



The Spirit

OCTOBER 2025 EDITION

IBM RING 1 PRESIDENT'S BANQUET



SCHLAFLY'S - MAPLEWOOD, MO

RSVP: WATSON7654321@GMAIL.COM

GUSTAVO RALEY
In-Person Lecture

October 1st 7pm
Doors open at 6pm
Event begins 7pm

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



Upcoming Events

Date	Event
Oct 1, 2025	Gustavo Raley In-Person Lecture
Oct 12, 2025	President's Banquet at Schlafly's Maplewood
Oct 18, 2025	Ring 1 Florissant Fall Show
Nov 5, 2025	Tim Shegitz In-Person Lecture
Dec 3, 2025	Holiday Party, Installations & Gift Exchange
Mar 26, 2026	2026 Gateway Close Up Convention
Jul 21, 2026	I.B.M. Convention, St. Louis


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>



Ring One Report

Edited by Sandy

On August 11, 2025, one of Ring 1's talented magicians, Gary S. Chan, was asked to perform strolling magic at the Penske Racing Museum in Phoenix, AZ. He dutifully prepped strolling pieces and had his best close-up material ready. The plan was simple: the emcee would open with some remarks, and then Gary would wander through the crowd, enchanting small groups at a time. Easy, right? Fifteen minutes before showtime, Gary was told he would start at the back of the room, and he double-checked the plan with the emcee. But then the great magician's nemesis struck ... last minute changes! The original emcee vanished (without even a puff of smoke), replaced by someone Gary had never spoken with. When the new emcee wrapped up his speech, he looked out at the crowd, smiled confidently, and said: "Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome... GARY S. CHAN, our stage mentalist! He's here to perform a full show for you—right now!" And the emcee proceeds to hand Gary a *handheld* microphone, meaning he was limited to effects using one hand. Spotlight. Applause. Confusion. Gary had been set up perfectly... for the wrong show. His strolling material sat abandoned at the far end of the room while he was suddenly the headliner. What followed was less "evening of carefully crafted deception" and more "tightrope walk without a net." Gary improvised an impromptu stage mentalism act on the spot. Fortunately, in true magical fashion, the audience never saw the chaos behind the curtain.





Ring One Report

Edited by Sandy


On September 3rd, Ring One held its annual Magic Competition. It was a huge success as we had more than 75 in attendance. It looks like the Ring might have to begin searching for a new facility that can safely hold a larger crowd. While other organizations across our country seem to be losing members, Ring One is continually growing. Tim Shegitz was the emcee, an honor bestowed upon him since he won the competition last year. James Hodge and Sandy Weis were the judges, along with a lay judge, Kate Smith (granddaughter of the late Harley Day). Michael W. McClure served as the timekeeper. The acts were instructed to be between six to eight minutes. Points were deducted if the magician's act was less than six minutes or more than eight. Following were the contestants--Gary S. Chan performed a nice mentalism act where he used an audio/video presentation on the big screen. Bob Danner showcased his talent and wit in a delightful close-up card act. Steve Finkelstein once again amazed the audience and judges with an impossible 52 card management gambling effect. Kevin DesRosiers provided a creative original act that delighted the packed house. Jeffrey Halcomb treated our guests to two different card acts rolled into one presentation. Raleigh Muns customized an original act that involved miniature card decks and the smallest magician we have ever seen. Steve Queen displayed polish and poise as he combined the appearance of a full can of Red Bull with a smooth razor blade swallowing act. Zi Teng Wang amazed everyone with an impossible card divination effect ... a one-way trip to placing him as one of the top three acts of the evening. Zia Shi bravely invited two of our youngest guests to assist him in a card act that was both toughing and fun. Matthew

Horowitz displayed the most enthusiastic card act that the evening offered. Joshua Weidner opened with his comedy routine and managed to escape from both handcuffs and his dinner jacket. Reggie Dunn gave us a commanding performance as he plucked cards and coins and balls from thin air. Every performance was unique and very entertaining. The following were the winners--1st place--Bob Danner, 2nd place--Zi Teng Wang, and 3rd place--Steve Finkelstein. In honor of winning the top award, Bob Danner will be the host for the 2026 Magic Competitions. The Ring congratulates all the winners and thanks every contestant for providing such an entertaining evening. Our continued thanks go out to Michael W. McClure and his wife Susan for everything they do to make the meetings a huge success. Mike's advertising efforts have brought many new guests to our meetings. Since last December we have signed up new members at every regular meeting we've held!

Submit articles for the Spirit!

E-mail ring1newsletter@finderstellers.com with any magic-related article, and see it published in the next Spirit!

Ideas include a bio (especially for any new Ring One members so others can get to know you), a review for a magic trick you recently purchased, and lessons you've learned while performing magic.





Gustavo Raley

The Creative Process

From Buenos Aires, Argentina, **Gustavo Raley** has an amazing resume of magic. He won four awards during the same convention at FLASOMA 98. Gustavo specializes in designing creative effects performed by magicians around the world including “*The Supercan*” that was received FISM awards and “*Toon Balloon*” which was chosen as among the Top 10 best tricks at the Blackpool Magic Convention in 2024. He has been seen on stage and television in over 40 countries and multiple magic conventions including MAGIC Texas, Blackpool, FISM, Taiwan, among others. He has lectured to more than 300 magic groups around the world.

What's in the Lecture?

The key points of Gustavo Raley's lecture, "The Creative Process," include: **Techniques for Developing Magic Tricks:** Gustavo shares

methods he uses to create magic effects, including the technique of bisociation, with interactive exercises for attendees to develop new tricks.

Camouflage of Magic Props: Insights on making magic props appear more natural and why this is important.

Finding Inspiration and Turning Ideas into Reality: Exploring how to evolve classic magic effects for the modern era.

Protecting Ideas and Addressing Piracy: Discussion on safeguarding creative concepts and coexisting with the piracy market.

Experiencing Gustavo's Effects: Attendees get to learn about and experience some of Gustavo's magic creations firsthand.

Creative Collaboration: Insights into Gustavo's work with the Disney creative team to develop a magic reality show.

You will not only learn theoretical concepts but also learn some of the magic effects created by Gustavo. This is an opportunity to see and learn brand new effects and get some technical theory, too.

Testimonials

“Gustavo is one of the great creators and artists of our time!” – **Jeff McBride**

“Great ideas from a great mind.” – **Fantasio**

“His magic is always creative that gets ‘miles of smiles.’ His lectures are informative and a ‘must see lecture’ that is guaranteed to inspire.” – **Jimmy C**

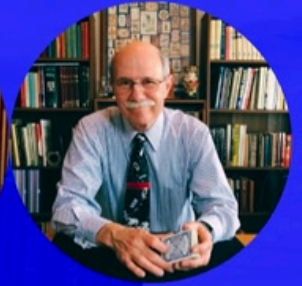


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BOARD OF DIRECTORS CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

In accordance with Missouri law and our 501(c)(3) ByLaws, November is the month designated for election of the following year's leadership. We are so fortunate to have many dedicated members that have stepped forward to serve as Officers and Directors for the 2026 fiscal year (Jan 1 – Dec. 31). These individuals will represent us well at the International Convention in July. The Nomination Committee is proud to offer the following slate of candidates:

President– Steve Queen
Vice President – Timothy Shegitz
Treasurer – Sandy Weis
Secretary – Michael W. McClure
Board Directors (10 needed) –
Steve Bolland
Steve Buesking
Steve Finkelstein
Mike Hindrichs
James Hodge
Chad Jacobs
Jeff Lefton
Darryl Lenz
Michael W. McClure
Steve Zuehlke

Anyone interested in stepping into a leadership position should contact the Nomination Committee members (Sandy Weis, Pres. Steve Queen, or Michael McClure) by November 1st to be added to the members being considered. We can only accept nominations made by the candidate themselves. To be considered, each must be current with both I.B.M. AND Ring 1 dues.



RING 1 CONTACT INFO

Role	Name	E-mail
President	Steve Queen	stevenstrangestl@gmail.com
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