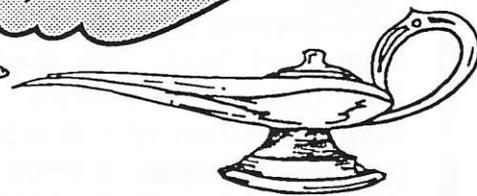


# MAGICURRENTS



HONEST SID GERHART  
RING 76, SAN DIEGO, CA



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DECEMBER 1993

## FROM THE PREZ

The holiday season is here!

- ◆ November's meeting was truly magic—"Food Magic". Everyone seemed to enjoy it, savoring every bite of the magic illusions. Can we consider it one of our permanent themes? We'd love to hear your thoughts on that.
- ◆ Thanks to all the magicians doing the numerous benefit shows, keeping the holiday spirit up all year long. That's great. Spread more of our magic!
- ◆ Our holiday potluck will be at Dick Bush's clubhouse, Monday, December 13. We hope to see everyone there! This is a great opportunity to connect with your magic friends, share your accomplishments, and watch the entertainment of Rick Waterhouse and Don Soul and ??? This will be our only December meeting.

Happy Chanukkah and Merry Christmas to all!

*Sherry*

## LAST MEETING or what you missed

by Tom LaChance

November's Ring 76 meeting was a fun evening packed with information, magic and food. Dick Bush and Dick Dale opened the evening with a pre-meeting seminar on "Dove Magic". Both performers displayed birds they use in their acts and explained various techniques and props they use. A brief question and answer session followed. This was the type of demonstration most of us would have paid money to attend. Great job guys!

President Sherry Luft opened the business session with an update on our Ring Christmas party. Sherry also read a nice note that Helen Hieshetter sent the Ring along with her annual donation. Thanks, Helen, for the nice thoughts. Dick Dale gave the good news that his wife Julie was feeling much better after neck surgery and would be returning to work in a couple of weeks.

With "Food Magic" as our theme, Dick Dale led off the entertainment with a hilarious attempt to find a selected card. He found cards all over the place. In the deck, the card box, in his sandwich, in his drink, with the help of a banana, and in a lemon, but none proved to be the selection. Dick saved the day by finding the correct card spelled out in the topping of a Round Table Pizza that was delivered moments before he took the stage.

Jeff Marcus provided the evening's next course (dessert) as he changed the contents of a jar from sugar into jelly beans. Roy and Betty

Armstrong followed with a very magical explanation of how the rabbit's role in magic originated. Roy then demonstrated the miracle of their kids' cereal bowls, turning a small amount of cereal into bowls full and finishing with miles of streamers.

Our next performer was Stephen Fazio, who did an excellent job of finding a selected card and transforming two matching cards. The only mistake Stephen made in the routine was choosing Jeff Marcus as his helper. Tom Kasner then took the stage and proceeded to magically trisect a banana. Using dental floss as his weapon of choice, Tom cut the inner fruit of the banana into three pieces without damaging the outer peel.

Greg Wauson followed with some food utensil magic. He was able to bend, wiggle and twist in every direction the business end of a spoon. Yet, when Greg was finished the spoon was undamaged. Fred Rohrer was next with a quick and funny demonstration of his skill at balancing a quarter on his nose.

Tom Owen was our final performer, and finished "Food Magic" off in a grand way. He transformed a plain cardboard box into a Ring 76 oven and produced a plate full of Mrs. Owen's delicious Welsh cakes. It was a great evening of magic and laughs, not to mention all the tasty pizza, jelly beans, bananas, and Welsh cakes the performers shared with the audience as their acts ended.

## BOARD MEETING

by Tom LaChance

This month's Board meeting was hosted by Dick Bush, and all Board members were present. The main topic was the Holiday Pot Luck Dinner to be held on Monday, Dec. 13, at the Rancho Valley Mobile Home Park. Dick Bush lives at the park and has again secured its recreation center for our use. The park, where we held our summer picnic, is located at 12970 Hwy. 8 Business Rt. in El Cajon.

The dinner is on the same date as our regular ring meeting and, as usual, will be our only club function in December. The event starts at 6:30 pm with dinner starting at 7:00. Rick Waterhouse and Mark Flores volunteered to call all Ring members to coordinate the food dishes. Hopefully they have spoken with you. If you plan on attending, but haven't been contacted yet, please give me a call at 441-3747.

Rick and Don Soul will provide the entertainment with some effects they learned at the recent Larry Becker/Lee Earle Mental Magic seminar. Anyone else interested in performing is encouraged to do so.

The recreation center also has a pool table, ping pong table, shuffleboard, swimming pool and other fun features.

Rick also updated the Board on the upcoming "Cafe Mystique" show. A budget needs to be set for the show. Dick Dale and Dick Bush agreed to work with Rick to decide what's needed. They'll present their recommendations at the next Board meeting Jan. 3, 1994 at David Lane's house. The address is 7816 Eagle Ridge Drive in San Diego and everyone is invited.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Jeff & Peg Marcus recently returned from the Western Regional Clown Assn. Convention in Laughlin, Nevada. They competed for the first time in the make-up/costume competition in the auguste category (the kind of clowns they portray). They won first & second place!

This is the first time a husband and wife took first and second place in independently judged competition. Jeff & Peg won even though they broke many of the strict rules. Their costumes were designed and made by Peg - which makes her feel like she won twice!

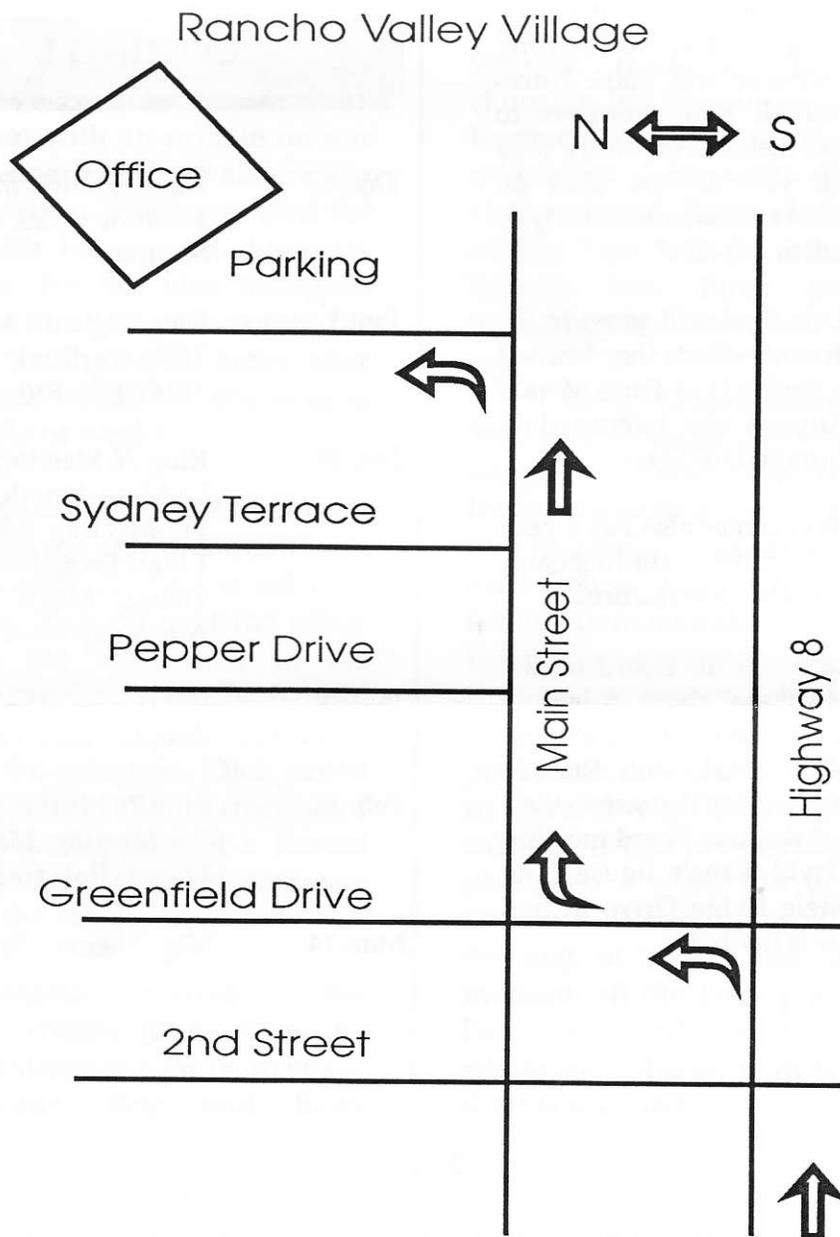
## COMING UP

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| Dec. 13 | Ring 76 Christmas Banquet<br>Location : Dick Bush's<br>See map   |
| Jan. 3  | Ring 76 Board Meeting<br>7:00pm - David Lane's<br>7816 Eagle Ridge Drive, SD   |
| Jan. 10 | Ring 76 Meeting<br>La Mesa American Legion<br>Pre-Meeting 6:30pm<br>1 hour Swap Meet<br>Theme: "Magic Purchased at<br>Any Swap Meet" |
| Jan. 31 | Ring 76 Board Meeting<br>7:00pm - Rick Waterhouse's  |
| Feb. 14 | Ring 76 Meeting<br>Pre-Meeting: Magic Dialogue<br>Theme: Romantic Magic  |
| Mar. 14 | Mtg. Theme: Spring Magic   |

# MAP TO THE DECEMBER 13 CHRISTMAS PARTY

Go East on Highway 8 to Greenfield. Turn left on Greenfield and go under the overpass to Main Street. Turn right on Main and go to the top of the hill, then turn left into Rancho Valley Villas.

**PARKING:** In marked visitor sections ONLY or on LEFT SIDE, as you drive in, by the RV's and boats. Please - **DO NOT BLOCK THE GATE.**



## RICK'S RAMBLINGS

by Rick Waterhouse

In my travels over the last couple of months, I have been privileged to witness an unusually diverse assortment of magic. I thought (hoped) that you might be interested in hearing about some of it.

### LANCE BURTON

While in Las Vegas, I once again enjoyed Lance Burton's show. I think, for the value, his is the most enjoyable show on the strip. I have not yet seen SARMOTI, but my impression is that it is an entirely different experience. If you have not seen Lance before, perhaps you should. His show makes me feel as if I have stepped back in time to an era of classy full evening magic shows... with naked women and a maniac juggler (a very funny Michael Goudeau). Lance's greatest gift, I think, is the ease and sincerity with which he conducts his show. Even lines I have seen him use before spring out as if they were new. I look forward to seeing his show again and highly recommend him.

### MELINDA

After checking out Lance's act, I followed his advice and dropped by to see Melinda's show. I wish I could say that I enjoyed Melinda's act as much as I enjoyed Lance's. She is a very beautiful woman, and her magic has improved over time. I noticed several technical improvements on effects that I had seen her perform in the past. Melinda has a sexy show, and parts are fun to watch, but as an audience member I never felt quite "at ease". However, unlike her husband's act, her's is pure Vegas.

Unfortunately, I don't really like Vegas or things Vegas. Still, I look forward to seeing her show in the future as she grows in her art.

### DAVID COPPERFIELD

How did I choose to follow up the Honeymooning Headliners? Well, we traipsed over to Caesar's to see if we could buy, beg, or borrow a ticket to the David Copperfield show. We ended up buying (\$\$\$!!!) and begging, but we did manage to get stand-by tickets. Our maitre'd sat us in a broom closet facing away from the stage and asked if we would like to sit closer. What a question! So I dug into my pocket and pulled out a few crumpled up Mr. Washington's with 5's glued to the visible corners. Our greedy friend put us in the best seat in the house. This was evidenced by the fact that David visited our table twice, once performing the Floating Rose, and his parents were sitting in the next booth (and you know their seats didn't suck)!

I have seen David's show several times, and this was by far the best. We had great seats, an intimate venue, close encounters with the Mega-Mage, and we got to see his new closing effect. David did not close with flying. The question then, is how can you possibly follow up flying? David does manage it very nicely. I have had a long debate with myself, and have decided that the effect depends too much on surprise to describe for you. I will say this much, I have never seen an entire audience more engrossed in a trick.

*(continued on page 6)*

(continued from page 5)

I felt by the end of the routine, David had abandoned magic (as in tricks) and had settled for more theatrical magic. Frankly, I think many magicians would do well to settle for theatrical magic.

**GENE R. URBAN**

My reason for being in Vegas was the gigantic computer show, Comdex. While there I met a trade show worker who let me watch him for about five minutes before asking if I "dabbled in the arts". Drat! I try so hard to be a good lay person. "You just look like someone that might hang out at Brad Burt's Magic shop", he said. His name was Gene R. Urban and it turns out he used to live in San Diego and work at the Magic Lounge. We had a very nice chat. He shared a clever spread force and we discussed folks that we both knew. In addition, he gave me a great pre-meeting idea which I'm dying to try out. Gene asked me to say "Hi" to all of his old buddies in San Diego, so... "Hi!"

**HAUNTED MANSION HOTEL**

After leaving Vegas, I headed up to San Francisco for the weekend. While there I took a chance on a place I had

seen mentioned in Stan Allen's Magic Magazine. Once up there I could not find the place in the phone book, and the local magic shop could not or would not tell me where the place was. With some trepidation I made my way up to this place and found what might be the most elegant hotel I have ever visited (and I have stayed at some wonderful places). The best way to describe the decor might be the Magic Castle with a sugar daddy. The performance room is a small, but elegant parlor. The performing magician was the hotel's entertainment director, James Hamilton. It was a fun show in great surroundings. After the show we talked a bit. Turns out he and Brad Burt were in the *Long Beach Mystics* years ago. He asked me to send his regards to Brad. I seethed with unwarranted jealousy upon discovering that the local San Francisco IBM ring meets at the Haunted Mansion. Why don't we have a four star hotel? Oh well, if you are in the area, the room rates are not out of line with other Bay Area hotels and the elegance can't be matched. Do drop by and give my best to Mr. Hamilton.

*Rick Waterhouse*

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

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