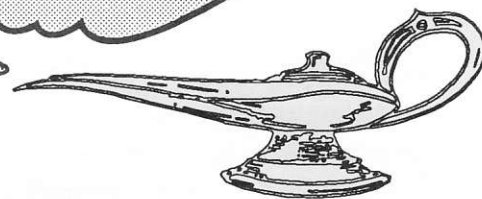


MAGICURRENTS



HONEST SID GERHART
RING 76, SAN DIEGO, CA



VOL. VIII NO. 9

SEPTEMBER 1994

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Welcome to the first edition of our new format for *MAGICURRENTS*! We hope you enjoy it enough to not only read it, but to contribute to it as well. These pages are a sounding board for your ideas and opinions and a source of information, tidbits, and trivia. Well, enough of that. You know your part. Now, lets go!

Meeting Change

Our next meeting will *not* be held at the American Legion Hall, a gracious host for a number of years now. Due to a variety of reasons, we have been considering a move to another facility for our monthly meetings. We've been invited to use the upstairs banquet room at the Hungry Hunter in El Cajon. We will discuss the benefits and limitations of both the Legion Hall and the Hungry Hunter at our next meeting. It is our intention to call for a vote from the general membership at the next meeting.

Name Tags

We should have the membership name tags available for the next meeting. Please pick up your name tag from the Sergeant-at-Arms (Dick Bush) when you arrive at the meeting and return it to him before you leave. These tags are one of many steps the Board has taken to help new members, guests, and even old-timers to get to know each other.

Membership Directory

THANK YOU! to everyone who submitted information for the membership directory. I would like to especially thank those who provided plenty of bio and other material to help me with their write-up. I will be compiling all of this information in September with hopes of having the first edition of the directory available by our October meeting. If you have not yet sent yours in, please bring it to the next meeting or drop it in the mail right now. Right Now! I'll wait...O.K., Thanks.

Richard B. Waterhouse

LAST MEETING or what you missed

by Dick Dale

The August meeting of this august group was kicked off with a Pre-Meeting session on "False Cuts". Once **Dick Dale** was straightened out, (he had brought a "Disecto" and a finger chopper) the session started with **Rick Waterhouse**, **Bernie Kleinke**, **Jeff Marcus**, and **Dick Dale** demonstrating and giving hands-on training to the 10(!) guests and 31 members in attendance.

The brief business meeting consisted of announcing that the September meeting will be held at the Hungry Hunter restaurant in El Cajon where the pre-meeting theme will be a "Sharing and Tips" session and the meeting will appropriately feature "Restaurant Magic".

Don Soul gave an interesting report on the West Coast Wizards Convention.

Entertainment Vice-President **Greg Wauson** thanked **Fred Rohrer** for videotaping the "Card Trick" entertainment portion of the meeting and then introduced the first entertainer, **Jeff Marcus**. **Jeff** performed the "Ice Cream Sandwich" and then distributed printed instructions to all. Nice touch, **Jeff**!

Next up were two guests, **David**, who did "Matrix" and **Dillon**, who performed two classic card tricks. **Joe Florian**, with the aid of some wonderful puns, took us through *every* possible version, combination, and permutation of "Monte" and "Ambitious Card" invented - with the exception of **Gaeton Bloom's** "Monte".

Rick Waterhouse wrapped the evening with his original presentation of "Smoke and Fire", a tarot revelation.

BOARD MEETING

by Mark Flores

The August Board meeting was held at **Greg Wauson's**. Thanks to his wife, **Brenda**, there was plenty of great food, drink and hospitality. Present were **Don Soul**, **Rick Waterhouse**, **Dick Bush**, **Greg Wauson**, **Julie Dale**, **Mark Flores**, **Rich Robertson**, **Jeff Marcus** and **Dick Dale**. It was announced that the next issue of the newsletter would utilize the new six-page format, better quality paper and graphics and illustrations. The Board discussed the constructive criticism in a recent letter to the editor (*MAGICURRENTS*, Vol. 8, No. 8) and some possible solutions, many of which are already being implemented. For example, the Board discussed the name tags which will give everyone an opportunity to get to know each other. This will also reduce the seemingly large number of members named "Heyyou"!

There were some questions and clarifications about the membership directory and confidential information. The Board emphasized that the membership directory would contain *only information the member has given permission to publish*. All private information will be held in strict confidence by the officers and Board of Directors. Many questionnaires have been returned, but many still remain to be seen. Please return yours to **Rick Waterhouse** ASAP.

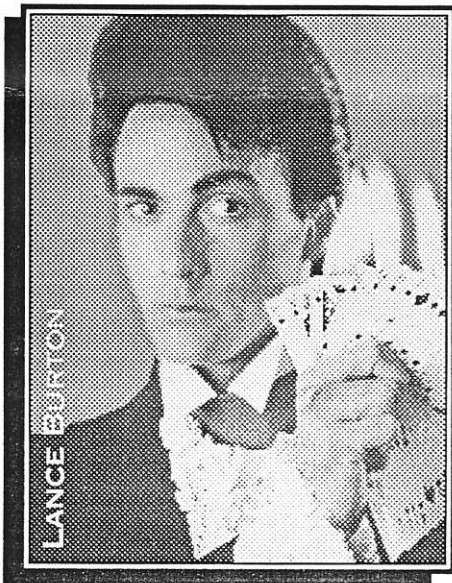
The Board voted and approved the following honorary members for the 1994-1995 year: **Olive Edwards**, **Helen Heishetter**, **Mary Martinez**, and **Jane Thurston Shepard**.

The theme of the next meeting at the Hungry Hunter in El Cajon will be (coincidentally?) "Restaurant Magic" with an "Open" pre-meeting theme. See you there!

LIVE

from

Las Vegas!



There is so much going on in "the city that never sleeps", it is, in itself, a magical experience to be here. Along that line, I would like to thank you all for your support, and for teaching me some of the basics of the art of magic. I have a long ways to go before I will be ready to perform at even a rudimentary level, and until that time comes, I am sworn to promote the art in any way that I can in my field of art, writing and public relations. To that end I have promised Ring 76 that I would become a Las Vegas correspondent and so present to you the first of many columns.

An enormous amount of information cycles through Las Vegas on a daily basis. Publications abound everywhere, many of them free for the taking. It is difficult to keep up. Magicians make up an excellent portion of the entertainment industry here, appearing in a wide variety of formats including, but not limited to: street performance, casino closeups, magic-specific shops and museums, magical musicals, and of course, Vegas showroom headliners. However, there is still room for more for those with an imagination, to create avenues in magic for themselves to appear.

You may expect from my columns the latest news from the city as I get it, including information indirectly related to the magic community, photos where obtainable, show reviews, and open forum discussions in the area of magic, intended to pull the magic community together. So far, I have found an appalling lack of

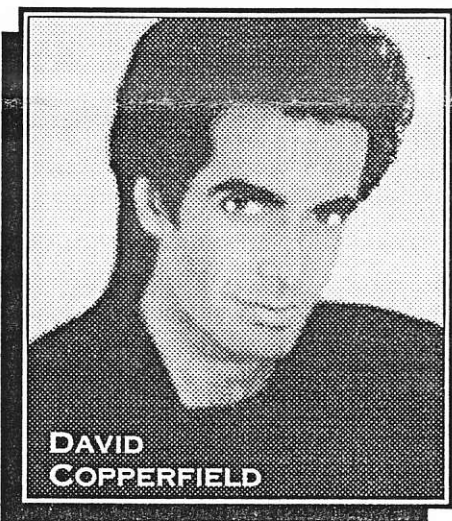
unity and support among any of the artistic communities to which I have belonged. Backstabbing and ego have a nasty tendency to get in the way of and hurt the arts as a whole. It is my intention to do everything I can to turn that view around and will address the issue in a future column.

As this is the first column and therefore open to a lengthy introduction, it will be more than one page because there are a lot of exciting things to report, so please read on!

First, for anyone who may be considering whether Vegas might have a lucrative opportunity awaiting them, you might be interested to know that ground was broken for a new casino to be called New York, New York, on the northwest corner of Tropicana and Las Vegas Boulevard, where once the Dunes stood. It is to feature all the best things of the mighty metropolis, including delis, shops, a proposed subway and more!

♥ **Lance Burton** continues to receive the most write-ups and ads in Las Vegas, boasting the most repeat clientele for a showroom headliner. I myself have seen his performance twice, and while it has not changed much, he has, and it shows. He also has a magic set out for the kids in all of us. If you haven't caught his act yet, do! He appears and disappears at the Hacienda Hotel nightly.

♠ **Siegfried and Roy** have full color, full page ads in most publications in



Las Vegas. Rumors are circulating that they plan to retire sometime soon, but I have not been able to verify this directly, so I urge anyone who has not seen their show to do so. They appear nightly at the Mirage. Two of their white tiger companions laze around the Mirage in a spectacular Romanesque setting. When they are not lazing around, they are a lot of fun to watch, especially if they go into the water. S&R also have a book and video out, on sale in the Mirage gift shops. The video features a mixture of interviews and stage performances. S&R also just finished shooting a television special for ABC. I remember seeing them back when on TV and I look forward to seeing them again. A date for the airing has not yet been released, so watch for it!

♣ **Melinda** continues to perform at the Lady Luck. As soon as I catch her show, I will report on it. According to the latest press, for those of you who have seen it before, it has been changed for 1994.

I caught ♣ **Gregory James** performing at the MGM Grand inside the round theatre located deep within the Emerald City of OZ. The tour of the OZ set located at the lion's head entrance, includes the magical performance. Unfortunately, the theatre seats are much lower and very close to the stage which makes for a few "angling" difficulties for the performers. The admission price is

a whopping \$5 and showtimes are every twenty minutes! Suffice it to say, that even Lance can't beat that!

♦ **David Copperfield** has been performing all through the month of



**SIEGFRIED
& ROY
ET AL**

remarks to the effect of "I am not a Vegas act" and whatever that implies, may or may not make him very welcome here. Ads and write-ups for other magicians continue to appear regularly, most particularly for Lance, it seems he is very well liked in the community, but I'll save the rest of this discussion for another column. ■

August, celebrating his tenth year at Caesar's Palace. He will be back again in November. I have found it both amusing and disturbing that he has had almost no press whatsoever in any of the local publications. Part of the reason may be the direct competition with Siegfried and Roy who perform just next door at the Mirage. As I pointed out earlier, S&R have full page ads in every publication. I am speculating of course, but as a graphic designer, I have had experience with the politics of publication. Whoever buys the biggest ad, had better not have a competitor's picture on the front cover! Add to that David's constant

I may be reached for comment or a helio, I welcome both, at the following address:

✉ **Lulu M. Flatt,**
Ring 76
3001 Lake East Dr.
Suite 2220-28
The Lakes, NV 89117
V-Mail: 702/593-1833
Fax: 702/254-9786

BBS INFO

by Terry Love

From: Stacey Mackenzie
To: All
Re: Brand New Me
With everything that has happened to me in the past few months, I am absolutely delighted to make the following announcement:

I AM THE PROUD OWNER OF MY OWN TRAVEL AGENCY!!

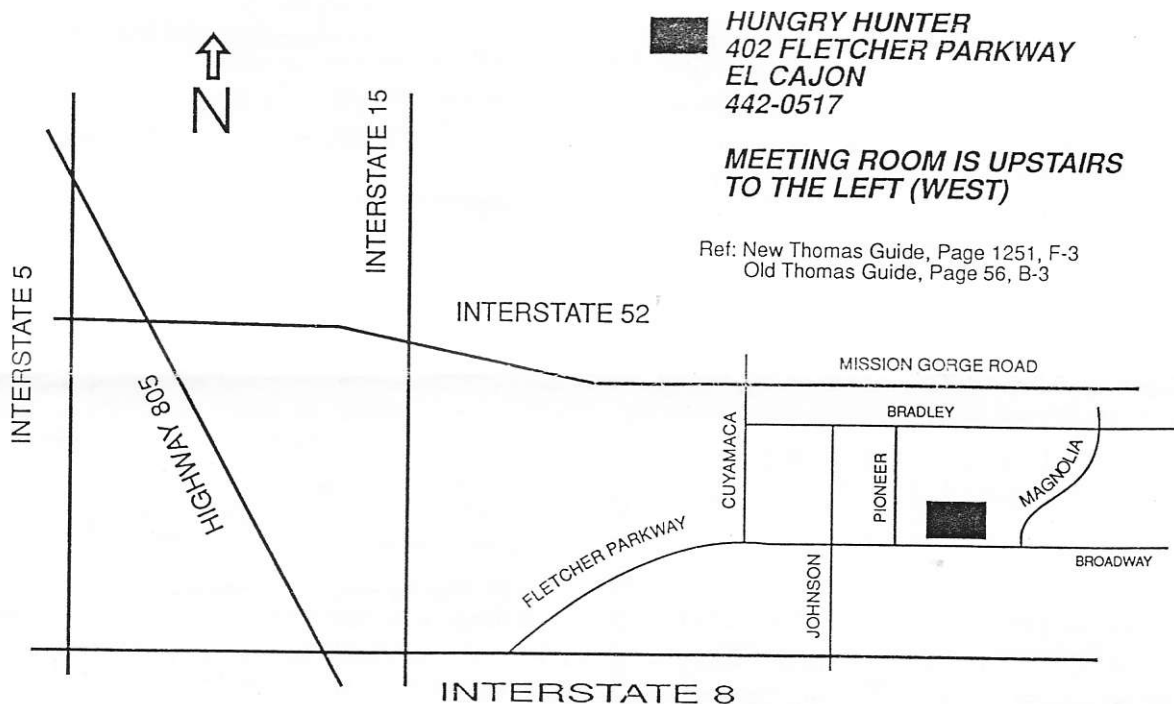
I would like to formally announce the opening of:
International Travel Concepts, Inc./Magicians
Travel Network, 4180 La Jolla Village Drive #255,
La Jolla 92037-1471 (619) 458-9383

From: Ron Spangler
To: All
Re: Prodigy

Saw a humorous post on Prodigy today. Young girl went to see D.C. over the weekend. In addition to saying how much she enjoyed the show, who also wanted how he flies and how he does the "head chop off" illusion. She wondered if the head that appears on top of the box was done using holograms. I was wondering if anyone has had lay people give similar stories/theories for some of D.C.'s stuff - or even your own stuff? Someone told me after seeing D.C. fly on TV that he was wearing a helium suit.

BITS 'N PIECES

Thanks to all for the submissions. In fact, we received so many, they will be continued next month along with "Trick-of-the-Month", cartoons and letters. Please note the technical requirements for submissions: 270 words (or multiples thereof), on computer disk, single spaced, no indent, with accompanying hard copy. If possible, try to match the meeting theme and again, thanks to all!



ROUTE A

1. 52 EAST BECOMES MISSION GORGE
2. SOUTH (RIGHT) ON CUYAMACA
3. EAST (LEFT) ON FLETCHER PARKWAY
4. NORTH (LEFT) ON PIONEER
5. EAST (RIGHT) INTO PARKING LOT

ROUTE B

1. 8 EAST
2. EXIT JOHNSON NORTH (LEFT)
3. EAST (RIGHT) ON FLETCHER PARKWAY
4. NORTH (LEFT) ON PIONEER
5. EAST (RIGHT) INTO PARKING LOT

LETTERS, we get letters. . .

Dear Editor,

Some comments regarding the letter... "Do magic clubs promote bad magic?" I agree they sometimes do, including Ring 76. The performance part of our meetings is an open forum for anyone to show a magic trick regardless of their preparation or lack thereof. Usually no critique of the presentation is given. After the meeting it's easy to find ourselves telling performers, "That was great!", when that may be a stretch. Therefore, the magician receives no real feedback about what part of the presentation to keep doing and what part to change.

But, that may not be all bad. Just getting up and doing ANYTHING takes guts and builds experience. Many people may not be willing to perform at meetings if they were also to be PUBLICLY critiqued.

Perhaps performers who **do** want to be evaluated, inform the emcee to field comments and suggestions from members after the trick. This helped me when I experimented with the bill in lemon trick. The feedback helped my presentation and turned it into a stronger effect.

Greg Wauson

COMING UP

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Sept. 12 | Ring 76 Meeting
Hungry Hunter Restaurant
6:30pm Pre-meeting: "Open"
7:30pm Meeting
Theme: "Restaurant Magic" |
| Sept. 26 | Ring 76 Board Meeting
7:00pm Don Soul's - 484-3492
10068 Branford Drive
San Diego 92129 |
| Oct. 10 | Ring 76 Meeting
Location: TBA
6:30pm Pre-meeting:
"Haunted Pack"
7:30pm Meeting
Theme: "Halloween Magic" |
| Oct. 24 | Ring 76 Board Meeting
7:00pm Don Soul's |
| Nov. 14 | Ring 76 Meeting
Location: TBA
6:30pm
Auction/Swap Meet |
| Dec. 31 | Stars of Magic - Poway
Performing Arts Center |
| Feb. 13 | Ring 76 Meeting
Ron London lecture |

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2447 Nielsen Street
El Cajon CA 92020-0123



Roy & Betty Armstrong

2548 Littleton Road
El Cajon, CA 92020