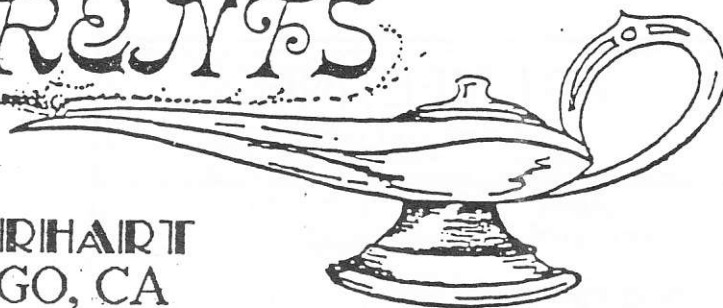


# MAGICURRENTS



HONEST SID GERHART  
RING 76, SAN DIEGO, CA



VOL. IV, NO.6

DECEMBER 1991

## PREZ'S MESSAGE...

Yikes! Does time fly around here! It seems like only yesterday I was trying to figure out what to put in this spot.

I've been asking around and it seems that the entertainment industry in San Diego is doing great! I have talked to quite a few magicians and clowns and everyone tells me that they are busy! I hope that it continues on into the new year.

I have been talking to entertainers who have bought either the Michael Ammar Audio tape or read the extract in his new book on Negotiating Higher Performance Fees. The information is dynamite. A good friend in Orange County went, in a period of several months, from a basic fee of \$175.00 to an average fee of \$325.00!!! If you have the Ammar book or the Cassette you should check out this material. It is easy to use and apply.

The above information is apropos of my the-new-year-is-coming thought: The private entertainment industry as a whole needs to constantly upgrade both ROUTINES and equipment in an effort to move fee structures UP. One "round table" type discussion that might be valuable could deal with exactly this and related points. Performing magic is a wonderful way to make a living. But, the fee structures MUST be such that a living can be made. Ramble, ramble, ramble...

CHRISTMAS POT LUCK: This has always been a ton of fun. Hope to see as many of you as possible. Remember to contact Dick Dale for details on what to bring, etc. See YOU there!

Your board of officers are always looking for great new ideas for our monthly meetings. PLEASE let us know if you have a concept that we can add to our yearly schedule.

Well, here is hoping the very best for ALL of you in both this Holiday Season and the New Year to come!!!

Brad Burt

## LAST MEETING

...or what you missed

Reported by Sherry Luft

We viewed a good (Ed. note: Well, interesting, anyway) video tape, "The Magic of Moscow" at our pre-meeting. Thanks to **Brad Burt** for providing it. Next business item was our Christmas Pot Luck Dinner on Monday, December 9 starting at 6:00. RSVP to **Dick Dale** and tell him what goodies you're bringing. The Pot Luck takes the place of our regular meeting. Celebrate the holidays with your "Magic" family. Also, half of the table fees from the Swap Meet/Auction went to **Don Halbach** to help defray some of the costs of the disastrous October show. Don says, "Thanks!" Our thanks also to **Roy and Betty Armstrong** who are donating a show for children on the afternoon of December 15 at the War Memorial.

Note our new Classified Section in *MAGICURRENTS*. It's there for you, so take advantage of it. Ideas are needed for speakers to discuss advertising magic as a business.

The turnout of sellers was small for the Swap Meet/ Auction. **The Loves, the Dales, Rick Gorecki, Skipper Frank Herman, Mark Dimenstein, & J.P. Jackson** all sold magical items that ranged from collectibles to current. **Jan Eastman** and **Paul Barton** auctioned off a production box. This and **J.P. Jackson's** Rice silk were the only items that were attempted to be auctioned. All in all, it was a fun event with a pretty fair amount of buyers with accompanying bartering. It was interesting that there was such a low level of interest in the auction side of things.

## BOARD MEETING

Reported by Sherry Luft

In attendance: **The Dales**  
**The Halbachs**  
**J.P. Jackson**  
**Brad Burt**  
**Sherry Luft**

The Board of Directors meeting was held at **Don Halbach's** house on December 2. The details were finalized about the Christmas Pot Luck Dinner and Show. **J.P. Jackson** is taking care of the tables. **Bob Ingalls** has agreed to act as Master of Ceremonies.

The March Exchange Banquet was the next topic of discussion. Ring 76 is the host and both Rings will perform. We're confirming **Pea Soup Anderson's** as the location with the date set for either March 28 or 14, 1992.

The pre-meeting event through at least April will be videos from **Brad**. It was decided to bring the Junior Club back into action.

The next Board Meeting will be held at **Brad Burt's** home on January 6, 1992.

Please send information, contributions and comments for

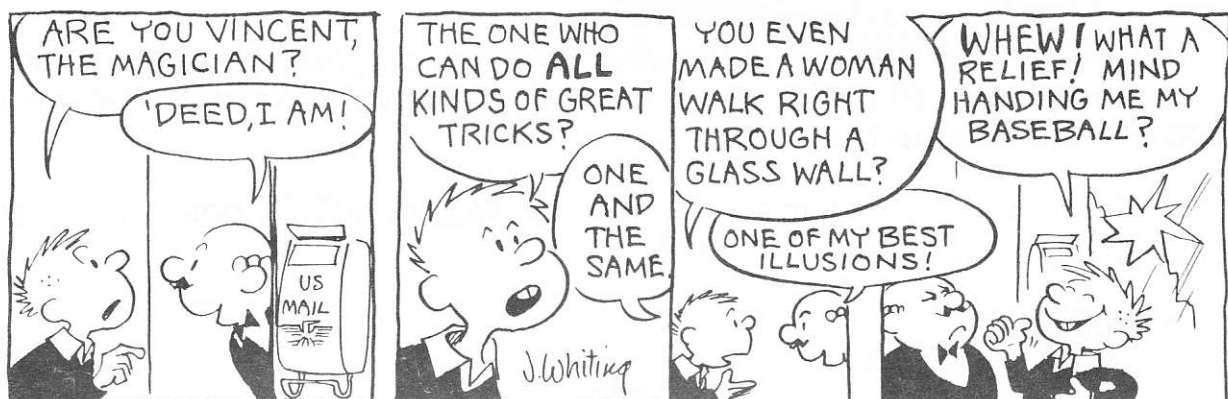
*MAGICURRENTS*

to:

**Dick Dale**  
2447 Nielsen Street  
El Cajon, CA 92020-0123

## VINCENT THE MAGICIAN

by Jim Whiting



## CROSSTALK

Speedy get well wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Ed Forsythe! Seems that Ed was recovering from having a knee replaced when wife Lee slipped on the floor of the supermarket and shattered hers! (knee, that is) It hasn't been an "kneesy" few months, but at last report, all were progressing well. We miss you, Bionic Magician.

The Neighborhood Outreach Program needs volunteer entertainers for homeless and poverty-stricken children. Call Estelle Graff at 223-3664 or Armand at 576-0560 if you can donate 15-30 minutes on December 20 between 1:00 and 6:00pm. The event will be at 2220 Broadway.

Don't forget, our American Legion is having their annual Christmas Party on December 20. We're committed to giving them a thirty minute show. Please contact Brad at 571-4749. We need your help on these events, folks.

Yet another call for volunteer entertainers. The Lukemia Society of Childrens Hospital is Having a Christmas Party for the youthful leukemia patients on December 22 between 1 o'clock and 4 o'clock at the Handerly (formerly The Stardust) in Mission Valley. While this is a non-pay gig, they will give volunteers a healthy dose of advertising in their February newsletter. Call Esther or Cathy at 277-1800. If you've never performed at a function like this, you owe it to yourself to do so. It is an unforgettable, wonderful experience.



## NEXT MEETING

...or what's coming

### CHRISTMAS POT LUCK DINNER THEATER

If past events are any indication (and they usually are), our annual Christmas Pot Luck Dinner will be a smashing success! Food will be provided by Ring 76 (an entree) and you (other good stuff).

Entertainment will be provided by The **Armstrongs, Skipper Frank Herman, Joe Mystic, Marco the Magnificent, Mike Horner, Rick Gorecki, Eddie Raymond, & Don Halbach.**

This dinner is our regular monthly meeting and will be held on Monday, December 9. Social hour begins at 6:00 with dinner beginning promptly at 7:00pm. You must call **Dick or Julie Dale** at 562-7379 to make reservations and receive your food assignment. The word is that several family specialties are being prepared. These always disappear rapidly, so be on time.

Don't miss this event as it is one of the highlights of the year!

### HONEST SID GERHART RING 76, SAN DIEGO, CA

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#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President.....	Brad Burt
1st Vice-Pres.....	Jeff Marcus
2nd Vice-Pres.....	Don Halbach
Secretary.....	Sherry Luft
Treasurer.....	Peggy Marcus
Past Pres.....	J. P. Jackson
Sgt-at-Arms.....	Dana Law
Director.....	Dick Dale
Director.....	Jan Eastman

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#### MAGICURRENTS

Editor & Publisher.....	Dick Dale
Circulation.....	Dana Law
Editor Emeritus.....	Frank S. Syren

## The John Mendoza Lecture

It is easy to see why John Mendoza is considered to be one of magic's foremost teachers. While he is a technician of the highest degree, his style of both entertaining and instruction is very easy on the viewer. As he puts it, "I'm low key. I want to put a spectator at ease."

With apologies to Mike Rogers, John's explanation of dice stacking is at the top of the stack. He makes it look soooo easy and has incorporated a very clever routine with one of his patented "kicker" finishes.

This brings up a point of controversy about John's philosophy of going the extra mile to provide an additional finish to a routine. Some say he goes too far, doing too much, and confusing an effect. This is a subject for much discussion to be held at another time and place.

John uses some basic sleights (multiple lifts, Elmsley count, etc.) and some excellent routining to accomplish some very strong card magic. His thinking on the chop cup is to be gentle with the spectator, not denigrating. Of course, his cups and balls are a well-known classic.

He also shared his expertise on how to handle various situations regarding spectators--audience control. This included angles, "grabby" people, and close-up stage management.

Of course, he had lecture notes available, some original Rings 'N Things Combination (one cup is a chop cup) Cups and Balls in aluminum, brass, or copper, and his highly acclaimed instructional, two-hour video tape.

The *MAGIC WORKS* lecture was well received by those in attendance--and they learned!

## CLASSIFIED SECTION

MIS-MADE LADY ILLUSION-- Including matching costumes. \$1200.00  
HOUDINI MILK CAN ESCAPE-- Includes curtain and frame. \$850.00  
SUB TRUNK (METAMORPHOSIS)-- Mak Magic model with clear plexiglass front. \$200.00  
Don Halbach 549-6901

Large variety of gaffed decks--\$1.00 each.  
See-In card switching box--\$5.00  
Diablo Slate--\$45.00  
Dick Dale 562-7379

Why don't you clean up the shelf and put an item right here? FREE!

\$600 discount on next year's MAGICCRUISE.  
Stacey MacKenzie 689-0712

RICE "Rabbit in Hat" SILK--Excellent condition, with a green field, yellow background, and blue border. \$45.00 from J.P. Jackson at 569-0096.

Send, in writing, items for this column to:  
Dick Dale  
2447 Nielsen Street  
El Cajon, CA 92020-0123

