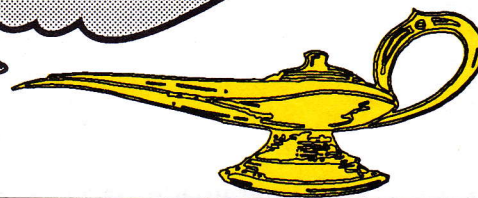


MAGICURRENTS



HONEST SID GERHART
RING 76, SAN DIEGO, CA



VOL. IX NO. 5

MAY 1995

FROM THE PREZ

Welcome...the newsletter has officially changed hands as Territorial Vice-President Dick Dale turns over the reigns to new member Jim Fry. I would like to thank Dick, and his former partner in the endeavor, Mike Lowe. They have raised the standard for our club's newsletter and I trust that the new Editor will meet, and eventually exceed, that standard. Thanks Dick.

A final farewell...last month we had the unfortunate occasion to perform the broken wand ceremony for our newsletter's Editor Emeritus, Frank Syren. Frank passed away on Friday, March 31st. A small wake was held at The Gathering, as a small group of friends joined to honor Frank and share stories, laughs, and thoughts.

Uncle "Honest" Sid wants YOU!...for next year's leadership. At the next general meeting I will appoint a committee to prepare the nominations for next year's slate of officers. If you feel that you have talent to share with your club, please contact the Nominations Committee. For details regarding the duties of the officers, please chat up one of your current officers or Board members or call me at 461-1875.

Desperately seeking...see the above note. If you are a wiz with figures and would like to take an active interest in the financial well-being of Ring 76, do we have the position for you! We currently have no nominations for club Treasurer. (We start with one, two, three, four, five, six bills, spend three, which leaves us with...)

Dues are now past due...if you have not yet paid your dues, please dig out last month's newsletter and send your \$20.00 and membership form to Julie Dale. Next year is shaping up to be good. We are determined to offer more lecturers matching the quality of Billy McComb, more exclusive celebrity interviews along the lines of John Gaughen, more hands- on pre-meetings, etc. Don't miss out!

Richard B. Waterhouse

BOARD MEETING

By Mark Flores

The April Board meeting for Ring 76 was again held at Sherry Luft's home, with Don Soul, Rick Waterhouse, Dick Bush, Mark Flores, Greg Wauson, Dick Dale and Julie Dale in attendance.

Rick started the meeting by addressing some of the concerns that were raised previously about the direction that the present board was heading, whether or not the club has been a successful organization, and what may be done to insure that the club continues to improve. It was generally agreed that the present club has improved inasmuch as it has attempted to offer its members more opportunity to practice the Art of Magic and transcend from a passive role to an active role in the club's functions.

Rick stated that although the new meeting location is favored by most of the club's members, there are still concerns about its remoteness. He suggested that those members who have voiced complaints about the location could help secure a more central site.

Julie reported that only a small portion of the club's regular members paid their dues at the April meeting. The club benefits from everyone paying their dues on time as well as submitting their information form as provided in the previous newsletter. Remember that the club will vote for its next year's officers at the June meeting, and you must be a current (i.e., paid-up) member to cast your ballot.

The Board will invite Mr. Harry Eng to perform and lecture for the club at this

year's installation banquet. The location is tentatively set for the Regency Plaza Hotel, Villani's Restaurant, which was the site for last year's banquet. First Veep Greg Wauson is finalizing these plans.

The remainder of the Board meeting focused on reviewing and revising the current Ring 76 Constitution and By-Laws. One important change is the consolidation of the 2nd Vice President and Treasurer offices. The Board will make final revisions at its May meeting. As always, interested Ring members are welcome to attend.

LAST MEETING or what you missed

By Greg Wauson

Our April meeting was one of the most fun meetings I've attended, due to our guest lecture, but first things first. Our pre-meeting theme was dues! Yep, it was time to fleece the flock. We also had a few new members sign up and we gladly took their money.

On a somber note, Dick Dale presented a broken wand ceremony for Frank Syren. Frank was one of our senior members and had played a key part in producing our monthly newsletter. He'll be missed.

Our business meeting would have won an award for brevity.

Jeff Marcus told us about the Michael Ammar lecture in San Diego later this month. Greg Wauson suggested we go as a group to the Penn and Teller show which will be in San Diego for a week at the end

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of November. He's never seen their show and as long as it's clean it can't be too bizarre, right?

Now to our main event... Our guest lecturer is himself a classic of magic and it was our pleasure to present Billy McComb. We had been looking forward to this lecture for quite awhile and he did not disappoint. His presentation was a class act, showing it's not what you do but how you do it. Although not stated, his lecture showed the importance of being comfortable just being yourself and sharing your unique personality with your audience.

Billy presented magic effects using a wide variety of items including silks, sponge balls, rope and cards. He focused more on presenting the tricks instead of their modus operandi; several of them are in his lecture notes. Many of them I had never seen and he really fooled me a few times.

He included several tips which could help anybody become a better performer and emcee. I like his suggestion for emcees to have all performers in the show fill out an index card with the introduction they would like. Also, during each introduction save the person's name for the end. Billy's performance was also enhanced by his use of several members of the audience. Thanks to the "volunteers" who assisted with the tricks: Stacy MacKenzie, Diane Lane, Marcia Ferree, Ursula Rohrer, Sherry Luft, Betty Armstrong, Ann Schwartzwald, Ruben Padilla, Jim Fry, Jeff Smith and Craig Stone.

What an enjoyable evening. President Rick Waterhouse said the lecture was a "tremendously valuable, inspiring experience."

BITS 'N PIECES

The SAM assembly up in Hollywood sponsored David Copperfield to receive a star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame. Several lanes of Hollywood Boulevard were closed to make room for the throng of fans who came to see David accept this honor. David's arrival was heralded by lights, fog, and three Magic of David Copperfield semi-truck trailers. David was joined by his parents and his fiance, Claudia Schiffer. Various notables were on hand to induct David and wish him well. Special magical guests spotted milling about included Mike Caveney, Tina Lenert, Max Maven, Irene Larsen, Milt Larsen, Billy McComb, Mark Wilson, and others. Members of David's fan club were given special limited edition t-shirts in exchange for special invitations mailed several weeks ago. Finally, a small detail which bodes well for the public's perception of magic: David's star was for theater, not television. Even Houdini's star was not for theater, it was for film!

* * *

Rick Waterhouse and Jeff Marcus should be congratulated for bringing Michael Ammar to San Diego for a workshop and lecture. Both events were packed with useable information from a tremendously talented performer. Michael featured selections from his previous releases and items from his soon-to-be released set of videos on money magic. The lecture was extremely informative and entertaining, offering something for everyone. While Michael's talent as a magical performer are well known, I was impressed with his easy, caring style. He really seemed to want everyone to understand the methods he demonstrated. What a great night!!

COMING UP

May 8	Ring 76 Meeting Location: Hungry Hunter 6:30pm Pre-meeting: "Chemistry Magic" 7:30pm Meeting Theme: "Flower Magic"	June 17	Ring 21's "Day Of Magic" Beverly Garland Holiday Inn, Hollywood (818) 785-2607
May 12-13	NW Magic Jamboree Tigard, OR. (503) 236-6541	June 19	Ring 76 Board Meeting 7:00pm The Dale's
May 22	Ring 76 Board Meeting 7:00pm The Dale's	June 13-23	The Mystery School An Experiential Magic Retreat Catskill Mountains
June 1-4	Las Vegas Close-Up MGM Grand Hotel Las Vegas, NV.	July 10	Ring 76 Meeting Installation Banquet Villani's (Same as '94)
June 6	Martin Nash Lecture 7:00 pm 1537 India Street Contact Craig Stone at Brads Magic Shop	July 5-8	S.A.M National Convention Boston, Mass.
June 12	Ring 76 Meeting Location: Hungry Hunter 6:30 Pre-meeting: Coins Theme: "Kids Magic"	July 12-15	67th Annual IBM Convention Oakland, CA.
		Aug 2-5	Abbott's Get-Together Colom, MI (616) 432-3235

HONEST SID GERHART RING 76, SAN DIEGO, CA

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MAGICCURRENTS

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