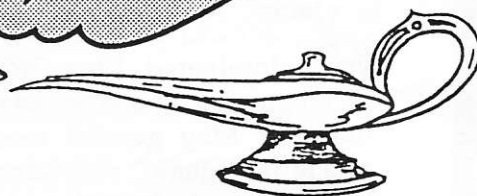


MAGICURRENTS



HONEST SID GERHART
RING 76, SAN DIEGO, CA



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FROM THE PREZ



his message is being written without the benefit of being at the Board meeting (I was at the Carlsbad club doing my new lecture).

If you were at the last meeting, you know how heated and lengthy the ethics issue has become. In the last couple of weeks, I've gotten quite a few interesting, diverse reactions. About half of the respondents felt ethics shouldn't be discussed at the general meeting. Their feeling was that it wasted their time when they wanted to do magic and not be bored with business. They chastised me for allowing the discussion to continue so long.

The other half had the opinion that the general meeting is *absolutely* where any important issues should be discussed. The club is more than just a place to come and be entertained and never have to think or work at anything that may be less than fun. They pointed out that most other social club meetings go on much longer with much more soap box rhetoric and all of the "who's having an anniversary, birthday or other trivial, boring things". Those who chastised me for stifling the discussion said I had no business stopping an issue that many were obviously interested in discussing. (I guess I can't win!)

As president, I truly believe that I'm only a person to preside, guide, inform and carry out the consensus. I've tried not to be dictatorial. I've tried to keep discussions of policy as democratic as possible. I've often had to enforce majority opinions, even when my personal view may have been opposed to that decision. Therefore, I leave it up to the membership to let me know where you want to go with this. Board meetings are the proper venue for such discussions and are open to everyone. However, another possible solution would be a special meeting to discuss the more controversial issues. What's your opinion?

LAST MEETING or what you missed

By Tom LaChance

Ethics, the buzz word in magic this year, dominated Ring 76's recent Board meeting, and the discussion carried over into our May general meeting. A recent article in "Magic" magazine of a magician taping Chuck Fayne's act at the Magic Castle, then performing it word for word in San Diego, sparked a heated debate on what steps the ring should take concerning members who steal the thoughts and accomplishments of others. After many suggestions, the issue was tabled until the next Board meeting, and all interested members were urged to attend.

Terry Lunceford gave the 36 members and 2 guests in attendance a report on The Magic Convention held recently in Tempe, Arizona and the high quality of talent performing there. President Jeff Marcus then presented Don Soul with his IBM International membership kit.

Elections were the final topic, and the nominating committee offered the following slate of new officers: Sherry Luft-President, Rick Waterhouse-1st Vice-President, Mark Flores-2nd Vice-President, David Lane-Treasurer, Tom LaChance-Secretary, Dick Bush-Sergeant-at-Arms, Julie Dale-Board Member, and Dick Dale-Board Member. A request to the members present for other nominations resulted in no other names being offered. The election will be held at our June Meeting.

It was then on to the magic with a highly informative "card teach-in". The members formed four groups and volunteer teachers moved from group to group demonstrating various card techniques. Tom Owen gave some examples of routines using gimmicked decks, Greg Brouelette

performed a "Psychic Twin" routine, Jeff Marcus offered a four ace revelation and a triumph, and Joe Mystic demonstrated an original poker deal routine. The teachers also explained the how-to's of their work, answered all the questions we had, and provided many useful tips.

BOARD MEETING

By Tom LaChance

The June Board meeting was held at Sherry Luft's house. In attendance were Julie and Dick Dale, Dick Bush, Sherry Luft, Mark Flores and Tom LaChance. The first order of business was the upcoming election of Ring 76 officers and the Member of the Year award voting. Ballots for both contests will be available as you arrive at our June general meeting and should be filled out and returned to Julie Dale as quickly as possible.

The Installation Banquet was the next topic and after much discussion, the Board narrowed the target dates down to July 6th or 19th and is looking at a couple of possible locations. The banquet *will not* replace the regular July meeting, which will be held on July 12.

Preliminary plans for the Ring 76 Picnic were then discussed. The picnic is scheduled for Sunday, August 29, so be sure to mark the day on your calendar.

The June meeting will feature a pre-meeting "Collectors' Corner" presented by J.P. Jackson at 6:30pm, followed by our general meeting. The magic session has an open theme. The next Board meeting will be held on June 28th at Sherry Luft's. The address is 3760 Florida St. #208 and everyone is invited.

GUIDELINE FOR THE DISPOSITION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Many individuals acquire substantial holdings of personal assets over a lifetime of absorbing interest in a vocation or avocation. These assets include book collections, stamps, coins, tools, artifacts and magical apparatus. Such persons are advised to seriously contemplate the future of their collections and to make detailed instructions for the orderly disposition of their assets following their decease. This is absolutely necessary to insure the supervised dispersal of their property in accordance with their wishes.

Frequently, family and executors who are assigned the responsibility of disposing of personal property in the settlement of an estate have no familiarity with or emotional attachment to the articles involved. They are uninformed as to the historical, archival or economic value of these assets. As a result they may make hasty and unwise decisions in the dispersal of this material. They may be taken advantage of by predatory and unscrupulous parties who fast talk them into selling rare and priceless items far below their true market value.

The following guides are suggested:

1. Individuals should discuss with immediate family members or other responsible persons the details of their collections, including the acquisition of each item, its historical significance and a preliminary estimate of its current market value.
2. In drawing up their last will and testament, individuals should provide detailed instructions on the disposition of their personal property based upon a careful listing of all items.

3. In the absence of a detailed listing in the individual's will, provision should be made for the appointment of a panel of knowledgeable persons within national and local organizations, i.e., International Brotherhood of Magicians or Society of American Magicians and local Rings or Chapters to make a survey of the material and recommendations on its disposition.

4. For the executor of the estate the following guidelines are suggested:

- a. Determine the extent to which articles should be repaired, repainted or restored prior to dispersal, identifying sources of funds and amounts required as well as persons to do the work.
- b. Determine if articles have been or should be identified with a stamp or bookplate as originating in or as part of the collection of the deceased.
- c. Determine whether the disposition of the collection should be recorded in the files of appropriate national organizations for future reference and research.
- d. For gifts and bequests to museums, libraries, schools, individuals, etc., determine the conditions under which persons and organizations accept or reject these articles i.e. not for resale, etc. Note: conditions such as these may not be binding.
- e. Ascertain the wisdom and practicality of advertising the articles in appropriate national and local media.
- f. Ascertain the practicality of conducting an auction before a local or regional group with rules governing minimum bids, lot composition, disposal of remainders, etc.

Special thanks to Bob Colberg and Hollywood Ring 21's *The Fleming Flashpaper*.

COMING UP

- June 12 Magic Castle Swap Meet
7001 Franklin Avenue
Hollywood, CA 90028
Sellers reservations required
- June 14 Ring 76 Meeting
La Mesa American Legion
Pre-Meeting 6:30pm
JP's Collectors' Corner
Meeting 7:30pm/Theme-Open
- June 26 IBM Ring 21
A Day of Magic
Bob Weiss (213) 463-2009
- June 28 Ring 76 Board Meeting
7:00pm Sherry Luft's
3760 Florida St. #208
- June 30-
July 3 IBM International
Convention
Quebec City, Canada
- July 6 (or 19) Ring 76 Installation Banquet
TBD Van Winkles Restaurant-tent.
- July 7-10 SAM National Convention
New Orleans (800) 527-4727
- July 12 Ring 76 Meeting
La Mesa American Legion
Pre-Meeting 6:30pm
Meeting 7:30pm - Theme TBA

- July 13 Mike Rogers lecture - \$15.00
Brad Burt's Magic Shop 7pm
- July 29 PCAM Convention
Vancouver, BC Canada
(800) 325-3535
- Aug 29 Ring 76 Picnic
10am to 9pm
Dick Bush's community
room/pool/etc.
Details forthcoming

OUR SYMPATHY

We note with regret the passing of Ursula Roher's mother in Germany. All members of Ring 76 extend their sympathy to Fred and Ursula for their loss.



HONEST SID GERHART RING 76, SAN DIEGO, CA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

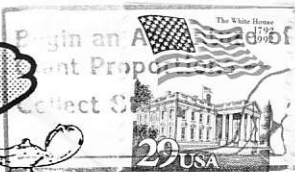
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