

# MAGI-GRAM

Official Newsletter of IBM Ring 50 -- The National Capital Ring Volume 58 No. 11 November 2004

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## Ring 50's president recovering from surgery

Ring 50 President Glenn Gary is recovering from major surgery at The Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. The operation "went well" and the tumor was removed, according to his family. At the time of this newsletter's deadline, Glenn was expected to remain in the hospital for several more days before going home.



*Glenn Gary with ghostly pal*

## 'Spooky Magic' night entertaining evening

The theme for our October meeting was "Things That Go Bump In The Night: Spooky Magic," and the program did not disappoint. Ring President Glenn Gary opened the show by describing the lightER-than-air properties of pixie dust, gathering some from the air, and capturing it inside a card box from a deck. The box stood up, straining to escape gravity, then clung underneath his outstretched hand. Removing his hand, the card box floated upward, then hung motionless in the air as he walked away from it. The effect was eerie, but after a stunned silence, the crowd burst into applause.

Then our emcee for the evening, Treasurer Rucj Uffelman, used a voodoo scarf, a bottle of bourbon, and some chicken bones to call up a "spirit," who proved its presence by moving the scarf and bending a key placed inside.

Rucj then introduced the next performer, Captain Token the Magician (Louis Hofheimer). Featuring extensive use of fire (fire shooting wand, wand to silks, torch to cane, cane to silks, etc.) and

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## Gentleman of magic to lecture at Ring 50

Cy Keller of Philadelphia, one of the great gentlemen of magic, will lecture at the November meeting of Ring 50. An excellent close-up artist, he teaches about the HOW and WHY of presenting magic.

The scheduled appearance of the veteran Philadelphia magician has generated much approval from older Ring 50 members who know the fine sleight-of-hand man.

With more than 65 years experience doing magic, Cy has truly "been there" and "done that." As a confidante of such legendary Baltimore magic figures as inventor Hen Fetsch, illusionist Milbourne Christopher, dealer Phil Thomas and underground card man Frank Thompson, Cy learned from the best. He chose to focus on close-up card magic. He has performed at The Magic Castle and both I.B.M. and S.A.M. conventions.

To augment our treasury and to help fund Magi-Whirl 2005, a motion was passed to request voluntary donations from Ring 50 members at the November lecture. Normally, such lectures are free to Ring 50 members in good standing.



*Cy Keller*

## NOVEMBER MEETING

Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2004

PIER 7 RESTAURANT

in the

CHANNEL INN HOTEL

650 Water Street SW

Washington DC

6:00 Cocktails

6:45 Dinner

8:00 Meeting

# Coming Events 'Spooky Magic'

## Dave Shepherd Close-up Magic

Dates: Wednesdays from 7 - 9 p.m.  
Place: Mama's Italian Restaurant, 9715 Lee Highway, Fairfax, Va.  
Contact: 703-385-2646 or 703-623-3952.  
Web site: [www.daveshepmagic.com](http://www.daveshepmagic.com)

## Lorenzo the Great Kid's Night

Date: Last Tuesday of every month from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
Place: Silver Diner Restaurant in Tyson's Corner, 8101 Fletcher Avenue, McLean, Va.  
Contact: Larry Lipman at 703-237-1531 or email [lorenzomagic@cox.net](mailto:lorenzomagic@cox.net)

## SAM Meeting

Date: Nov. 17  
Place: National Press Club, 529 14th Street NW, Washington, D.C.  
Theme: Out at the restaurant: Magic for business and pleasure  
Contact: Ray Eyler at (410) 798-0176 or [ceyler1026@aol.com](mailto:ceyler1026@aol.com)

## Lectures at Denny's

Denny & Lee Magic Studio, 325 South Marlyn Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21221  
Contact: 410-686-3914  
or <http://www.dennymagic.com>

Who: **Darwin Ortiz** featuring a new lecture from his new "Scams and Fantasies" DVDs.

Date: Oct. 30 at 7:30 p.m.  
Cost: \$25

Who: **Barry Mitchell**, author of the new book "The Magic of Thinking Creatively," will present some of his best magical effects such as "Got Cookies" and "Attack of the Book Worms."

Date: Nov. 9 at 7:30 p.m.  
Cost: \$20

Who: **Gazzo**, a big hit of the World Magic Summit's midnight show in Las Vegas, who will perform his legendary cups and balls and other routines.

Date: Nov. 11 at 7:30 p.m.  
Cost: \$20

## Wednesday Night Wizardry

This popular pastime returns for another great season.  
Place: Gaithersburg Arts Barn  
Dates: Nov. 3 & 17 at 8 p.m.  
Cost: Buy tickets online at the City of Gaithersburg's official Web site [www.gaithersburgmd.gov](http://www.gaithersburgmd.gov).

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blood, his over-the-top comedy act stunned the crowd.

Using first a Wrist Chopper and then a Visible Electric Jigsaw Illusion, he showed a manic sense of humor. The act could easily be developed into a full-fledged Mad Scientist or Halloween act suitable for older children and teenagers.

Glenn Gary returned with his version of the Dancing Hank set to the 60's tune "The Monster Mash." In honor of the night's theme, the Hank was wearing a miniature ghost costume! This enchanting presentation continued even after the Hank shed its costume. A very amusing routine, and well received by the crowd.

Matt Pernick then set a bizarre tone as he told the tale of walking around the Egyptian pyramids and purchasing an "Unholy Grail" goblet from a local shop. A stone jar, also from Egypt, was emptied into the metal goblet, but never ran out of water. Then, as he reminded the audience of the Ten Plagues of Moses, the water poured out of the goblet visibly changed to blood! Matt followed this with a tale of Old New Orleans, complete with miniature voodoo caskets.

Membership Secretary Dwight Redman then lightened the tone with a whimsical Haunted Pack using a signed, chosen card. He concluded with Dean's Box, this time with a new story about challenges from the audience. Our audience loved it.

Our final act of the evening was Geoff Weber, who recreated a daredevil knife game as seen in the film "Aliens," with some important changes: his target hand was affixed to a board using cable ties; his hand was then covered; and he was blindfolded. As the audience clapped in rhythm, he plunged the knife into the board between his fingers. He did his best to keep up with the rhythm, even as the audience accelerated. A stunning daredevil exhibition, and one that no one should try at home!

After the official meeting, Rucj Uffelman delivered a mini lecture on the venerable Egg Bag, and showed us many varieties of bags and eggs, their uses and special moves.

—Eric Henning

# Broken wand rite honors Ron Bacon

Former Ring 50 President Eric Henning performed a broken wand ceremony the night of Oct. 13 for longtime Ring 50 member Ronald Allen Bacon.

Ron passed away Oct. 8. He was 74.

Ron was well known for his beautifully crafted close-up cases, magic tables and convertible table/cases. He also was an avid collector of McDonald's ephemera. Many remember his sense of humor and childlike love of magic, which never left him. He is survived by two daughters, Jacqueline Bacon-Bozzi and Karen Healey.



**Ron Bacon**

## Ring 50 Datebook

### Dec. 1

Holiday Magic & "Open Mike"  
2005 Schedule

### Jan. 5

"Hall of Fame" Show

### Feb. 2

What's New at Barry's Magic

### March 2

Spring Cleaning Auction

### April 6

Lecture TBA

### May 4

Dan Lacey Trophy Contest & Mini-Lecture

### June 1

New Officers Show & "Open Mike"

### July

No meeting because of IBM national convention in Reno  
Mid-month picnic TBA

### Aug. 3

Children's Magic

### Sept. 7

Banquet/Cabaret Magic Teach-In

*Between Magi-Gram issues, you can get the latest news on events and restaurant performers at the Ring 50 Web site [www.IBMRing50.org](http://www.IBMRing50.org)*