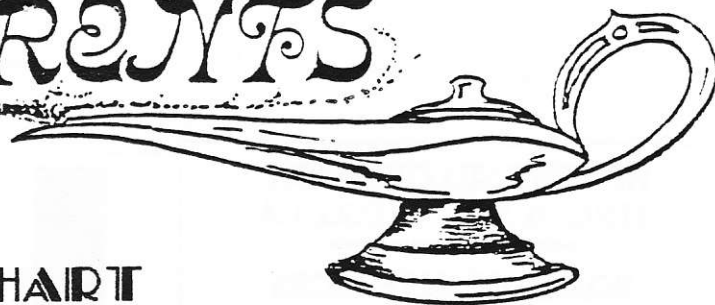


# MAGICURRENTS



HONEST SID GERHART  
RING 76, SAN DIEGO, CA

DECEMBER 1989

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

TO RING SEVENTY SIX from the officers, the board and the *MAGICURRENT's* staff: **AND THANKS to Vi FREELAND** are we ever gonna have a great chance to celebrate at our XMAS POT-LUCK DINNER on Wednesday, December Twentieth. She has called most everybody in the RING and has over eighty folks committed with some thirty five dishes lined up! A Bountiful Xmas Feast!! PLUS Musical Entertainment by our own **Judy TAYLOR** during the No-Host Social Hour from six to seven PM, and our 'headliner' for the evening, **Dave (CALIGARTI) NELSON**. And, if that isn't enough, **Don HALBACH** is working on a special entertainment treat by members of the Junior Magicians as a warm-up for **CALIGARTI**, and as a dress rehearsal for their part in the show for the American Legion folks on the twenty second.

We can still squeeze you in if you move quickly; but you **MUST** call **Vi** at home, 265-8844, or at work, 464-0198, to get your reservation in and your pot-luck dish identified. **REMEMBER, NO REGULAR MEETING ON MONDAY, DECEMBER EIGHTEENTH.** Instead

we'll see you all on **WEDNESDAY, THE TWENTIETH**, with no business meeting!

**FLASH:** Just learned that, since our Xmas Dinner is a POT-LUCK affair, we will **NOT** be able to use the kitchen facilities at the American Legion. SO--- you folks who have signed up to bring a "hot" dish please try to provide a crock pot or warming tray; or plan to take it out of the oven just before you come, (recommend wrap in foil, several layers of newspaper and a double paper grocery bag, and if that doesn't do it, then we'll just have "warm" dishes for our dinner.)

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## Prez's Mezzage

Tiz the season, and so many of you have shown the holiday spirit all year long. All of you that have done so many benefit shows are to be commended. One hears the immediate "thank you's" and they are appreciated, but the heartfelt thoughts that are voiced long after the curtain has fallen add so much more meaning to the performances that have been donated. I get letters and telephone calls after some of you have performed. They are too numerous and just not timely enough to be read at a meeting. They tell of the long-lasting effects of your shows, of the money raised, of the joy generated by the memories, of the wonderment evidenced-still. "How did he do that?" The intangibles that go on forever in the minds and hearts of the underprivileged, the handicapped, the needy. From all of them, through me, thank you.

Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, and a very Happy New Decade.

HONEST SID GERHART  
RING 76. SAN DIEGO. CA

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Sgt. at Arms.....	Sherry Luft
Director.....	Ed Forsythe
Director.....	Ed Raymond

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**MAGICURRENTS**

Editor.....	J.P. Jackson
Publisher.....	Frank S. Syren

**NOVEMBER MEETING**

... or what you missed.

November was our second annual SWAP MEET with seven seller tables, fifty plus members and fourteen guests, three of whom joined before the swapping started. **George EDWARDS** hosted one of his great work-shops before the business meeting with several newer members watching raptly, improving their card repertoires with **George's** help. President **Dick DALE** presented membership packages to **Lori BARRETO**, **Paul PLUMB** and **Ralph MAUZY** and then read a very nice letter of Thanks from Rear Admiral **Bob HALDER**, U.S.Navy, to members **Dave (Caligarti) NELSON** and **Jessie JUDGE** for their perfor-

mance at a recent Navy Medical Corps picnic.

Cartoonist **Jim WHITING**, who draws the antics of "*Vincent the Magician*" for our newsletter *MAGICURRENTS* each month, announced "*MAGIC DAY*" as the theme for the SAN DIEGO BLOOD BANK drive in January. He has designed a nifty, magic-motif T-Shirt for the occasion which will be given away to Blood Donors and Magicians who perform. Plans for our XMAS POT-LUCK Dinner and Show were finalized, and several members volunteered their services for our annual XMAS Party Show for our American Legion Hosts. **Mike (Bumper) STILWELL** also recruited a few more members to drop by the American Legion Hall in early December to help with the Muscular Dystrophy party for over two hundred Wheel-Chair kids.

The monthly raffle gave away a bunch of good working stuff, and we were happy to Welcome three new members at the break, **Terry LUNCFORD**, **Pat BERSLEY** and **Larry FRANKEL**. This brings our current membership to one hundred and nine - and we thought folks would drift away after the convention! Everyone was reminded about the *MAGICIAN'S GUILD OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA's* annual auction in December (their fourth) and prompted to buy lots of treasure during the evening's SWAP MEET to sell at their auction, or buy lots of goodies at their auction to sell at OUR AUCTION in February.

We had a quick, "impromptu" entertainment section with **Bob INGALLS** doing a torn and

(Continued on Page 3)

**VINCENT THE MAGICIAN**

by Jim Whiting



restored theater ticket after 'coughing' up a jumbo, six inch sponge ball as an opener. **Dave (CALIGARTI) NELSON** demonstrated a skillful Coin Routine with a nice series of Back and Front palms, vanishes, reproductions, and some superb "interlocking fingers" moves. **Mark (COSMAR) DIMENSTAIN** showed us the latest - a match box silk production and a beautiful color-changing foulard which then produced two bouquets of flowers and a dove - a nice item, watch the ads. **Jack MARKLEY** gave a great lecture on *ACUPUNCTURE*, using a nifty Balloon-in-a-Tube effect to make the points (intended). And then it was time for the SWAP MEET. **Skipper Frank HERMAN, James (REGOW) SWOGER, Roy & Betty ARMSTRONG,** and **Larry FRANKEL** unpacked boxes and boxes of assorted items (mostly magic) and the buying started. At least one item changed hands twice before it got out the door, and most everybody went home with a treasure or two.

\*\*\*\*\*

## BOARD MEETING

The Board met on December Fourth with **Sherry LUFT, Frank SYREN, Vi FREELAND, Lori BARETTO, Dick & Julie DALE, J.P. JACKSON** and **Jan EASTMAN**. Final details for the XMAS Pot-Luck were discussed with **Vi FREELAND** volunteering to conduct a phone campaign to the membership. She and Lori will also provide table decorations. **J.P. JACKSON** will purchase XMAS place settings at minimum expense and **Dick DALE** will coordinate with **Mick STILWELL** and the American Legion to arrange table and stage requirements.

During the San Diego Russian Arts Festival, back in November, **Marcus DAY** arranged a small meeting with a Russian Husband-and-

Wife Magician Team. They expressed much interest in our magic conventions and, especially, the IBM. As a result, **Dick DALE** proposed that *RING 76* sponsor them for a first year, IBM membership. The formal proposal to fund the membership was carried without objection and will result in a one-time expense to the Ring of thirty dollars for the International Membership.

The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday, January Third, 1990, at *BRAD BURT'S MAGIC SHOP*.

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## DECEMBER MEETING

...or what's coming

**NO REGULAR MEETING ON MONDAY, DECEMBER EIGHTEENTH.** Come to the Pot-Luck XMAS dinner on Wednesday, December Twentieth. (Details were in the special flyer sent out on November Thirtieth or check the front page of this *MAGICURRENTS*.)

The January meeting on the fifteenth will be ORIGINAL or HANDCRAFTED magic, and the February Meeting will be our Annual Auction.

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ABRACADABRA  
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Bob Prior



## SLEIGHTLY NEWS 'ROUND TOWN

- ☆ MAGICAL BLOOD DRIVE on January Sixth, 1990. **Jim WHITING** is coordinating performers to help out for the 1990 Blood Drive with "MAGIC DAY" as the theme.

★ **MAGIC** ★  
IS THE THEME FOR  
the SAN DIEGO  
BLOOD BANK  
IN  
**1990!** ★

AS A MAGICIAN YOU  
ARE INVITED TO TAKE  
PART IN "MAGIC DAY"...  
JANUARY 6<sup>TH</sup> 1990

PERFORMING\* AT ONE OF  
THESE BLOOD DONOR CENTERS:

440 UPAS ST. SAN DIEGO  
1845 EAST VALLEY PKWY, ESCONDIDO  
161 THUNDER DR. STE. 108 OSD/VISTA

CALL JIM WHITING 755-7449  
TO SIGN UP  
MAGICIANS WILL RECIEVE A MAGIC T-SHIRT  
\*MOSTLY ONE-ON-ONE.

Call him at 755-7449, or sign up at the XMAS Pot-Luck Dinner on Wednesday if you can do a "little something" at any of the locations listed in the preceding clip. Performers and Donors will get a nice T-Shirt which **Jim** designed. See inset.



- ☆ Looks like the RAMONA MAGIC SHOW by members **Billy WHITCOMB**, **Don HALBACH**, **Loch CRANE** and **Dave NELSON** was a hit. (See the picture story from the Ramona paper on Page 5.)
- ☆ From **Stan ALLEN's** *INSIDE MAGIC* - Watch for the *ICECAPADES* TV Special on Thursday, December Twenty Eighth at Eight PM on ABC featuring ex-San Diegian **Steve WHEELER's** illusion act on ice which should be during the first half hour of the two hour special.
- ☆ AND DON'T FORGET our annual XMAS Show for the American Legion folk on Friday, December Twenty Second, at six thirty PM. So far **Mike STILWELL** has **Don HALBACH**, **Loch CRANE**, **Frank**

(Continued on Page 5.)

**SYREN**, some of our "Juniors" lined up, with **Jay MALONE** as Stage Manager. Double check with **Mike** at 464-4961 if you're "open" and can help out.

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## CROSS TALK

- **MAGICIAN'S GUILD OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**, who usually meet in Carlsbad on the first Tuesday of the month, have announced a minor change for the new year. They will sponsor a **HYPNOTISM** lecture by **Arnold FURST** at the January Second meeting (on schedule), but will have their February on Tuesday, January Thirtieth, in order to host **Bev BERGERON** for a lecture. The evening will be free to **MGSC** members and to **RING 76** members, but will cost non-members ten dollars. More details in the January **MAGICURRENTS**.
- The **FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN MAGICIANS**, will hold their South-West Conference in Riverside on February Sixteenth and Seventeenth. Call **Ruth SCHILBERG** at 726-3029, **Ken STILLMAN** at 434-1436 or **Jack MARKLEY** at 724-6558 for details; or

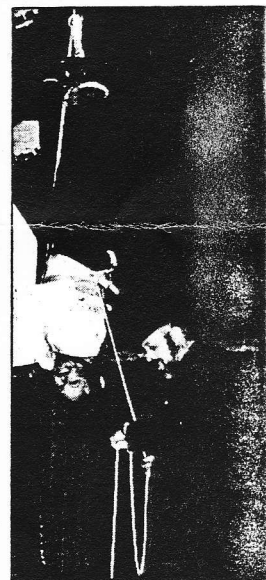
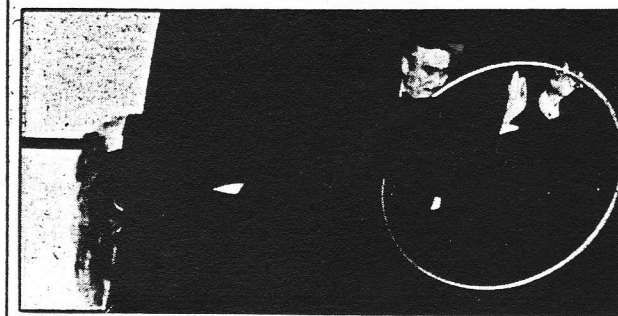
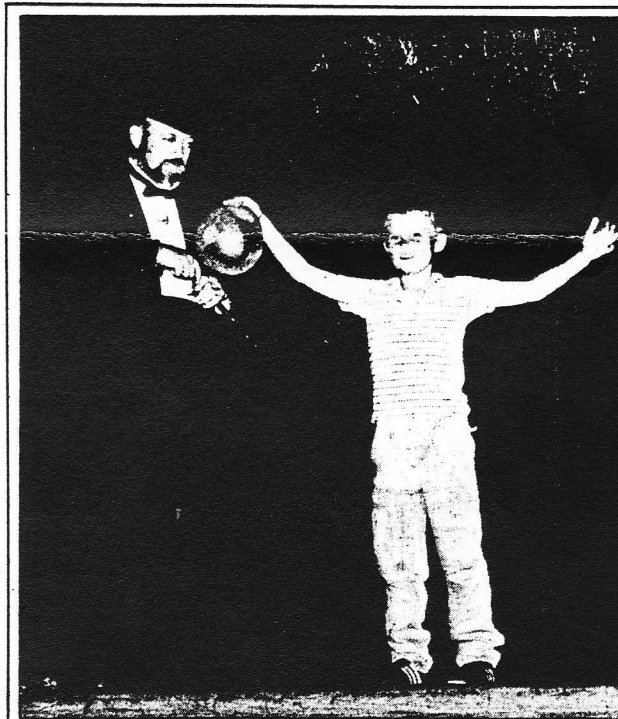
wait for a flyer in the January **MAGICURRENTS**.

- Again from **Stan ALLEN**: **Dale SALWAK**'s "*Stars of Magic*" will play on January Thirteenth, 1990, at Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa (Phone [714] 779-8591), and again on February Tenth, 1990, at Glendora Citrus College (Phone [818] 963-9411)

- Nice Christmas note from affiliate **RING 76** member, **Mallory Van-SLYKER** with greetings to all fellow **IBM**'ers. **Mallory** has organized an **IBM Ring** in the Palm Desert area, which should be chartered the first of the year, and invites anybody visiting the area to drop by their "Magician's

(Continued on Page 6.)

THE RAMONA SENTINEL - THURSDAY, Nov 9th



Sentinel photos by Maureen Robertson  
**MASTER MYSTIFIER**—Ramona Scoutmaster Billy Whitcomb assists magician Loch David Crane in his Harry Houdini-like Suspended Strait Jacket Escape during "Spooky Spirit Seances" sponsored by the Hanson Lane PTA and Ramona Cub Scout Troop 645. Charlotte Whitcomb, below, is suspended in midair by magician "Caligarti" during the benefit show, and Robbie Whitcomb, 9, helps his dad, who emceed the event at the Olive Peirce Middle School Performing Arts Center. An estimated 200 people attended the Halloween tribute to Harry Houdini, who has been called "The Master Mystifier." The show, which also featured Comedy Magic by Don Hall, will be an annual event, Whitcomb said.

Luncheon" every Saturday from eleven to one at the *DENNY's* restaurant located at Highway 111 and Monterey. Call **Mallory** at (619) 341-7439 if you're up that way.

- Great little auction at the *MAGICIAN'S GUILD OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA* meeting on December Fifth. Very nice turn-out, great

refreshments, and **Paul BARTON** assisted by **Ken AYERS** doing the auction. Sellers included **Scott FISHER, Jack MARKLEY, J.P.JACKSON, Mike MARR, Frank HERMAN, Brian TEMPLETON,** and President **Dr. Bob ALLEN.**

- And LAST and LEAST! The **Penn & Teller** movie, "*PENN & TELLER GET*

*KILLED*", playing at the *MANN SPORTS ARENA*, got "ho-hum" reviews in the *Union* recently. Lots of better things to see at the theater this XMAS season, but might be FUN to go watch "Magic's BAD BOYS"

*J.P. Jackson*

J. P. Jackson

Tel. 569-0096



# AT LAST...

you can now have a personal tutor to help you become an accomplished, crowd-pleasing professional close-up magician.

This book, **PROFESSIONAL CLOSE-UP**, is NOT how to do tricks, and it's MORE than the business of selling yourself as a magician. It's 30 years of professional magic experience that give you tips, recommendations, standards, and guidelines for establishing your style, selecting your tricks, routining them, getting shows, and working the audience. Over 100 pages of text are divided into four basic areas of knowledge that tell you how to make you and your magic worth a professional fee. These four themes are Style, Getting Ready, Your Stage, and Working the Show.



## PROFESSIONAL CLOSE-UP



Leo Behnke

Where does this volume of performing experience come from? Besides creating a great variety of shows for clients, Leo Behnke has also written a goodly number of books—some of them for other people! He has experienced everything in this book by being a magic bartender, illusion show assistant and stage manager, and producing television and theme park shows, as well as years of working cocktail parties, trade show booths, and hospitality rooms.



*"...the ultimate source for the magician regarding trade shows and close-up magic."*

— Bruce Martyn  
Restaurant Magician

*"Leo's knowledge of the Art is the best kind, it's born of experience. Aspiring professionals will save themselves time and money by heeding the advice in this book; must reading for anyone who wants to entertain with magic in the real world."*

— Floyd Orr

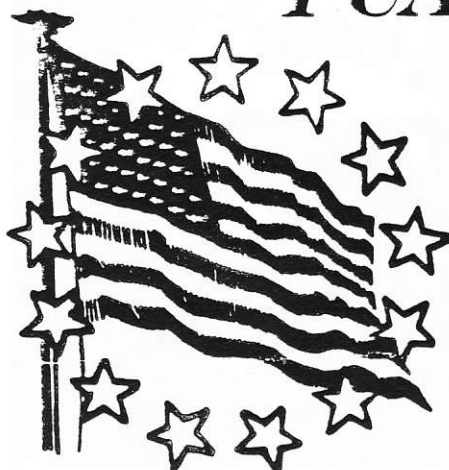
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**at the beautiful and new**  
**RIVER RIDGE RADISSON HOTEL**  
**Located next to the championship**  
**River Ridge Golf Course in the heart**  
**of the Gold Coast — halfway between**  
**Malibu and Santa Barbara — — —**

☆ **GREAT MAGIC** ☆ **2000 DOLLAR PRO COMPETITION**  
☆ **LECTURES** ☆ **THREE GREAT EVENING SHOWS** Plus  
☆ **DEALERS** ☆ **WORKSHOPS** and **SPECIAL EVENTS**  
- - **not to mention, golf, tennis, ocean fishing**  
**and water sports!!**

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Ventura, Ca 93003

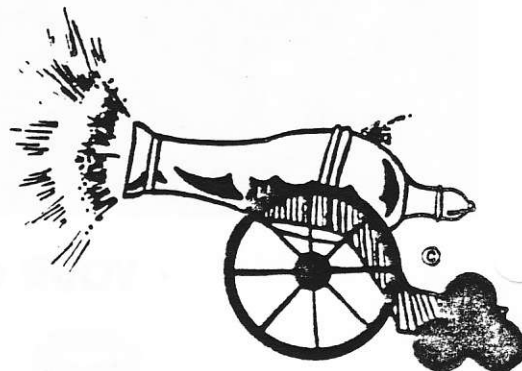
**75.00 ADULTS**  
**50.00 UNDER 18 YRS**  
**(805) 650-1550 OF**  
**(805) 659-2065 HO**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

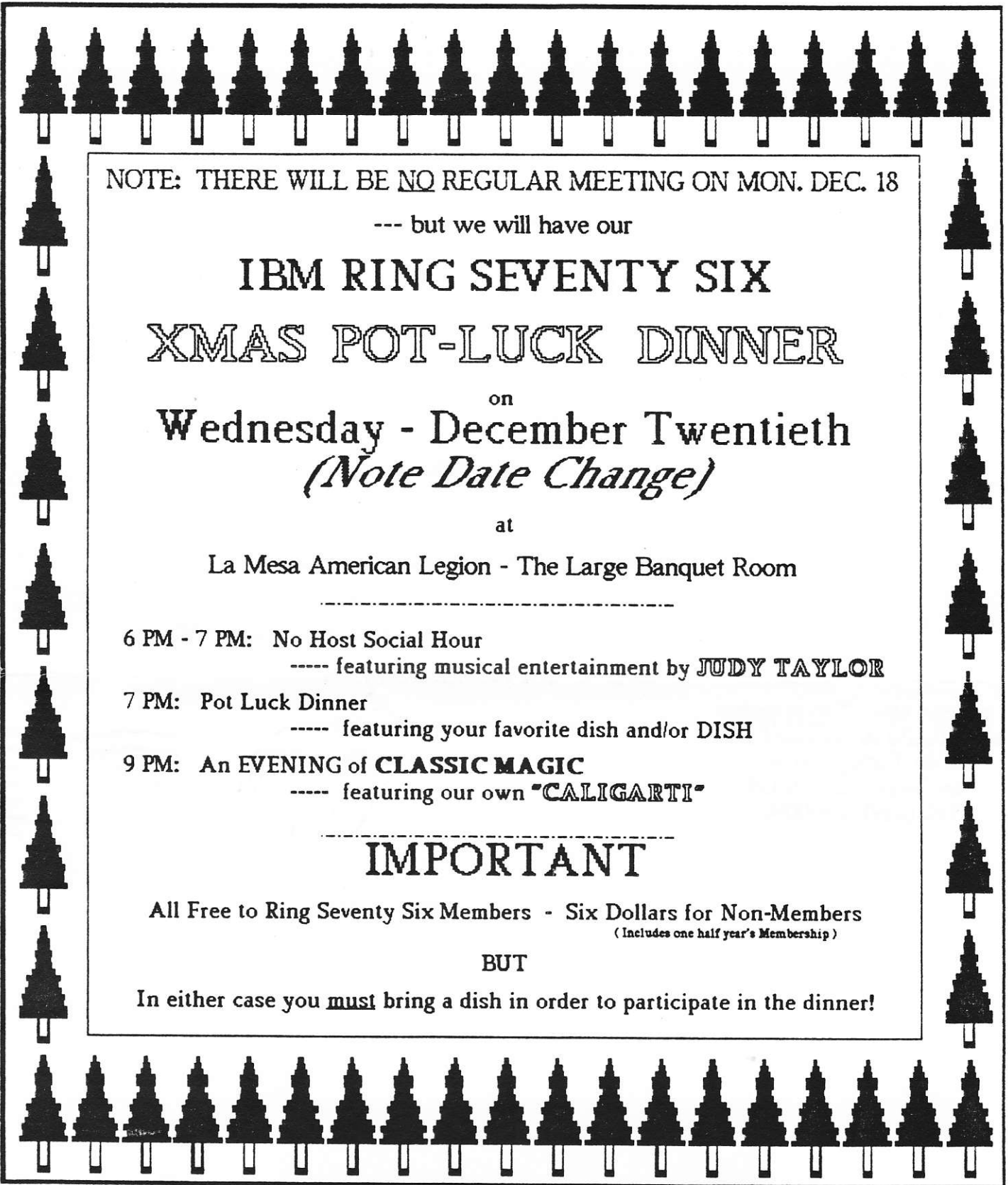
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**(805) 988-0130 Single 70.00 - Double 75.00**  
**Suites Available**







NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO REGULAR MEETING ON MON. DEC. 18

--- but we will have our

**IBM RING SEVENTY SIX**  
**XMAS POT-LUCK DINNER**

on  
**Wednesday - December Twentieth**  
*(Note Date Change)*

at

La Mesa American Legion - The Large Banquet Room

6 PM - 7 PM: No Host Social Hour

----- featuring musical entertainment by **JUDY TAYLOR**

7 PM: Pot Luck Dinner

----- featuring your favorite dish and/or DISH

9 PM: An EVENING of **CLASSIC MAGIC**

----- featuring our own "CALIGARTI"

**IMPORTANT**

All Free to Ring Seventy Six Members - Six Dollars for Non-Members

(Includes one half year's Membership)

**BUT**

In either case you must bring a dish in order to participate in the dinner!

**### REPONDEZ S'IL VOUS PLAÎT ###**

Vi Freeland will be coordinating the menu. Call and tell her what you plan to bring.

Home Phone 265-8844

Business Phone 464-0198

**DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS MONDAY, DECEMBER EIGHTEENTH AT 5 PM**

# MAGICURRENTS

5746 Tortuga Road  
San Diego, CA 92124  
Tel. (619) 569-0096



Roy & Betty Armstrong  
2548 Littleton Road  
El Cajon CA 92020