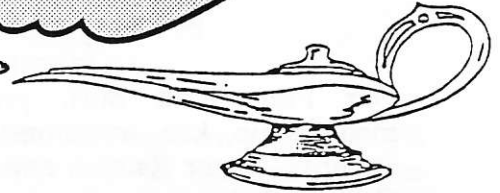


MAGICURRENTS



HONEST SID GERHART
RING 76, SAN DIEGO, CA



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JUNE 1992

PREZ'S MESSAGE

Wow! It is June 1st as I write this and it's difficult to believe May is gone! We have had some excellent response to my last message. The slate of candidates for the next term is EXCELLENT! They deserve your help and support. The board of directors of Ring 76 is always looking for suggestions in many categories. For instance: various themes for the meetings. We have had Bag Nite and Magic in Reverse, but there must be some others that we have not come across. We tried a lot of open nights and that has worked splendidly.

I have been fascinated for years by the theoretical aspects of magic as both art, craft and performance medium. As a matter of fact, I have been writing an exceedingly long paper on the subject and I'd like to share some ..er...well, stuff. Look at the "best" that magic has to offer: David Copperfield, Siegfried and Roy, et al. They do offer Grand Spectacle. They do effect the emotions at some primal level of awe and wonder, but...it's that "but" that always intrudes upon meditations. I love theater and I love music. They are both BIG. And BIG in a way that I have never experienced magic. Good theater and music touch us at a level that seems almost impossible for magic to approach, unless the magician uses both "theater" and "music" in his or her act to evoke the same emotions by the audience. But, does that make the magician an actor or a singer? Or both?

The reason that the above is important (Er, that is, if it is even intelligible!) is that it has bothered me for quite some time that magic has not the same acceptance of power that other performing crafts have. The reason for all the analysis is that I am trying to discover if this "lack" is inherent in "magic" itself. Juggling is another example. I've seen jugglers that have made me laugh, but I consider them juggling "comedians".

(continued on page 4)

LAST MEETING or what you missed

by Sherry Luft

Our Prez, Brad Burt, presented IBM membership kits to James Roark, John Stampfli, Victor Ramler, and Tom Kasner. Congratulations!

The Petrik and Mia event was voted down by the Board.

We also now have a proposed slate of officers:

President	Jeff Marcus
1st Vice Pres.	Mike Hoener
2nd Vice Pres.	Sherry Luft
Secretary	Tom LaChance
Treasurer	Julie Dale
Sgt-at-Arms	Mary Brown
Board Member	David Lane

Other Board Members not up for election are Brad Burt, as Immediate Past President, and Dick Dale, who is serving the second year of a two-year term. The election for these offices and "Member of The Year" will be held at the June 15 meeting.

"Bag Night" was the theme. New member Victor Remler opened with his "Pet Deck" assisted by Charles Holdaway (what a great name for a magician!). Victor chose Charles' card correctly and gave his chosen card a name. On the back was indeed that name. Cute effect! Mike Hoener was next with a rope trick. He started with the same length ropes and tied them to make one long rope. Fun effect! Then, Fred Rohrer did a penetrated and restored card in a plexiglass frame. (You're right, Mark. It could've been Lucite). Rick Waterhouse was next and performed a comedy with rope, cards, and tissues. Cards were placed through the ropes and covered with the tissues. Cards were to be face up, then face down, which didn't happen. So, he did a fun chosen card

BOARD MEETING

by Sherry Luft

The Board met at the Dale's on June 1. People in attendance were:

Jeff and Peg Marcus
Dick and Julie Dale
David Lane
Sherry Luft

The theme of the June 15 meeting will be the officers and Board members performing. Sherry Luft will MC. The rest of the evening will be open to anyone else who cares to perform.

The big order of business will be the election of new officers, Board members, and "Member of The Year". This is one of the few meetings a year that you should really make every effort to attend. It is important!

David Lane has generously volunteered to serve as our club Librarian. He already has some neat ideas on computerizing (what a surprise!) the library and making its contents more accessible to you, the members.

Installation Banquet details were not only discussed, but extensively researched. The Board also decided to hold a separate, regular meeting in June in addition to the Installation Banquet.



effect with Thomas Hoener. Then Dana Law did an ESP effect when he used a light bulb without power and the light bulb actually lit over the chosen card of Victor Remler. Next, Eddie Forsythe performed a great torn and restored Albanian Lottery ticket. Jeff Marcus had his cards in a wooden chest instead of a paper bag. He ended up doing a card stab with Tom Kasner. "Bag Night" is always a fun event.

CROSS TALK

A BIT AND A BYTE ABOUT OUR NEW PUBLISHER

By now, it has undoubtedly sunken in that *MAGICURRENTS* has had a new look for the last three issues. This comes from the effort of one person, Mr. Michael G. Lowe. It seems that Mike made a mistake about five months ago. He wrote, then Editor/Publisher, Dick Dale with some very valid critical remarks about *MAGICURRENTS*. Dale allowed as how it sounded like perhaps Lowe was volunteering to publish. Through a series of phone conversations and meetings, the two worked out the logistics, "look", and details of how to combine efforts to get out on a regular basis the finest quality possible newsletter. While not exactly a regular attendee of our monthly meetings, Mike is a lover of our fine craft and a fine crafter of publications. More will be revealed in a future issue when Editor Emeritus Frank Syren once again pens one of his series of "Member of The Month" on Mike. In the meantime, thank you Mr. Lowe.

SUPER INSTALLATION BANQUET SITE

After extensive off-site discussion and on-site deliberation (or you can delete the letters D,E,E,R), the Board unanimously opted for Van Winkle's as the site of what will be a very fun evening at a very reasonable cost. The tentative menu is barbecued ribs and chicken with the accompaniments of soup (probably a unique and delicious crab bisque), salad, choice of potatoes, and garlic bread. Yeah, sure, you say, but at what tremendous cost? How about approximately \$10? Tax and tip included?

As Brad is wont to say, "YEP!" ***** Highly Recommended. Details are still being finalized as we go to press, but this is one great time to be had at a great price.

SAVE 50% ON JEWELRY

Members of IBM Ring 76 can now receive a 50% discount on every item in the store at The Jewelry Showroom, 849 Fourth Avenue, San Diego, across from Horton Plaza. (Telephone 235-6700). They are a full-service jeweler with a wide selection of gold, diamonds, watches, and other distinctive items. To receive your discount, simply show proof of purchase at the time of purchase.

FULL SERVICE CAMP

Timber Ridge Camps in High View, WV, 26808, are offering a circus program in magic, clowning, acrobatics, and trapeze. Ages 6 to 16. One eight-week session costs \$4,330, one five-week session costs \$2,765. If you know of somebody with an interest and a budget, the phone number is (410) 484-2233.

COLLEGE FOR KIDS

A bit less intrusive into a budget is the Grossmont College for Kids. For \$97.50 plus supplies, a youth receives training in magic at a basic, advanced, or super advanced level. The session lasts three weeks and is 1 1/2 hours per day for four days each week. Instructors are Dana Law, Jeff Marcus, and Dick Dale.

A SAD SIDE NOTE

Until a few months ago, our regular barkeep at our regular meetings and potlucks and banquets was a tall slender lady by the name of Terry. We all knew her, she knew all of us. After a brief illness, Terry died recently. Terry, you are missed. Godspeed, nice lady.

COMING UP

- June 5-8 Australian Intl. Conv.
of Magicians
Melbourne, Australia
G. Ethrington,
Box 5285BB, GPOMelbourne
3001, Vic., Australia
- June 13 Magic Castle Swap Meet
8:00am-1:00pm
Hollywood
- July 6 Board Meeting
Place TBD
- July 20 Ring 76 Meeting 7:30pm
La Mesa American Legion
Officers & Board perform
Pre-Meeting Video 6:30pm
- July ? Installation Banquet
Van Winkle's
10055 Mission Gorge Rd.
Santee

(Prez's Message, cont.)

I leave you with this: the purest magician I have ever seen (utilizing many, if not all, of the same skills that we avail ourselves of) was Uri Geller. He did real magic. He had an effect upon the audience that was nothing short of eerie. I am not arguing that we become "Gellers", but we should be looking for the "thing" Geller does that pushes him past the mundane into the extraordinary. It's a matter of INTEGRITY. Most magicians, myself included, consider Geller a cheat. The bottom line is: how do we do magic that will make people really cry tears or laugh until they are sick? Or walk away as I did after watching Pink Floyd's *The Wall*, contemplating, with a kind of gut-wrenching clarity, the meaning of human existence? Or, is the "magic" WE do simply not meant to do that? OK, OK! So this is not one of my lighter messages.

All my best -

Bradley A. Burt
Brad Burt, President

VINCENT THE MAGICIAN

by Jim Whiting




HONEST SID GERHART
RING 76, SAN DIEGO, CA

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2447 Nielsen Street
El Cajon CA 92020-0123

Roy & Betty Armstrong
2548 Littleton Road
El Cajon CA 92020

