

# NEWSLETTER OF I.B.M. RING 180

November 2008

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



Troy Hooser

## Still time to plan to come to the lecture

### Discover Troy Hooser's New Magic Lecture.

Friday, November 14th, 7:30 p.m. Eureka Theater, Science Museum of Virginia  
2500 W. Broad St. Parking also available in the usual secret places.

*Straight from the mind of Troy Hooser and into your repertoire.*

This new lecture is packed with Troy's favorite routines. Each routine is demonstrated and concisely explained. In addition, Troy describes all the subtleties and finesses required to perform each routine.

### Here's a preview of the Troy's NEW lecture

*Three Coin effects, Three Card effects, Three Misc. effects*

*Plus a few extra routines*

*Just Two Coins, just two normal coins vanish & appear at will.*

*Coin Across 101, start loaded, end clean.*

*Coins to the bagless purse, three coins melt away visually as they are tossed to the bagless purse.*

*Four Card Monte, my favorite card routine, easy and fun to perform. Worth the price of the lecture.*

*Troy's Ace's, an easy to do Ace production with an incredibly colorful ending.*

*Personality Prognosticator, a prediction with a killer ending. Also easy to perform.*

*Rubber Lock, two rubber bands link, unlink, then lock themselves together visually!*

*Bottomless Box, two crystal balls are magically produced with the bottomless box.*

*Lace's & Ring, a ribbon and ring routine with the bottomless box. Visual and fun for any audience.*

***All Nine Incredible Effects are Available on One DVD***

***Lecture Notes From The Basement***

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## Next Ring meeting Thursday, November 20th

The theme of the November meeting is "books." You have lots of magic books in your collection, but only one or two may have influenced you. Bring your favorite book or books to tell the other members about.

The meeting will be at the Science Museum of Virginia, 2500 W. Broad St. on Wednesday, November 20th, at 7:30 p.m. If parking is tight, remember the volunteer lot or the DMV lot on the east side of the Museum.

## IN THIS ISSUE READ ABOUT

- o Troy Hooser lecture
- o November meeting
- o Business Meeting:
- o 2009 Themes
- o October meeting
- o Officer Nominations
- o Dues
- o Ring Library
- o Membership Chairman
- o "Teaching table"
- o Pumpkin Palooza
- o Future outside performances
- o Al Albers novel about magic

## REPORT ON THE NOVEMBER BUSINESS MEETING

All the officers attended the November business meeting at Famous Dave's Restaurant on Wednesday, November 5th. All business meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month unless otherwise noted. Here is a summary of what was discussed.



Hyer



Rohr



Dean



Gallant



Early

**Nominations for Officers.** Nominations were made for officers for the 2009 calendar year. The slate is unchanged from this year. It is:

President: **Watt Hyer**

Vice President: **Larry Rohr**

Secretary: **Lou Dean**

Treasurer: **Harry Gallant**

Sergeant-at-arms: **Randy Early**

Nominations may also be made from the floor at both the November meeting on the 20th or the December meeting on the 18th. The vote will be taken at the December meeting.

**Membership Chairman.** There is no provision for a Membership Chairman in our by-laws, but the President may appoint such a position. A Membership chairman would follow up with guests at our meetings and lectures to encourage guests to become members. The Membership Chairman could also help keep track of dues.

**Associate membership.** Although we haven't had any recently, our by-laws provide for an Associate Membership. An Associate Member is defined as a spouse or bona fide assistant to an Active or Junior member who has significantly advanced the magi-



Amy Duck

cal arts. The Associate Member enjoys a discount on his or her International membership. Amy Duck is applying for Associate Member status.

**Dues.** Just a friendly reminder here that dues are payable as of January 1st of the new year. If you don't plan on attending the January meeting, you can pay your dues to the Treasurer, Harry Gallant,

at either the November or December meeting. Dues have not increased in many years. Dues remain at \$12 per year for Ring 180. To be eligible for membership in Ring 180, a person must also be an active member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians.

**Themes for next year.** Make a suggestion for a theme for one or more meetings. It's been suggested that we have a meeting devoted to kids' magic and another meeting devoted to "impromptu magic" in which you might make magic using some common articles contained in a provided bag.

**Teaching tables.** One or more of our members would sit at a table teaching, for instance, a coin matrix. Those who wanted to learn would gather at that table. There



could be one or more of these at each meeting.

**Library.** Ring 180 has a library of many books and videos, mostly VHS cassettes but several DVDs as well. Members in good standing may borrow anything in the library. Contact Larry Rohr for a list of our holdings.

**Future outside performances.** Happily we have requests for enough outside performances, some free, some for pay, that we now need to have a planning meeting for each such performance. These meetings would assure that none of the magicians taking part performed the same



Pumpkin Palooza

effects each magician wanted to do, it would be decided who would be the opener, middle and closer. The length of performance by each magician would be dictated by the total length allocated to our group.

All members of Ring 180 are invited to every business meeting. Attendance is not mandatory; the business meeting is held so we can do more magic at each regular Ring meeting.

## WHAT YOU MISSED AT THE OCTOBER MEETING

The theme for the October meeting was “sleight of hand” and everyone had a favorite move to demonstrate.



President **Watt Hyer** set the mood by opening the session with a classic paddle move. There have been many paddles manufactured and they all make use of the same classic move. It is usually the first effect a beginner learns.

**Hutch** showed the “silk to egg” sucker effect with the help of his grandson, Erik Ratcliffe. This effect is enjoying a comeback as several manufacturers are releasing updated versions.



**Zack Owen** improved on an old effect by using a seemingly blank deck. When each of two spectators signed separate cards, it was revealed they had impossibly signed opposite sides of the same card!

**Joe Duck** showed an effect which, like the paddle move, we all learn as beginners: the coins to pocket. Joe skillfully added a click pass, something which comes only many years after beginner status.



**Larry Rohr** also demonstrated pure sleight of hand by showing the classic multiplying billiard balls, this time with miniature billiard balls. (How many times have you wished the standard billiard balls were

smaller?)

**Ron Occhiuto** showed a classic sponge ball routine where a sponge disappears from the magician’s hand only to appear in the spectator’s hand.



**Harry Gallant**, in deference to the Halloween theme of October, made candy appear from an apparently empty handkerchief.

**Bill Baber** did a “you do as I do” routine, putting a knot on a rope held tightly in both hands without letting go. Of course, the secret is...



**Donovan Phillips** showed his version of the vanishing coin and a vanishing marker. Donovan has lots of helpful gimmicks up his sleeve...and elsewhere.

**Joe Duck** demonstrated how to make two coins out of one. The secret is in the seemingly impossible place to hide the second coin.



There are several benefits to attending our monthly Ring meetings.

- o The camaraderie of people with an interest in the same hobby.
- o The willingness to share methods and techniques for accomplishing an effect.
- o The opportunity to learn new effects.
- o The recalling to your mind of effects you used to do in the dim, distant past but have set aside. You see that, with a new twist, the old trick can be new again.
- o The opportunity to polish your technique under the tutelage of one who may have already mastered the effect and is willing to share.

## RING 180 PERFORMS AT THE PUMPKIN PALOOZA

**Watt Hyer, Larry Rohr, Harry Gallant** and “Hutch” **Hutchinson** performed at the Pumpkin Palooza, a charity event produced by the Faison School for Autism and held at the Science Museum of Virginia on Saturday, October 18th. Ring 180 was asked to provide pro bono walk-around and stage performances. There was some miscommunication: we understood the event would be inside; in fact, it was held outside. Our group thought the stage performance was scheduled for 2:30 p.m.; the schedule on the Internet had the group performing at 2 p.m. The stage was 30 feet from the audience. Being experienced in such matters, our representatives gave great performances that left the audience amazed and asking for more.



## AL ALBERS OF RING 103 WRITES MAGIC NOVEL

Our magician friend from Virginia Beach, Al Albers, a member of I.B.M. Ring 103 in Norfolk, has written a magic-themed mystery novel. Albers blends a heartwarming story about friendship and an unsolved mystery into a magical tale that every reader will truly enjoy. His book, *Of Ghosts and Magic* is currently available at your favorite bookstore.

The plot, as outlined on the back cover and reviewed on Amazon.com says:

In 1973, Alex Holloman got a job as a courier and met a wonderful lady. Suddenly, his world fell apart; his parents were killed and then he inexplicably disappeared. When America's Foremost Magician, John Michaels, agreed to perform for his high school's 30th Anniversary Reunion in June 2000, he didn't know it would also involve searching for his friend, Alex Holloman. Unlike creating a magic illusion, which is based on principles of



Al Albers

mathematics and science, attempting to find a missing person would challenge John Michaels' expertise to create a miracle in less than three weeks.

### About the Author

Al Albers has been studying the art of magic for over 30 years. A part-time professional magician since 1981, Al has entertained thousands of people throughout the United States and Europe. In addition to performing magic, Al has been a magic consultant, a magic teacher and mentor, and the author and publisher of *The Complete Guide to Teaching Magic*. In real life, Al is a retired U.S. Navy serviceman. He is a Technical Writer for a major defense contractor.

The book, *Of Ghosts and Magic* (ISBN 0-7414-4121-7) is available at Amazon.com for \$12.92 or retail from his publisher (Infinity Publishing, Inc. [www.buybooksontheweb.com](http://www.buybooksontheweb.com)), or special order from your favorite bookstore.