



THE TARBELL TRIBUNE

DEC. 2025

IBM RING 43 NEWSLETTER

The Month & Upcoming

Next Meeting: Friday, December 12th, at 7:00 pm
Teach a Trick
@ Magic Inc

Before we sprint into the holiday chaos like a magician realizing he left his deck in the car in the frigid cold, let's take a beat to appreciate the year we've had. Rob Thompson's lecture this month was a standout—extremely practical, endlessly entertaining, and packed with material everyone could actually use. Honestly, if lectures were graded, this one would've earned extra credit for being both fun and functional. It reminded me why 2025 has been one of our strongest years in recent memory: every lecturer brought something valuable to the table.

Up next is our final meeting of the year: Teach a Trick Night, the magical equivalent of a potluck.

If you're teaching something, while by no means a requirement, it would be wonderful to see at least one trick inspired by our 2025 lecturers. Maybe a move you picked up, a routine you polished, or even just a small idea that made your magic better. Consider it our way of saying "thank you" without sending everyone a fruit basket. And as if that weren't enough to look forward to, MagiFest 2026 is coming up in January. If you're planning to attend, let's organize some Ring 43 get-togethers so we're not all wandering the halls alone like lost students looking for homeroom. Conventions are always more fun with friends—and even more fun when you can blame someone else for the late-night jam sessions.

Thanks to all of you for making this such a vibrant, generous, and downright enjoyable community. Here's to finishing the year strong—and starting 2026 with a little extra wonder.

Last Month: Rob Thompson Lecture

President **Mike Kamlet** announced that next month we will meet a week early (Dec 12th) and the activity will be Teach-A-Trick and we're also looking for volunteers to perform at our January Holiday Party. Our November meeting activity was a lecture by World Renowned **Rob Thompson**. Rob considers himself primarily a restaurant magician with many years of experience, as well as a magical creator.

For his first effect, Rob picked **Craig Reeder** to assist. Craig chose the 7S and Rob lost it in the deck. He said your card is now on top of the deck. He turned it over and said "This was your card, I never miss" but the card was wrong. When Craig said "My card was the 7S", Rob turned it over again and it was now the 7S! He placed three coins and a Joker on the table. He picked up the coins in his right hand and one at a time the coins vanished from his hand and individually appeared under the Joker. (Baked)

Scott Lebin chose a card (7H) and signed it. Rob lost it in the deck, placed it behind his back, and found the card by touch. He placed it on top of the deck.





He brought the deck back to the front and correctly said it was the 7H. He then tore it into quarters and handed a corner to Scott. He then put the other pieces in the deck and, when he produced the pieces they were restored, with the piece Scott was holding matching the card. (Destroyed and Restored)

Next up was a paddle trick in the shape of a pizza paddle. The paddle was empty but a pizza repeatedly appeared and disappeared then came off the paddle then tripled in size! (Pizza Paddle Supreme)

Rob did a Coins Across with three Morgan Silver Dollars and then did his version of Twisting the Aces. In his version, the final Ace turns face up in the spectator's hands.

After the break, Rob did a Copper-Silver Coin Trick (Samoya) where both coin was placed in one hand and the silver coin magically jumped to the other hand. They then switched places multiple times. At the end, both coins were shown on both sides.

Rob did his version of Signed Card To Wallet, the twist being that the wallet was lying on the table in full view until he picked it up, opened it, and produced the signed card from the wallet. (Lazy Man's Card To Wallet)

Rob showed his Perfect Prediction, where he handed out a prediction card to Craig, telling him to not look at the prediction. Craig put the prediction randomly in the deck. Rob turned over the prediction showing a JH on the back and then showed the card in the deck next to it was also a matching JH.

Rob did another version of Coins Across and this time the coins appeared one at a time in Scott's hand!

For a finale, Rob called Viane up and she freely picked a card, showed it to one person, and put it back into the deck. Rob then had Craig think of a number from 1-52. He chose 13 and counted 13 cards onto the table. The thirteenth card was turned over and it was Viane's card.

After the meeting some members adjourned to Primo Chukis for additional fun and fellowship.

- John Hutesbaut



Member Spotlight

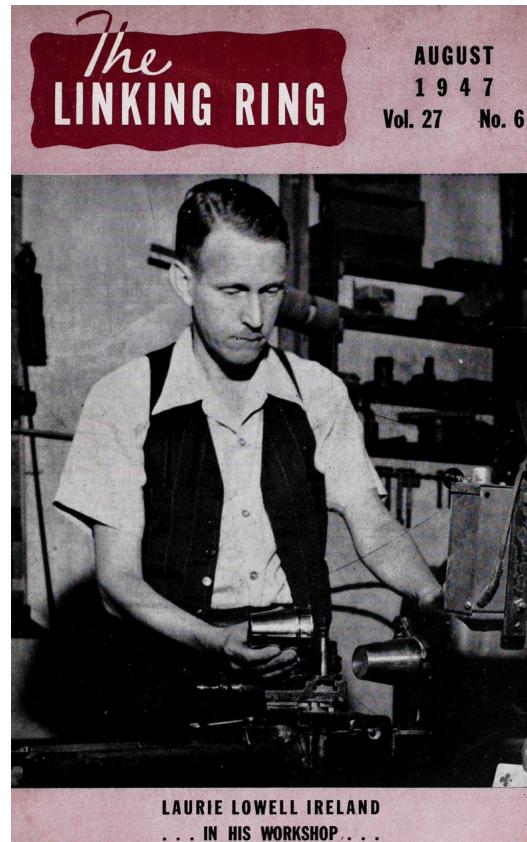
Laurie Ireland (1898-1954)

Laurie L. (Lowell) Ireland was a Ring 43 charter member. He founded the L. L. Ireland Magic Company in Chicago in 1926, after selling some of his creations by mail. The first store was at 431 N. Clark Street. The former carnival worker was an expert with coins and cards, a mechanic who made top-quality brass items, an invented the "Multiplying Golf Balls" and "Otto the [card] Duck".

For Otto, Laurie used a spring loaded tea-infuser as the bird's bill, painted a racquetball as the head, and linked the opening and closing of the mouth mechanism to the movement of the neck and head. This card duck became popular some years later when Blackstone performed Otto at an IBM Convention following WW II. Other manufacturers created their own versions including Warren Hamilton's "Jo Anne Duck" (this trivia about using a tea-infuser was a question in The Linking Ring youth trivia contest – April 2015).

In 1931, Laurie hired Frances Marie Ahrens Vandevier, who was working in the same building, to type and edit Ireland Writes a Book. After she finished the book, Laurie hired her full time to help run the business. The store moved 109 N. Dearborn Street toward the end of the 1930s. In 1940 Frances married Laurie.

Laurie not only was a chain smoker, but also a heavy drinker. As his health declined, he no longer could turn out the company's brass effects. Frances selected publishing as the direction for the firm. Laurie died in 1954 from cirrhosis of the liver. In that same year Frances married Jay Marshall. In 1963, they moved the shop to 5082 N. Lincoln Ave and changed the name to Magic Inc.



Prez Says...

Happy Holidays! We're trying something new this year by pushing out the holiday party to January when hopefully more of our members are available. We have also moved up the December meeting by a week to avoid holiday conflicts. We hope you'll be able to join us in December to learn/share some great magic.

Twenty years ago when the Ring turned 60, we had a celebration at Magic Inc. filled with stories and performances. Bob Miller and I assembled a 60th anniversary booklet with our Ring's rich history, I've been working on an updated version for our 80th that will include bios of our "famous" members along with bios for many of our 82 charter members that I hope you will find as fascinating as I do. If you'd like to assist with editing, layout, research, etc please let me know.



Member Recognition

Congratulations to our very own Ring 43 member, **"Fancy Nancy"**, for her successful audition to become a Magician Member of the Academy of Magical Arts at the Magic Castle!

Nancy graciously shared a few quick tips for others aspiring to audition:

- Give yourself plenty of time to **prepare**.
- Consider a **professional coach** to help with technical and choreography elements.
- Write a short but effective **script**.
- Turn those nerves into **excitement!**



Happy Birthday

John Huebler
Pedro Nieves
Eric Ronne



Events Calendar

Dec 12* Teach a Trick

Jan 16** Holiday Party

Feb 20 TBD

Meeting location is graciously hosted by



1838 W Lawrence Ave. Chicago, IL 60640

*Meeting date one week earlier due to the holidays.

**Location change, at Mr. Beef and Pizza in Mt. Prospect

Chicago Magic Lounge - Shows Every Night!
chicagomagiclounge.com.

Coin Magic Study Group - Work through the classic coin magic book, Bobo's Modern Coin Magic, on the second Saturday of every month from 2 pm - 4 pm.

Magic Inc. - Support your local magic shop! For more info, call 773-334-2855 or magicinc.net.

Club Meetings:

S.A.M. Assembly 3—At Magic Inc, first Monday of the month 6:30pm.
www.magicalchicago.com

Conjurer's Corner Magic Club—Fourth Monday, Mr. Beef & Pizza, 1796 S. Elmhurst Rd., Mt. Prospect.

Magic Masters—Fourth Wednesday, The Station Pub & Restaurant, 6657 South Street, Tinley Park.

S.A.M. Assembly 106—Second Monday, The Timbers, 1100 N. River Rd., Shorewood.

S.A.M. Assembly 148—Third Monday, Epiphany Evangelical Lutheran Church, 314 W. Valette St., Elmhurst.

IBM Ring 43 Board of Directors

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Dedicated to teaching its members to become better magical entertainers!