduled to tour the Midwest throughout the coming year. The Ring congratulates Christian on his new venture and the members are anxious to see this show.

Visitors are always welcome to attend Ring 1’s meetings and activities.

Sandy Weis



Photos of the January Ring 1 meeting



Steve Buesking and Steve Zuehlke wanted let everyone know that Antony Gerard will be coming to the Gateway Close-Up Convention. Tony is the inventor and master of the Idiosyncratic Force. A thing of beauty to witness. Tony will also being doing a MEGA lecture Friday evening. Tony mentioned he once lectured for TEN HOURS straight and NO ONE left! Register at <http://www.baskervilleproductions.com/gateway2024>

GATEWAY CLOSE-UP CONVENTION

APRIL 11-13, 2024

LECTURES, CLOSE-UP
SHOWS, WORKSHOPS,
DINNERS, BREAK OUT
SESSIONS, BOOK DEALER,
COCKTAIL PARTIES!

REGISTRATION
\$200

stlsteve2009@yahoo.com

FOR MORE INFO:

baskervilleproductions.com/gateway2024

LEARN FROM THE PROS! 2024
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FLESHMAN, NICK LEWIN, STEVE
EHLERS, ROBERT MORELAND,
ANTONY GERARD, DR. MICHAEL
RUBINSTEIN AND OUR GUEST OF
HONOR: JOHN BANNON

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A message from Trudy Monteith

For some time, I have been working on documenting the print history of magic in St. Louis. I have done research as far back as 1850 and am currently focusing on the ten-year period 1991-2000. Please send me all I.B.M. newsletters, S.A.M. newsletters, and newspaper articles or otherwise related to magic in St. Louis or magicians affiliated with St. Louis.

trudymonti@aol.com

Publication for Monti Cups in the June 30, 1973 issue of Abracadabra Magazine.

(This advertisement is shown for historical purposes.)

REPRO 71

present the finest Magic in Metal that has ever been available in this country.

The Monti Cups

Our cups were designed by HARRY MONTI, the famous Magic Castle performer. Endorsed by CHARLIE MILLER and FRANCIS CARLYLE. This is what Mr. Carlyle has to say about them:

'These cups handle nicely and I would certainly recommend them ... the best ever.'

Our cups come in two finishes: **STAINLESS STEEL OR SOLID COPPER**. The steel ones are **nickel plated and chromed**. To ensure the high quality each is buffed **four times**. The solid copper cups are made of heavy gauge copper. The epoxy-baked finish is polished to a **MIRRORED REFLECTION ... NOT LACQUERED**. Both sets come complete with routine, carrying case and four crochet-covered balls. By the way, each **COPPER CUP** is burnished **EIGHT TIMES** to ensure a permanent high gloss finish ... and the **CHROME** will **NEVER** flake off the steel cups. Even the insides are perfectly finished. Whether you buy the copper or stainless steel set, each cup fits snugly with no 'tell-tale' rocking. For the **MAGICAL PURIST AND SERIOUS PERFORMER** these cups are sheer perfection. Both sets now in stock.

Price: Copper Set £8.75. Steel Set £9.75

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The REPRO 71 MAGIC STUDIO is open 6 days a week, Monday to Friday,
10 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

From Steve Zuehlke

- I noticed a full-page ad in the January edition of Genii for the Gateway Close-Up convention. Looks like a blast! Make sure to get registered before it sells out. And I am sure it will with the talent that is booked.
- The December edition of the Linking Ring features our own Gene DeVoe from Pictures from the Past. We should be proud that Gene called St. Louis home. For those of us that knew him, we were blessed.
- Scott Wells does an interview with hometown boy, Charles Bach. <https://www.themagicwordpodcast.com/>

2024 Membership Dues

To pay online: <http://www.ibmring1.com/dues-payments>
To pay by mail: Write a check payable to “IBM, Ring 1” for \$20.
Write “2024 Dues” on the memo line.

Mail the check to:
Sandy Weis, 1755 Elkins Drive, St. Louis, MO 63136.

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THE MK 2024 LECTURE

This lecture will be at the Dielmann Rec. Center at 7 PM February 7th.

11400 Olde Cabin Rd, Creve Coeur, MO 63141

This is the first lecture for the Midwest Magic Jubilee.

The IBM Ring 1 and S.A.M. Assembly 8 are all welcome.

In this lecture, Michael Kaminskas will elevate your close-up and parlor magic teaching methods and techniques that can be adapted to fit any performance situation. The lecture is filled with hidden gems gained through decades of real-world experience. There are no pipe dreams. This is one lecture you will not want to miss!

An inventor and a creator of world-class magic with many instructional books, DVD's and effects on the market, Michael is known for his impeccable sleight-of-hand and smooth performance style. Dubbed "King of the Cups" by the late Mike Rogers, Michael has created both new and novel approaches to this classic as well as being the creator and manufacturer of the finest cups and balls sets and chop cups in the world.

Michael 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.

Michael earned his PhD in magic at the prestigious FFFF invitation only gathering. A member of the Magic Circle in London, England, Michael was accepted as A.I.M.C. with Silver Star designation. Since the release of his first instructional book in 1994, Michael has lectured extensively for his peers throughout the world from conventions to various group and club meetings to the Magic Circle in London and the World Famous Magic Castle in Hollywood, California where he is also a regular performer.

There's no hiding the lifetime of experience when watching Michael work his craft -- he is a unique blend of motivator, speaker, humorist and trickster. His award winning magic has been seen by a myriad of clients including celebrities, political figures, and major corporations across the globe and featured on the ABC, NBC, CBS, FOX and BET television networks. It's no wonder that Michael's talents are always in high demand.

Here's what other top professionals have to say...

"It is extremely obvious that Michael fully understands the difference between something that is magic and something that is magical." - Howard Hamburg

"The material Mike is teaching at this lecture is designed with the audience in mind. It is about getting maximum reactions under real-world conditions. Whether you are performing in a casual environment or representing a corporate client's brand, there is something here for you." – David Corsaro

"Watching Michael Kaminskas work is a master class in sleight-of-hand and audience entertainment. Pay attention!" – Shoot Ogawa

"Michael has a great sense of finesse; he adds a touch of simple class to classic effects for the modern working pro. He knows how to make magic magical and memorable." - Francis Menotti

"Michael works in the real world for real people. His magic is created to work in all environments and produce hard hitting moments. If you want strong magic that works, I would pay attention." – Christian Painter

"Michael Kaminskas is a WORKER!!!! He understands people and what it takes to entertain them. When he speaks, I listen! Your magic will be better if you listen, too!" – Paul Green

"Having had the pleasure to have worked with Michael at the Magic Castle, I can tell you without hesitation that if Michael were to share any of his hard-fought / blood-bought, real world experience, it's worth your time to drop everything and give him a listen. A true professional." – Thom Peterson, The Amazing Guy

"Mike has been a wonderful creative force in magic for many years now with several books, DVD's, and effects on the market. More than that, the material he releases comes from his extensive repertoire of strolling, formal close-up and parlor magic. Don't miss this opportunity to learn from a top worker." - Marc DeSouza

"Michael Kaminskas is a very talented magician: As a performer he handles cups and balls, coins and many other classics of magic with great success. As a creator, he has the rare ability to take classic effects adding his own ideas to create variations that are worth studying." – Lawrens Godon

"Michael's passion and love for magic shows in every effect he creates and performs. His attention to detail and streamlined methods are impressive, deceptive and, most importantly, entertaining." – Joe Rindfleisch

"What's to say? Mike is a great guy and his magic is just as great!" – Dan Hauss

"Whenever a magician asks to see a cool trick they never saw before, my first thought is always Michael Kaminskas. Michael's ideas have been a secret weapon for those who knew them, hidden away in books. I guess that secret is about to get out. There's a place for one of Michael's routines in everybody's act. In this lecture you'll probably get ten. Michael is the best." – Mark James

"If you're looking for solid, tested sleight of hand effects that will WOW your audiences, you will have to watch this lecture." - Suzanne

"Michael Kaminskas creates secrets with the forbidden knowledge passed on from the masters of the past. With audiences always evolving; so too must their experience. Tap into the mind of a 21 century magician with 2 centuries of experience." - Reed McClintock

"Michael has some killer ideas that I've enjoyed for many years! Michael is skillful, creative and a super nice guy. You're gonna learn some great magic!" - Chad Long

"I've known Mike Kaminskas for many years and I've never seen him fail to charm an audience with his deceptively casual delivery and devastating sleight-of-hand." - Scott Alexander

"Michael is one of my favorites to watch at Fechter's...a guy who works for real people." - Martin Cox

"Mike is a thinker, a creator, and builder of magic.... he truly is a magical Architect. Combine all that with his world class sleight of hand and you've got my attention." - Eric Jones

What will be in the Lecture...

While Michael has a basic outline for the lecture, it is also the peoples lecture. This is what makes the live learning process so valuable. The ability to ask questions. Quite simply that can't be done on a DVD or in a download release. Each lecture is bound to be a slightly different and based upon what the collective group wishes to engage in seeing and discussing. With a lifetime of magical knowledge nothing is off the table. While Michael will have some products to sell, THIS IS NOT a dealer demo. Everyone will be able to leave and perform some of the effects straight away.

Here is Just Some of the incredible magic you will learn!

My CCR - My go to Chop Cup Routine that has plenty of magic and doesn't insult your audiences intelligence with a guessing game.

WAVE - Why not remove the cards by having the box vanish with just a wave of your hand. A classic plot turned on it's head. This has been featured in Michael's act at the World Famous Magic Castle.

Anniversary Travelers - A unique take on the Anniversary Waltz where two signed selections are removed from separate pockets then fused together back to back and given away as a souvenir.

Sweet Tear - Rip open a package of sweets and immediately reseal it and give it away. But wait, there's more.. come see it at the lecture to find out the rest!

Escape - David Copperfield caused quite a stir in the magic world when he performed Timothy Wenk's "Misled" on television. Imagine passing a pen through a bill without any gaffs or gimmicks. Totally impossible and totally impromptu! This is an updated handling of "The Great Escape" that I originally published in 1990. So good it looks like a camera trick and super easy to do.

KFC - This ingenious card fold will take the place of the standard Mercury Fold. Learn how to fold a card into quarters while the spectators are burning the deck. Best yet, they push their card into the center of the pack themselves.

D2D- Silver dollars are produced at your fingertips and then visually change into paper bills. The ultimate in eye candy!

Klinger - A modernized twist on a neo-classic effect of a (wand) pen clinging to your outstretched fingers. Both your hands and the pen may be examined. Quick preparation and a genuine fooler.

Audience Aces - A new approach to a classic. The spectators shuffle and cut the cards. Only to turn over the top cards to find the four aces.

Silkcoin 2.0 - A feature of my Magic Castle act in 2021. If you know the original, then you know how magical this looks. A single coin, a sheer scarf...just pure magic!