

# NEWSLETTER OF I.B.M. RING 180

April 2009

Published for members of the Horace Bennett Ring  
International Brotherhood of Magicians Ring 180, Richmond, Virginia

<http://www.ibmring180.org>

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## "KID'S MAGIC" IS APRIL THEME

The theme for the April meeting of Ring 180 is "Magic for Kids." The meeting will take place on Wednesday, April 8, 2009 at 7 p.m. in the Classroom on the IMAX level of the Science Museum of Virginia, 2500 W. Broad St.

If parking is tight, remember the volunteer lot and the DMV lot on the east side of the Museum.

Remember our new day and time: the second Wednesday of every month at 7 in the evening.

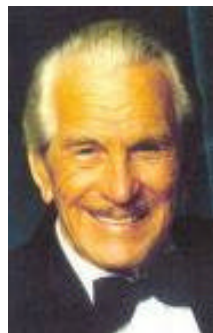
## BUSINESS MEETING A BUST

Only two people attended the monthly business meeting, held on the first Wednesday of each month. Both attendees were officers; no other members came to the meeting.

With such a small group, it was easy to pass resolutions. It was decided to raise annual dues to \$100 and charge a \$10 fee at each meeting. Unfortunately, there being only two officers, even a quorum of the executive committee did not exist so the resolutions could not be passed. (We don't know who perpetrated the bigger April Fool joke, the officer who proposed the changes or the members who failed to attend the meeting...)

Business meetings separate from the regular meeting were started to allow more time for magic at the regular meetings. Are business meetings now too big a burden? Shall we revert to having the business meeting as part of the regular meeting? Shall we have the business meeting at a restaurant prior to the 7 p.m. regular meeting? (The Joy Garden Chinese restaurant is three blocks from the Museum.) Let's discuss this at the next meeting on April 8th.

## JOHN CALVERT LECTURE



Ring 180 has scheduled a lecture in April by legendary magician John Calvert. The date has fluctuated a bit, so please note the date and time: Saturday, April 18th at 7:30 p.m. in the Eureka Theater on the third floor of the Science Museum of Virginia, 2500 W. Broad St.

We have been reluctant to promote this lecture because we are finding it difficult to meet Calvert's requirements for a stage backdrop and someone to run sound. These requirements are being negotiated now.

Calvert is an award-winning, legendary and renowned magician, movie star, adventurer, pilot, yacht owner and raconteur. He was among the most famous magicians of the 20th century. He is now 97. His appearance will have great appeal to older magicians and students of magic, but will have to be heavily promoted to those who may not know his reputation.

You will receive a special bulletin when everything has been settled. In the meantime, think of what we can do to get maximum promotion to the magic community.

### Ring 180 Officers

President:  
**Watt Hyer**

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Vice-President  
**Ron Occhiuto**  
[Vicepresident@ibmring180.org](mailto:Vicepresident@ibmring180.org)

Secretary:  
**Lou Dean**

[Secretary@ibmring180.org](mailto:Secretary@ibmring180.org)

Treasurer:  
**Landon Davis, III**

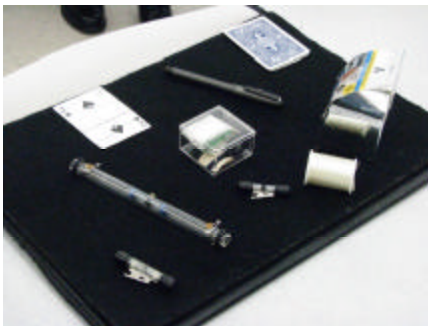
[Treasurer@ibmring180.org](mailto:Treasurer@ibmring180.org)

Sgt.-at-Arms:  
**Randy Earley**

## REPORT ON THE MARCH MEETING

The theme for the March meeting was “Invisible Thread.” All the usual effects you would expect were demonstrated: floating bills, rising cards, helicopter card, self-folding dollar, animated matchbox, etc. While invisible thread was used in all these effects, innovative ways of using the thread were demonstrated. Various types of threads and reels were discussed and evaluated. **Watt Hyer, John Reese, Joe Duck** and **Larry Rohr** all gave demonstrations. The Spider Pen was discussed. It is a motorized invisible thread reel that allows the magician to walk quite a bit away from a suspended object. Effective as it is, those who have tried it complained about the tendency of the unit to break. Yigal Mesika, inventor of the Spider Pen, now has the Tarantula on the market. It, too, is a motorized reel, but smaller, more easily concealed and supposedly less prone for the unit to break. **Bill Baber** showed an effect where the dollar transformed into a quadra-bill, combining several effects into a nice climax.

I.B.M. member **Dave MacMillan** was a welcome guest at the meeting. He’s considering joining Ring 180.



*Various reels and invisible thread units*



*Larry Rohr makes a fork move*



*Joe Duck performs*



*Watt Hyer shows the self-folding dollar*



*Watt Hyer and Bill Baber discuss thread*



*Watt Hyer performs the Helicopter Card*



## A MAGIC “FREE FOR ALL”

The first of what we hope are many “free for all” magic sessions was held at the home of Landon Davis on Wednesday, March 18th, 2009. The idea is to gather very informally on the third Wednesday of each



*Photo by Landon Davis, III*

month to practice your current acquisition or try out a new routine or effect.

There is nothing formal. There is no theme, no “meeting,” just a get-together to practice. At the first session were **Landon Davis, III; Watt Hyer; Joe Duck; Amy Kelekian-Duck; Harry Galant** and **Lou Dean**. Most of the session was spent practicing rubber band magic. The next session will be on Wednesday, April 15, 2009.



*Photo by Landon Davis, III*