

NEWSLETTER OF I.B.M. RING 180

February 2008

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

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LARRY ROHR IS VP



Larry Rohr has accepted the post of Vice-President for Ring 180 for the 2008 calendar year.

The job of the Vice-President is to run the meetings when the President is absent.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I have just spoken with the rep for the Richmond Muscular Dystrophy Association, concerning their annual Stride and Ride event, taking place at VA Center Commons on Sat March 8 from 8:00 am to 10:00 am. It is a fund raiser for Richmond locals dealing with MD, involving people taking a lap around the mall. They would love to have some magic for the event. Walk-around and table magic would fit the bill. Anyone who is interested can contact me or call Ashley at 285-2961. They can't pay money, but since there will be press and TV coverage, it will be a good opportunity for publicity and performing experience, not to mention a nice thing to do for the community. Since I have just returned to the Richmond area after almost 30 years, some of you may know more about this event than I, however I would think it gets pretty good coverage.

—Watt Hyer

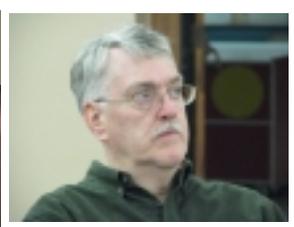


Next Ring meeting is Thursday, February 21st

The next meeting of Ring 180, International Brotherhood of Magicians, is scheduled for Thursday, February 21st at 7:30 at the Science Museum of Virginia, 2500 W. Broad Street. We usually meet in the Discovery Room. If there has been a change, ask the Security Guard where the meeting is located. Don't be discouraged if parking is tight—use the Volunteer lot or the DMV lot, both on the east side of the Science Museum.

The theme of the meeting is "Mental" magic. You don't do mental magic? Come and enjoy the performances, then show one of your favorite effects.

See the next page for these pictures and more



REPORT ON THE JANUARY MEETING

The theme of the meeting was “close-up magic” and **Watt Hyer** started things off with and extreme close-up effect, the “poor man’s handcuffs.” This elementary effect inspired others in the group to offer their variations.



Hutch also always carries a “Haunted Key” which seems to turn over all by itself in a very eerie fashion.

Hutch had advice for the magician performing for children: “Don’t do magic for kids; let *them* do it!” It has a much better effect, Hutch says, if the magic happens in their hands and the kids think they have done the magic...with your help.



Similarly, when **Zack Owen** showed “The Professor’s Nightmare,” **Larry Rohr** and others showed variations



and improvements that have been made to the effect over the years.

Larry Rohr showed the group his version of the magnetic spoons, an effect he performed when the Ring did a show for the Science Museum of Virginia’s “Lunchbreak Science” series in November 2007. Larry also did his version of a bill switch.

Jake Dorsey showed his signature coin matrix routine and his version of “The Three Shell Game,” which inspired **Randy Lynn** to bring out his set of shells and amaze everyone. Even if you do this effect yourself and know how it works, you can always be amazed watching someone else do the same effect. The matrix effect didn’t end with coins; **Watt Hyer** did a matrix effect with dominos.



Elmer Deffenbaugh performed a “card trick without taking a card” and “follow the leader.”



Lou Dean recommended the book, *Mac King’s Great Big Ol’ Book-O-Magic, A Complete Magic Kit in A Book*. Although written especially for children (and found only in the children’s section of Barnes & Noble), the book is loaded with classic magic effects. It will introduce a youngster to magic and in the hands of a professional the effects presented in the book can be true works of art.



Bill Worrell and **Hutch Hutchinson** astounded the group with similar psychological effects. Bill’s effect



asked people to draw their version of a pig, from which Bill would divine aspects of each person’s character.

Ring 180 played host to a visiting scholar. Robin Lind, a Richmond, Virginia-area writer and publisher is researching the work of John Dee, a noted British mathematician, astronomer, astrologer, geographer, occultist and consultant to Queen Elizabeth. He lived in the 16th century and was in fact a magician. Lind wanted to know what magic was like in Dee’s era.

Hutch demonstrated “Out to Lunch,” an effect he says he always carries.



Ring 180 Officers

President:
Watt Hyer

Vice-President
Larry Rohr

Secretary:
Lou Dean

Treasurer:
Harry Gallant

Sgt.-at-Arms:
Randy Earley

Immediate Past-
President:
Steve Fuller

New Constitution and By-laws

Ring 180's Constitution and By-laws are out of date and no longer reflect our current practices. With guidance from the National I.B.M., **Lou Dean** has completed a first draft of a new constitution and by-laws which he will send to all current members for suggestions and approval.

FEBRUARY BUSINESS MEETING

The February business meeting was held on Wednesday February 6, 2008 at Famous Dave's Restaurant at Broad and Glenside. **Watt Hyer, Randy Earley, Bill Worrell, Harry Gallant, Larry Rohr** and **Lou Dean** attended.

The business meetings are held at a separate time from the regular meeting so that more time at the regular meeting can be devoted to magic. The business meetings are open to all members of Ring 180 and, if you are a member, you are encouraged to attend. The meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at the restaurant noted above.

The Ring is contemplating adding an extra monthly meeting that would be held at the Divine Magic & Novelty shop on Lakeside Avenue on either a Friday night or a Saturday afternoon. This would allow magicians who can't make a Thursday evening meeting to take part in Ring activities. School students find it difficult if not impossible to attend a meeting on a school night. A conversation has begun between the Ring and **Hun Woo**, who owns Divine Magic & Novelty, the only magic store in the Richmond area. When Woo moved his store from Midlothian Turnpike to its present location on Lakeside Avenue, he allowed enough room in the back for the magic club to meet there. Other than lectures, Ring Meetings have never been held at Divine Magic. The proposed meetings, if approved by Woo and the Ring, would be an experiment to see if it might be advantageous to move the regular meeting to Woo's place.

In other business, President **Watt Hyer** wants to revive the Ring's library to make it available to the members.

Ring 180 now has an official I.R.S. identification number. This separates the Ring from the treasurer's personal accounts and serves as an employer ID number. The Ring is non-profit and pays no taxes. Treasurer **Harry Gallant** reports a healthy treasury as of the beginning of February.

Watt Hyer reports that he gave "Captain Kidd" (Richard Kidd), the guard at the Science Museum of Virginia, a gift certificate to Red Lobster as a Christmas gift from the Ring.

THEMES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

President **Watt Hyer** proposed the following themes for our meetings in 2008.

February 21: Mentalism
March 20: Invisible Thread
April 17: Coins
May 15: Stage Magic
June 19: Cards
July 17: Silks

August 21: Props
September 18: Gimmicks—what the audience doesn't see
October 16: Sleight-of-hand
November 20: Books
December 18: Open. Perhaps a party.