

"The I.B.M. Ring 60 Magic Auction is undoubtedly the biggest annual auction of magic ever held!" Don't take my word for it; that quote is from The Linking Ring magazine, the official organ of the International Brotherhood of Magicians.

It all started in 1975 with a One-Day Mini Magic Convention, the brainchild of Fred Scott Donaldson and Judy Wilkes/Donaldson, who ran The Scott Magic Company in Austin. They had started a Junior Ring sponsored by I.B.M. Ring 60, and wanted young magicians to have an opportunity to experience everything that a full magic convention would have. There was one of everything: one lecture, one magic show, one magic dealer. And John Novak, a magician and escape artist who worked for Louis Berkie at the Fun 'N Magic Shop in San Antonio, brought a few things from the shop and auctioned them off.

That tiny auction grew each year until it got so big that the rest of the mini-convention was canceled and the auction became a full-day stand-alone affair. I was proud to be the primary auctioneer.

Next year 2025, will be the 50th anniversary of what is now known as, "The World-Famous Austin Magic Auction! Plan to join us as we celebrate with one of the biggest and best magic auctions ever to be held! Go to **AustinMagicAuction.com** and put your email on the list for the latest news and information.

Kent Cummins

