

NEWSLETTER OF I.B.M. RING 180

August 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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"PROPS" FEATURED IN AUGUST

What is the definition of a "prop?" It is something the audience sees, as opposed to a "gimmick" which is something the audience doesn't see. Demonstrate your favorite props at the August meeting of Ring 180, to be held on Wednesday, August 12, 2009 at 7 p.m. at the Science Museum of Virginia, 2500 W. Broad St. Please try to be prompt so we can start on time, end on time and give everyone who wants to perform a chance to have the biggest audience. See you there!

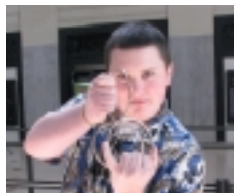
I.B.M. CONVENTION *by Dave MacMillan*



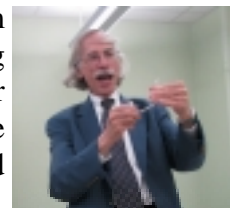
David MacMillan

Zack Owen and I drove to Nashville Tues., June 30, and back to Richmond Sun., July 5. We roomed together in the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center. It is a truly magnificent resort that covers acres under a huge atrium, all air-conditioned. We ran into **Bill Baber** Tues. afternoon and we went to the meetings, lectures, shows and restaurants together the whole week. The main lectures were at 11:00 PM after the evening magic show. Wednesday evening there was a banquet followed by a special show by Charlie Frye and Co., an amazing juggler and comedian, and Dania from David and Dania quick costume change pair. She did her hula hoop circus act (they met in the circus). Their performance of quick-change magic on the evening show was truly mind-boggling. Each day there was close-up magic competition in four different rooms, and also stage magic competition. The vendors were there in full force, and they would demonstrate their products up close at the booth and on a stage that had been constructed in the vendors' exhibition hall. There were a lot of youth at the IBM convention and there were specific events just for the youth, including a youth magic show, in which Zack performed with cards extremely well to a full room of magicians. I was duly impressed. The best lecture was by Ed Ellis, a close-up magician from San Diego and Ohio, currently performing in a restaurant in Hilton Head. Ellis started at 11:00 p.m. and by 12:30 a.m. only about 20 were left, including us. Ellis went on with all of us gathered around a table until 2:30 in the morning. He showed us all his card tricks and sleights. Needless to say we bought all six of his DVDs, which I would be happy to share with anyone in the Ring. The main evening magic shows were held in the

Opryland theater just a short walk away from the hotel. All in all, it was truly an amazing and fun week of magic. Almost every hour of the day and evening there was some magic event going on. I particularly valued getting to know Bill Baber so much better. We all had a great time.



Zack Owen



Bill Baber

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MONTHLY PRACTICE AT JOE AND AMY'S HOME



Joe Duck

Our Ring and its guests have been getting together monthly for practice sessions on the third Wednesday of each month. These are in addition to our Ring meetings on the second Wednesday of the month. This month, August 19th, at 7:30 p.m., the get-together will be at the home of **Joe and Amy Duck**, 5505 Aberdare Dr., Richmond, VA 23237. Aberdare Dr. is a short street that runs off of Salem Church Rd., between Rt. 288 and Centralia Rd. in Chesterfield.

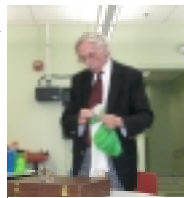
Click on the link for map:

<http://www.mapquest.com/maps?address=5505+Aberdare+Dr&zipcode=23237>

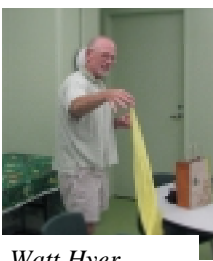
If you have questions on how to get to Joe's home, call Joe at 804 247-3825

REPORT ON THE JULY MEETING

The theme for the meeting was "silk magic." **Bill Baber** performed "Meet the Missus." It appears in *Rice's Encyclopedia of Silk Magic*, Volume 2, where it's attributed to Harold R. Rice. The description in the Encyclopedia states that it is the American version of the English "Mr. and Mrs. Green." For those who have the Encyclopedia, the trick is in Chapter 12, "Mechanical Color Changes," pages 692 - 693. The effect was produced by Silk King Studios and was available through them and other dealers. A recent check with www.silkkingmagic.com, operated by Harold's daughter, shows that the effect is still available.



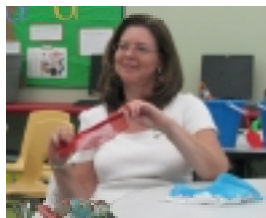
Bill Baber



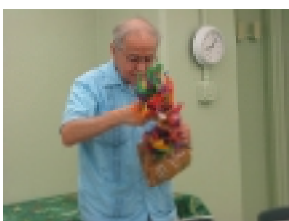
Watt Hyer

President **Watt Hyer** made several silks appear out of thin air, using gimmicks by Jay Scott Berry, Sanada and others. He demonstrated Duane Laflin's Snap Silk routine and Peter White's rose gimmick. Watt also showed a thumb-tip blendo.

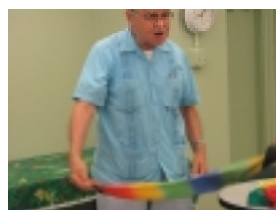
Linda Barrett did her version of the dancing handkerchief. **Harry Gallant** showed a production bag and Duane Laflin's color-changing silk streamer.



Linda Barrett



Harry Gallant



Harry Gallant

Following the theme portion of the meeting, **Donovan Phillips** performed Bob Swadling's "Double Deception" and the use of a magnetic flipper coin. There was a brief discussion on the origin of the flipper coin, other gimmick coins and who currently is the best provider of gimmicked coins.



Donovan Phillips

Bill Baber recounted the history of *Rice's Encyclopedia of Silk Magic*, the first 3 volumes of which were authored by Harold R. Rice with Francis B. Martineau as illustrator. Silk King Studios published them. The entire text was hand lettered by Martineau. The three volumes had continuous numbering of text pages so that volume 1, published in 1948, contained pages 1 - 520; volume 2, 1953, pages 521 - 1054 (534 pages); volume 3, 1962, pages 1055 - 1542 (488 pages). Rice died in 1987 and had sold the rights to the Encyclopedia to Hank Lee's Magic Factory and Magic City in the early 1980's. The fourth volume was published in 1993 with "Rice's" dropped from the title, authored by Mark E. Trimble with Trimble and Timothy Sonfelt as illustrators. The intent to continue the previous volumes is clear. The Martineau handwritten font was captured into a computerized font. The original Martineau drawings were scanned and then altered by computer to serve the needs of the fourth volume. The text page numbering is 1543 - 1854, 311 pages. There are ten pages of front matter and 94 pages of indexes covering all four volumes. The fourth volume looks much thinner than the original ones because it is printed on a thinner paper stock. There are reports of material that Rice had developed for a fourth volume, but it was not available to Trimble.