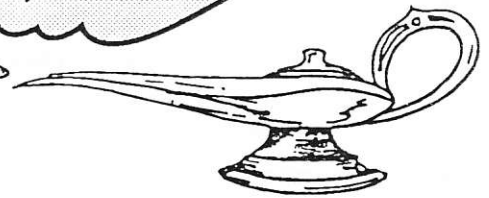


MAGICURRENTS



HONEST SID GERHART
RING 76, SAN DIEGO, CA



VOL. VIII NO. 6

JUNE 1994

FROM THE PREZ

Our June pre-meeting theme will be to "Help each other with our character". This will allow us to hone our skills. Everyone can be a valuable club member by contributing to this session.

As a hobbyist, I'm in the midst of developing my own character. This will be debuted at the Installation Banquet where I'll be the M.C. and **Aldo Columbini** is the featured performer. The Banquet is right around the corner. It will be held on July 11, at Villani's Restaurant, in the Regency Plaza Hotel located at 151 Hotel Circle South in Mission Valley. The full Italian buffet is just \$13.00 for current IBM/Ring 76 members. This includes Aldo's lecture on Tuesday night at the American Legion Hall. Non-members will be charged \$10.00 for the lecture.

The theme for this month's meeting is "Liquid Magic". For the professionals in the group, why not bring an effect to the meeting, perhaps one you have dropped from your repertoire or you haven't done in a long time? We'd love to see you perform!

Finally, please pay your \$20 dues at the June meeting. This will be your last newsletter if you haven't paid.

Sherry

LAST MEETING or what you missed

by Tom LaChance

Ring 76's May meeting continued the string of outstanding pre-meeting events as drama teacher/director **Ken Myron** was on hand to discuss the similarities between actors and magicians. Mr. Myron offered to go even farther in helping Ring members improve their magic by conducting future workshops on finding and building your "performing character".

Nominating committee spokesperson, **Lulu Flatt**, opened the business session by announcing the proposed slate for next month's election. It consists of:

- President - **Rick Waterhouse**
- 1st Vice-President - **Greg Wauson**
- 2nd Vice-President - **Don Soul**
- Secretary - **Mark Flores**
- Treasurer - **Julie Dale**
- Sergeant-at-Arms - **Dick Bush**
- Board members - **Dick Dale**,
Jeff Marcus.

On a sad note, it was announced that long-time member **Ed Forsythe** recently suffered a heart attack. Ed appears to have recovered, but will be leaving us to retire and live with family in Portland. Best of luck, Ed; we'll all miss you.

It was then on to the magic and an unscheduled "Night of Classics" as our first three performers chose to perform some of the all-time great effects of our art. **Paul Stepahin** was first and did an

excellent Cups and Balls routine, ending with a large flower ball as his final production. **Joe Florian** followed with his Chop Cup act, also showing lots of skill making the balls vanish and re-appear. His rapid-fire production of balls going from his pocket to under the cup was especially good.

Next was **Greg Wauson**, who did an excellent Bill in Lemon routine. His presentation, especially the patter, of this classic, was very entertaining to watch. Our final performer was **Jeff Marcus** who brought in several items from his collection of Flower Magic props. He displayed a couple of very interesting older items and showed how these beautiful props work.

BOARD MEETING

by Tom LaChance

This month's Board meeting was held on May 24 at the home of **Peg** and **Jeff Marcus**. The July 11 Installation Banquet was the main topic of discussion, with its location drawing the most debate. After a lengthy discussion, **Rick Waterhouse** and **Dick Dale** volunteered to do some last minute checking on several possible sites. Look for the location elsewhere in this newsletter.

Please remember that Ring dues (\$20.00 for the year) were payable as of our March meeting. If the mailing label of this newsletter shows 4/94, then you are past due and need to pay at the June meeting to keep your membership current.

(continued on page 3)

RICK'S RAMBLINGS

by Rick Waterhouse

Do Magic Clubs Promote Bad Magic?

I posed this question last month and had hoped to hear from some of you. Not a word. Well, I'm going to try again. Bear in mind when you read this that it comes from a person who devotes a considerable amount of time and energy to your club. I relish the club and the many benefits that it affords us, but that is not the topic of this essay.

Crutching: The lack of objective constructive criticism which could otherwise lead to the artistic improvement of the performer. Also, inaccurate feedback regarding the performance which leads the performer having a skewed perception of their act's audience appeal. "Hey! Love that Square Circle. Great Act. See Ya!... (Boy, he sucked)"

Magical Audience: When performing for other magicians, we tend to favor showing off with methods rather than creating magical presentations. If we strive to impress/fool our fellow magicians, we tend to use different techniques then we might on a lay audience. Good magic for a magic audience is not, necessarily, the best magic for a lay audience.

Partial Training: Being a member of a magic club can help to equip us with the

tools to be conjurers. It might not provide us with the practice and experience to use those tools. As such, we can find ourselves in the unenviable position of trying to entertain, and perhaps charge for our services, before we are really ready to perform. We usually do not try something in front of the club more than once. This is a shame, because we can't use the feedback from the club to review how a work in progress is progressing.

So how about it? What is your opinion? Do Magic Clubs help to advance the art of magic, or do they provide a staging area for unpracticed and unentertaining magic? I hope to hear from you. Please write c/o the Editor.

(Continued from page 2)

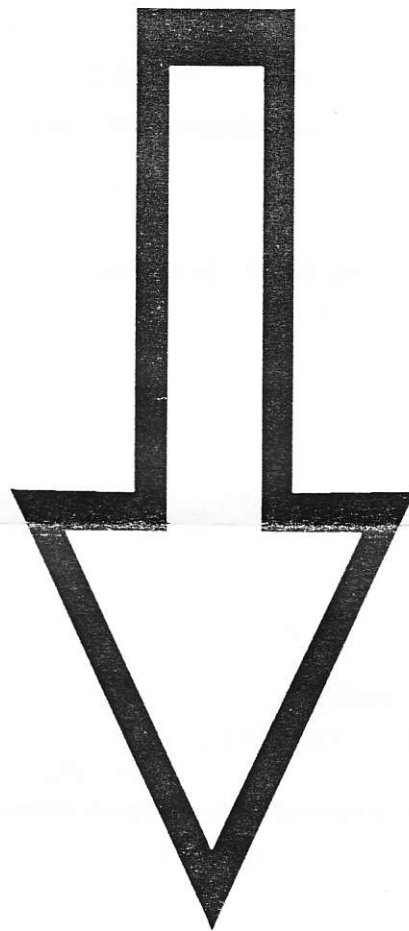
This will be the last newsletter sent to anyone who isn't a current member.

The meeting will also be the time to vote for Ring officers and the Member of the Year award. Please give a little thought before coming that night as to who you think did the most for the ring to make the past year an enjoyable and successful one. Then, be sure to pick up a ballot at the door and vote. The theme of the meeting will be "liquid magic".

The next Board meeting will again be hosted by the **Marcuses** on Monday, June 27, at 7:00 pm. The address is 10513 Kerrigan Ct. in Santee and you can call **Peg** or **Jeff** at 562-3434 for directions if you plan on attending.

COMING UP

- June 13 Ring 76 Meeting
La Mesa American Legion Hall
Pre-meeting: Please Help Me
Find My Character
Theme: Liquid Magic
- June 27 Ring 76 Board Meeting
7:00pm - Jeff Marcus'
10513 Kerrigan Ct. Santee
Phone: 562-3434
- July 11 Ring 76
Installation Banquet
6:30 Social Hour/7:30 Banquet
Villani's Restaurant
(2nd Floor Banquet Room)
Regency Plaza Hotel
151 Hotel Circle South
Mission Valley
Aldo Columbini Show
- July 12 Aldo Columbini Lecture
7:00pm
Location:
La Mesa American Legion Hall
- July 20-23 PCAM Convention
Red Lion Hotel/Ontario, CA
PO Box 1857
Freedom, CA 95019
(408) 722-0887 - Cost \$120.00



PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES!

HONEST SID GERHART RING 76, SAN DIEGO, CA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Sherry Luft
1st Vice President Rick Waterhouse
2nd Vice President Mark Flores
Secretary Tom Lachance
Treasurer David Lane
Sergeant-at-Arms Dick Bush
Past President Jeff Marcus
Director Julie Dale
Director Dick Dale

MAGICCURRENTS

Publisher Mike Lowe
Editor Dick Dale
Editor Emeritus Frank S. Syren



Roy & Betty Armstrong 4/95
2548 Littleton Road
El Cajon, CA 92020