

FLEMING FLASHPAPER

NOVEMBER 2021

CARYL FLEMING IBM RING 21 NORTH HOLLYWOOD CALIFORNIA

Celebrating the enjoyment and camaraderie of magic since 1938!

DON'T MISS OUT: WHAT'S COMING UP!

Join us for our next Zoom meeting!

NOVEMBER: BEN SEIDMAN LECTURE!



I.B.M. RING 21 Hollywood presents a lecture by BEN SEIDMAN

Nov. 4th 7:30 PM

Location: Magic Castle Peller Theater

Ben reveals some of his favorite and otherwise unpublished effects and utilities. The material spans close-up & impromptu magic, as well as mental magic, and stand-up material. His creations and thinking reflects the fact that Ben is a true worker. His routines are designed for real-world applications and are of great interest to the amateur, professional, and anyone in between.

DO YOU EVER SHOP ON AMAZON?

If so, then add our website link to your favorites and use the Amazon link at the bottom of our web page. Our club will get a referral bonus!

LINK TO MEETING:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82845895319?pwd=M2tmZitDN3NqeERFZHBxeGVmQ0l4QT09>

RING 21 CLUB
MEETING:

First Thursday of the
month

UPCOMING MEETING
DATES FOR 2021:

NOVEMBER 4TH

DECEMBER 2ND

7:00 PM
(See link below)

We are on twitter!
[@ibmring21](https://twitter.com/ibmring21)

And the internet!

www.ibmring21.org



Note from Newsletter Editor

This will be my last Ring 21 Newsletter. Here is a photo from one of my favorite moments when my then six year old and I performed a routine for the club at our summer picnic event.



We recently purchased a ranch outside Murrieta and are in the process of moving. It is a ten acre orchard with tons of avocado trees and a wide variety of other fruit. Here is a photo:

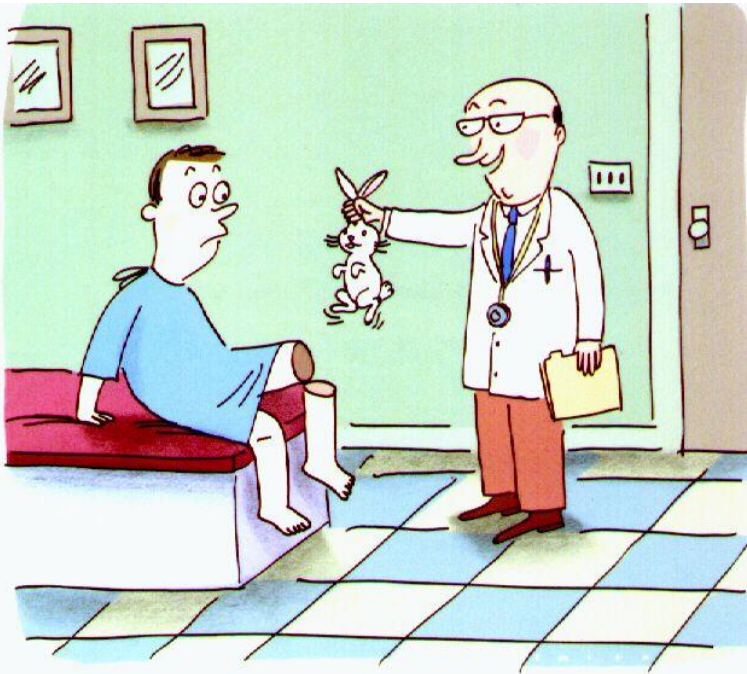


The trees you see around the house are avocado trees, full of fruit. I looked for an IBM ring in the area and didn't find one. In speaking to my magic mentor, Jeff McBride, I found out that there used to be a ring close by, coincidentally, called the Jeff McBride Ring. I am currently working with IBM to bring that ring back to life. I figure that will keep me pretty busy.

I would love to host an annual event for Ring 21 at the ranch. It has been suggested that we replace the summer picnic with a magic trip to the ranch. I would love to see that happen, and just know that in addition to a fun time with great magic, each of you would leave with plenty of free fruit.

HUMOR CORNER

Brought to you by Karl Johnson



*Are you sure you want to fix
your trick knee? This is pretty cool.*

LINKS TO PRIVATE IBM 21 MEMBER VIDEOS

Some of our members have shared videos they have posted on the internet.
Below are the links:

2021-07-30: Lex The Illusionist performs an excellent Anniversary Waltz:

<https://youtu.be/PuAwD2PukIE>

27/2020: Bob Thomas: FUNNY book test with Lex participating:

<https://youtu.be/FQ-w0bOXSS4>

4/22/2020: Michael Larkin: A ninja ring routine I put together myself, and a great coin routine by Daryl.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bShYQju5Zqk>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wyUg-UGhGiw>

4/21/2020: Karl Johnson: Fun and Funny performance that my 8 year old daughter and I did for her school talent show:

https://youtu.be/mkKwufGLB_Q

4/16/2020: Don Kinney: Short but hilarious interview at Kingsley Manor.

<https://fpkingsleymanor.oneday.com/Video/E3B7436B42>

4/18/2020: Jim Richardson: A fun cart trick, and the longest card trick:

<https://youtu.be/TptMf-XKe30>

<https://youtu.be/Mri2yvZMBCK>

MAGIC RESOURCES

<p>MAGIC APPLE The best magic shop and one of the few Remaining “brick and mortars” around! 11390 Ventura Blvd Studio City, CA 91604 Also online: www.themagicapple.com</p>	<p>MAGIC ON THE GO Great magic instruction brought to you by our very own Steve Valentine: https://magiconthego.vhx.tv/</p>
<p>Westside Wizards Sam 291 Note: See www.westsidewizards.org for calendar of events Stoner Park OPICA Adult Day Care 11759 Missouri Ave, Los Angeles, CA</p>	<p>Mark Wilson IBM Ring 280 Note: See www.ibmring280.com for info and calendar The Boys & Girls Club of Santa Clarita Valley 24909 Newhall Ave. Newhall, CA 91321</p>
<p>Vertical Wine Bistro Dinner & Magic Show NOTE: Vertical Wine Bistro has the best steak around! 70 N. Raymond Avenue, Pasadena, CA, 91103 www.verticalwinebistro.com 626-795-3999</p>	<p>Woodley Proper Magic Monday Bar has magic on Monday nights. www.woodleyproper.com 16101 Ventura Blvd, Encino, CA 91436 (818) 906-9775</p>
<p>MAGIC MONDAY Santa Monica Playhouse www.santamonicaplayhouse.com 1211 4th Street Santa Monica, CA, 90401</p>	<p>Magic and Wine – David Minkin Bardot 1737 North Vine Street, Hollywood, CA 90028 www.MagicandWine.com (800) 838-3006</p>
<p>Ivan Imodei’s Intimate Illusions – The Show Four Seasons Beverly Wilshire Hotel 9500 Wilshire Boulevard, Beverly Hills, CA 90212 www.ivanamodei.com (866) 811-4111</p>	<p>Smoke and Mirrors The Road Theatre 5108 Lankershim Boulevard North Hollywood, CA 91601 www.SmokeandMirrorsMagic.com (310) 450-2849</p>
<p>The Magic Castle 7001 Franklin Avenue, Hollywood, CA 90028 www.magiccastle.com (323) 851-3313</p>	<p>Magic Mondays https://www.magicmondayla.com/</p>

INSTALLATION DINNER!

After a much too long series of Zoom meetings, Ring 21 celebrated its new magical year with a banquet and installation of new officers at the popular Smokehouse Restaurant in beautiful downtown Burbank. A large group of members, their families and friends, as well other visitors (some from out of state) were happy that we were all able to maintain our “in person” meeting on this very auspicious occasion. President Erin Kabbash greeted the group as they arrived and there were lots of happy faces.



Our first major item of business was the formal ceremony as each new (or returning) officer joined the group for the official “swearing in.” Longtime member Elroy Coddling conducted the ceremony (in spite of a recent bout with the Covid virus.) Erin will continue another year as president, Lex Schwartz will be Vice President, Gerry Schiller

continues his many years as Secretary, Wendy Sobel (with a bit of help from Bob Thomas) is Treasurer, Bob Weiss is Sergeant-at-Arms, and members-at-large are Charles Cisneros, Don Kenney, and past president Bob Thomas.



After a quick look at the raffle prizes for the evening—most generously donated by The Magic Apple’s

Brent Geris and a few special items from Don Kenney—it was time to eat. Next we all sat back to witness a most amazing performance by the popular Ben Seidman. Ben bills himself as a magician-comedian-pickpocket and he certainly is all off these. He is a comic and story-teller of hilarious skill. This included a long story of (almost) causing the entire Las Vegas Hotel complex to screech to a halt when the police thought he had a bag of what may have been anthrax virus in his room. Was this all true, Ben? True or not it made for a hilarious story.

Ben has been seen on Penn and Teller's "Fool Us" as well as Princess Cruises and was the Mandalay Bay resort and Casino's Resident Magician. He was also chosen by Criss Angel as a consultant to help design illusions for his "Mindfreak."



All these credits were well in evidence as Ben baffled all of us with some astounding magic. His pickpocketing skills are in evidence when a borrowed bill (signed by its owner) vanishes and reappears in a bag across the room or a call on a volunteer's cell phone announces the name of a chosen card. There was lots and lots of amazement for almost an hour as Ben wowed his audience and kept some very knowing magicians totally baffled. Luckily, Ben will be back at our regular meeting in November to do a lecture. Will he divulge his secrets?

We all will have to wait a whole month to find out!

Gerry Schiller

P.S. Here is a photo of the award Erin received:



The Greats of Magic
A Series of Capsule Biographies of Famous Magicians
Compiled by Gerry Schiller



Harry Blackstone, Jr

Although most of us have heard of magical families that performed over the years: the Bambergs, Herrmann family, Houdini and brother Hardeen—one father and son lived in recent times. And some of us (myself included) have been fortunate enough to have witnessed both of them. I refer, of course, to Harry Blackstone and his son, Harry, Jr.

Born in Three Rivers, Michigan on June 30, 1934, young Harry appeared often on stage as part of his father's act. As a young man, he worked for a time as one of Blackstone's assistants. After attending college, he debated following in his father's footsteps. Blackstone, Sr. had built a huge reputation as one of the world's foremost magicians (a name mentioned alongside those of Houdini, Thurston and Kellar). But realizing his father would soon retire—and with the older Blackstone's encouragement—he began to develop an act of his own. Early on he adopted some of his father's signature effects: the Floating Lightbulb, Vanishing Birdcage, the Dancing Handkerchief, as well as large illusions like the Buzzsaw and the Girl Without a Middle.

But it was just as important for him to develop a style and persona of his own. After building a solid reputation as a stage magician, he put together a tour in 1980, appearing in sixteen major cities, breaking boxoffice records, and eventually opening at the Majestic Theater on Broadway to rave reviews. His show would become, at the time, the longest running magic and illusion show in New York's history.

Harry, Jr. also appeared on television in his own magic specials (for HBO and PBS) as well as showing up as a popular guest on Oprah Winfrey's show, Johnny Carson's show and dozens more.

In 1990 he hosted the “International Magic Awards,” and appeared in acting roles on the daytime drama “Santa Barbara.”

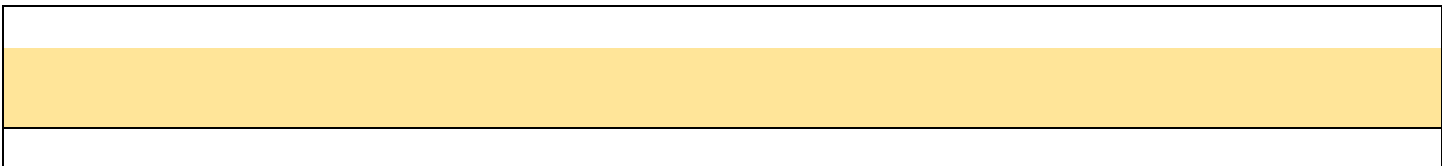
In the literary arena, he authored three books: *The Blackstone Book of Magic and Illusion*, *There’s One Born Every Minute*, and *My Life as a Magician*. He also re-edited his father’s classic, *Blackstone’s Secrets of Magic*.

Named “Magician of the Year” both in 1979 and 1985 by the Academy of Magical Arts, he and his wife Gay were given Honorary Life Memberships in Hollywood’s Magic Castle. Harry also received the prestigious “Star of Magic” honor—an award given only to eleven other magicians (including his father).

In 1985, the 100th anniversary of his father’s birth, Harry, Jr. donated the original floating lightbulb used by his father and the original cabinet employed in the Floating Handkerchief to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington.

These were the very first donations ever accepted in the field of magic. Unfortunately, Harry Blackstone, Jr. died on May 14, 1997 of pancreatic cancer at the age of 62.

His legacy, however, lives on, and his widow Gay Blackstone continues to produce frequent television specials, highlighting performances of some of today’s most accomplished magicians.



IBM RING 21 EXECUTIVE BOARD	MEMBERS AT LARGE
<p>PRESIDENT: Erin Kabbash 720-261-5566 erinskabbash@gmail.com</p> <p>VICE-PRESIDENT: Lex Schwartz (818) 935-4837 lex@lexthelusionist.com</p> <p>SECRETARY: Gerry Schiller 805-657-8921 geraldschiller36@gmail.com</p> <p>TREASURER: Wendy Sobel 310-753-5357 wsobel@roadrunner.com</p> <p>SGT-AT-ARMS: Bob Weiss magicRW@aol.com</p>	<p>Past President: Bob Thomas 661-390-3068 bdbbss@yahoo.com</p> <p>Don Kenney 818-896-7261 dkmagik@ca.rr.com</p> <p>Charles Cisneros charles.cisneros08@gmail.com</p>
<p>BOARD MEETINGS are on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm. They are currently held via zoom, but stay tuned for future developments. Contact Erin to participate. All members are welcome.</p>	
<p>FUTURE CURRENT EDITOR AS OF NEXT MONTH: BOB WEISS magicRW@aol.com FUTURE PAST EDITOR: KARL JOHNSON 818-790-9600 karl.johnson@gwcmi.com</p> <p>Deadline for submissions for the next newsletter is the third Thursday of the prior month. Please put "IBM 21 Newsletter" in the topic line.</p>	