

# Ring Report Ring #170 “The Bev and Alouise Bergeron Ring” SAM #99

July 25, 2023 | Archived Famulus



Our July meeting opened with 22 present and President Ryan Stiner making the monthly announcements of all the magic attractions operating in the Central Florida resort area and the magic conventions in other areas.

He then did the Tenyo effect, “What’s Next”, with a clever rhyming patter. Ryan is a resort entertainment director, and he uses the effect in his magic classes.

The monthly club show opened with Dan Stapleton. He used an audience volunteer and had a series of clever card effects where a regular deck of cards was ribbon spread and the spectator pushed one card forward and replaced it, then it was on top of the deck and then the card was at any number ,the volunteer called, in the deck.

Dave Freeman had a colorful dramatic treat with a Medieval costume theme. It was based on the Hummer Choices method, using a rock, paper, and dagger. He dressed 3 volunteers as a king, queen and jester and they each picked one of the three objects and with David’s back turned, he always knew where the objects were, even though the volunteers changed then without his knowledge.

Greg Solomon brought in several small novelty effects like a flipping disk that jumped off the floor and an antique drawer box and a flip over paddle trick that had a “snap” finale.

Dennis Phillips had a jumbo card stand which already had 5 cards with only their backs showing . The audience volunteers called out where to place 5 other jumbo face cards on the stand. The volunteer’s choices matched the 5 cards already on the stand. Dennis then did his own version of Gaetan Bloom’s “Quarto” but he used a horserace ticket theme and some horseracing humor, “Racetracks are the only place where windows clean people”.

Finally, Jim Stein showed us a great addition to the classic shoelace knot untie. This is where you take a 4-foot length of magicians' rope and make a shoelace knot and put both ends through the loop, on their end, and when pulled, the knot vanishes. He discovered that he could twist each rope end around each loop many times and the knot still vanished!

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Meeting policy:

Face masks, if you wear one, will not be ridiculed. We are respectful that some people may be immunocompromised.

Stay prepared, healthy, and informed about current Public Health issues and contagious outbreaks.

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**Dennis Deliberations ... Ring # 170, Assembly #99**

**“The Bev and Alouise Bergeron Ring”**

*Question for all you card-workers: “If Alex Elmsley had four wives, would you only ever see three?”*

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The International Brotherhood of Magicians is happy to announce that The Great Magic Hall created by. Attilio Sisofo, has been selected to receive the prestigious Ambassador of Magic designation ([www.magician.org](http://www.magician.org)).

“The Ambassador of Magic designation is reserved for magic theaters, magic shows, and other magic venues that share the art of magic with the public and have demonstrated a level of professionalism and excellence through their programming.”

- Ken Scott, former President IBM

Come out and see a show!

Many local magicians have made this possible:

S. Attilio Sisofo

Nathan Coe Marsh

Terry Ward

Dennis Friebe

Keith Kong

Dan Stapleton

Jimmy Ichihana

Jimmy Vee

Geoff Williams

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Magician Keith Clark in a 1941 doing Grandma's Necklace ,an early version of Dan Stapleton's modern "Chains".



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American actress Loretta Young (1913 - 2000) stars as a magician's assistant in the film 'Eternally Yours', 1939



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This is a little slicker than the old: "Make a X on the magazine page behind your back" (the ball point pen does not write, and you have done the pre-circling)

## "Papermate Prediction"!



CONFIDENTIAL MENTAL SECRETS

### "THE PAPERMATE PREDICTION"

**Effect:**

A sealed envelope is handed to a person in the audience. Inside is a 3 X 5 index card, upon which is written a prediction. A local newspaper is on the table. A second person is invited to take a seat in the performing area. He is given a section of the newspaper and a ballpoint pen. You explain that you will have him circle a word on the newspaper, but so there will be no chance that he is a shill, you will have him circle the word in a way that no one, even him, can see what he has circled until he has finished circling it. To do this, you open the newspaper to, say, the financial page. Show him the columns of stock figures and then hold the newspaper horizontally **above** his head. You now ask him to reach above his head, over the newspaper, and with the pen start making spiral circles (on the paper), making the spiral smaller and smaller until he is down to a very small circle, just large enough to contain a word or a part of a word. When he finished doing this, the paper is lowered and **he** calls out the word he has circled. The person in the audience who has been holding your prediction tears open the envelope, removes the card, and reads it aloud. It is the word which was circled by the on-stage assistant!!!

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Just showing you that even Copperfield does Hippity-Hop Rabbits.





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From the old Mr. Ed TV show



One of the biggest tie-ins to magic on a TV show has to be the old Mr. Ed (the talking horse) TV series.

In it, Wilbur was an amateur magician and in one episode in 1964, Ed and Wilbur went to a magic convention.

It happened to be a convention of the Society of American Magicians.



The show's co-creator and head writer was Lou Derman, who was also a magician and a "regular" at the Magic Castle in Hollywood.

He was also a writer/producer for "All in the Family." Here are some screenshots from that episode. The performers pictured include Lou Derman, along with magicians Dick Zimmerman and Blackstone (and, of course, Wilbur and Ed).

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I never knew that the late Marshall Brodine (Chicago- TV Magic Cards-Bozo Show's 'Wizzo') was also a stage hypnotist.

See his fascinating history.

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**I have mentioned before that was produced the opening day prime time WBTV show for opening day at Carowinds near Charlotte.**

**John Moehring was the park manager. That was 50 years ago! (1973) and I was very much around the park's illusion show in the Coca-Cola Theater and it starred a young Texas Magician, Mike Christian.**

**The show used many Owen's built illusions from a defunct Peter Reveen Canadian**



**illusion show.**

**John Moehring was friends with Paul Osborne and bought a Magic Shop set , with a rabbit puppet show from Paul as part of the new Carowinds illusion show.**

Here I was ,50 years ago, directing a segment of the TV show on 16 mm film. I am with my crew in the Carowind's Sky Tower. I am in the back with the stopwatch.

Now 50 years later, in the same theater is a Brad Ross Production with his illusion show.

My old friend, Eddy Wade, sent me the show photos. (Eddy used to watch my local TV show, WhistleStop when he was kid).

I was the show's creator, producer and writer and worked on camera.

Here was the talking mailbox in 1972 ,with letters from kid viewers. I was dressed as the baggage porter at the WhistleStop country train station.

Much of my role was as puppeteer and art sketch artist and I dressed as several clown characters that I played.

<http://www.btmemories.com/articles/programs/whistlestop/whistlestop.html>





Many thanks to Eddy for these great photos below and descriptions from the Brad Ross show at Carowinds 2023!

Eddy was Brad Ross's right hand man in this summer's production.



Banners all over park promote the 50th Anniversary. The Carousel is right in front of the theatre.



Large banner outside theatre promotes Brad's coming ....

The truck being unloaded at Carowinds from the Brad Ross cargo trailer.



How many people does it take to unload an illusion show?



Front of Carowinds Theatre







**Backstage entrance and storage at Carowinds**

**Inside the 675 seat Carowinds Theater.**



**Backstage dressing rooms for a cast of 7 dancers.**



Unpacking the show props and plotting where everything will go, as cast sits by on a break.



‘Things That Go Bump’ cabinet. Sides folded in for storing off stage.



You can see Shadow Box and Elevator here





**Brad talks with cast and explains the schedule.**



**Rehearsing the Spiker Illusion and who goes where....**



**Double sawings get assembly and a polish. To the right you can see the Revolving Doorway Illusion, produces two girls at the beginning of the show, after Brad appears from elevator.**



Everyone learns about the Shadow Box for the Fireflies routine.

Double swings and Bo staff illusions on stage. Mylar curtain and up stage curtain in place.



Wiz Kote, Shoe Burn or Wash-O-Matic 3001 as Brad calls it on stage. Kids shoe reappears in a box that's been hanging over stage.



**Storing travel cases is a major issue in a small venue. We have them all over the theatre including in the lobby for decoration.**

**This lobby entrance area will be decorated with posters and other props before the opening day.**



**Lighting control board.**



**This is the show cast along with Assistant Choreographer Dina King (standing to the left of Brad) she is previous assistant for many years, who drove in from TN to help teach the new girls.**





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Dennis