



The SPIRIT - Official Newsletter of I.B.M. Ring 1 - January 2025 Edition



Our Next Meeting
Official Relaunch of MAGIC 101
 January 8, 2025 at 6 p.m.

Please join us on January 8th
 Doors open at 6:00 pm
 Event begins at 7pm

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

We are M.A.G.I.C.

Mystery
 Answers
 Guidance
 Inspiration
 Community

Ring 1

2025 Membership Dues

To pay online with this link:
<https://www.ibmring1.com/dues-payments>

To pay by mail:
 Write a check payable to "I.B.M. Ring 1" for \$20. Write "2025 Dues" on the memo line. Mail the check to:
 Sandy Weis
 1755 Elkins Drive
 St. Louis, MO 63136

Ring 1 has a place for you in 2025!
 You can make a difference with your experience.
 Contact a board member to volunteer.

2025 Dates	Ring 1 Events
January 8	Ring 1 meeting: Four Magic Disciplines , Dielmann Recreation Center
February 5	Ring 1 meeting: Private Magic Archive filming (tentative) , Dielmann Recreation Center
March 5	Ring 1 meeting: Tim Shegitz Lecture , Dielmann Recreation Center
April 3-5	2025 Gateway Close-up Convention Collinsville, IL 62234 https://www.baskervilleproductions.com/gateway2024

Reach out to the board, if you need assistance.

I.B.M. Ring 1 Contact Information

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In the Know

The St. Louis Magic Roundtable meets every Saturday at 1:30 pm 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>

Magic Conventions

<https://www.themagicwordpodcast.com/magic-convention-guide>

Get free magic from Erik Tait,
by clicking here.

<https://www.ibmmagic.com/erik-tait-ambitious-access>

Get free magic from Luis Carreon,
by clicking here.

<https://www.ibmmagic.com/carreon-3-effects>

Ring 1 Report

by Sandy Weis et al.

On December 4th the Ring held their Annual Holiday Party, with 36 sending in their RSVPs. Michael W. McClure coordinated the events for the evening, which began with some unique games. He had isolated pictures of members' eyes, lips, ears, and mouths, and those in attendance had to figure out which member each image belonged to. It was a fairly difficult task and succeeded as a clever icebreaker that forced members to work together. He also had a set of rebus puzzles which, when deciphered, named "famous" magicians (many of whom were somehow connected to our Ring). The one that stumped most of us was "Michael Jackson." Many of us did not know he practiced magic. Michael McClure assured the members that Michael Jackson not only enjoyed and performed magic, but also held a patent for a special magic effect he often used on stage. Our Michael M. is very creative. Paul Gregor played jazzy holiday tunes on piano, during the dinner hour. Paul's talents were greatly appreciated. The members who played the games really enjoyed the activity as a warm-up to the evening's fellowship. Prizes were awarded to the members who earned the most points in three different challenges.



The Ring again purchased Firehouse sub-sandwiches (special thanks to James Hodge for picking up and delivering the order), and several members brought a side dish to share, or else donated to the Ring to help offset expenses. There was plenty of delicious food for everyone.

For the middle third of the programming, Columbus Smith presented a show/mini lecture entitled "A Haunted Victorian Christmas."

He performed many effects from his regular, professional show, and then explained the details and nuances of several of them. Most of his magic was of a spooky or supernatural theme, which included a clever Haunted Key presentation, a mysterious bell ringing (and then not able to be rung), and an untouched swaying of randomly selected bells, all of which are designed to make an audience wonder if a disembodied spirit's hand was possibly enacting the magic. Sandy Weis' favorite was the book test he performed. She has seen many magicians perform book tests, but this one was one of the best. Thank you, Columbus, for sharing your time and talents with the Brotherhood. He is performing a similar lecture at other paid venues, so we are fortunate that our members were able to see it first and for "free."





Then the excitement began with Michael's new and improved gift exchange. Members were encouraged to bring wrapped gifts related to magic. The members were instructed to take a different gift from the table and sit in a circle. Everyone opened their presents so all the members could see what the gift possibilities entailed. Michael gave each member an envelope. The members took turns reading the messages in their envelopes. For example, a message might instruct "Everyone to pass their gift to the right," or "Swap with someone wearing Red." Some messages offered the opportunity for that person to challenge another (of their choice) to a giant inflatable Dice roll-off, or a Rock-Paper-Scissors competition, with the winner retaining the prize of their choice. Several members received cash in their envelopes (donated by the Ring) which was really a welcome surprise, as that extra bonus was theirs to keep and not subject to swapping. When the game concluded, no one ended up with the present they originally had picked. The final round allowed everyone to participate in an "Odd or Even" prediction, which eventually narrowed the crowd down to one winner. This "lucky" player was allowed to steal any gift they wished. Michael redesigned our gift exchange to allow all players to be constantly active throughout the entire game, and yet guarantee everyone a chance to still be the final winner at the end. Our members really enjoyed this and have demanded that we never go back to our old White Elephant/Dirty Santa method.

Our thanks to Michael and his wife, Susan, for organizing this fun event. They promised new surprises in 2025 ... if our members don't wind up on Santa's naughty list before then!

Visitors are always welcome to the Ring's meetings and activities.

Sandy Weis



2025 GATEWAY

Close up

CONVENTION

LECTURES, CLOSE UP SHOWS,
WORKSHOPS, BREAK OUT
SESSIONS, DEALERS ROOM & more



TOM DOBROWOLSKI

APRIL 3 - 5



GEOFF WILLIAMS



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