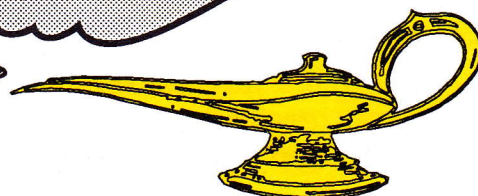


MAGICURRENTS



HONEST SID GERHART
RING 76, SAN DIEGO, CA



VOL IX Number 8

August 1995

QUICK TRICKS Gizmos, Gaffs and Gadgets

August's meeting will begin with the pre-meeting focusing on *Gizmos, Gaffs, and Gadgets*. Break out those oddities and curiosities you have had stashed away in your closet and drawers for so long. Show us the unusual tools of the craft you found in a little shop in the hills of Tennessee or how you make water travel against the laws of nature. Confound, amuse and amaze us with your treasures.

Following the pre-meeting, our new Board will report club business and upcoming events related to *Ring*

Meet The Board

We would like to introduce you to your 1995-1996 Board of Directors:

Mr. Rick Waterhouse, President
Mr. Greg Wauson, Vice-President
Mr. Jim Jolly, Treasurer
Mr. Jim Fry, Secretary
Mr. Dick Bush, Sergeant-At-Arms
Ms. Sherry Luft, Board Member
Mr. Mark Flores, Board Member

To help you know and recognize the Board Members at meetings we present

(Continued Board Pg 6)

76 and then it's Quick Tricks night. Share with us those blazing fast, amazing wonderful quick tricks which hit the spot.

August's meeting is scheduled for Monday August 14, 6:30 p.m. at the El Cajon Hungry Hunter on Fleeter Parkway. Bring your gizmos, gimmicks and gaffs, grab a friend and make it to the August meeting!



THE INVISIBLE CIRCUS

by Betty Armstrong

Invisible? No! Using one's imagination, everything was visible. There were clowns, acrobats, trapeze artists, high wire acts, real animal acts (ducks and rabbits), unreal animal acts portrayed by the performers, lots of nonsense, bicycle riding and wearing of same, chair balancing, human musical instruments, other balancing acts, dancing, puppets and - lots of MAGIC!

(Continued Invisible Pg 3)

Check The Label

Check your mailing label on this issue of *Magicurrents*. If you see:

*** Last Issue, Renew Now ***

your membership is in our records as having lapsed.

We know we're not perfect and our records need some serious updating so please let us know if you think we have you listed incorrectly. Or, if it slipped your attention, renew now so you won't miss an issue of *Magicurrents* and news and events from around San Diego's magical community. With a new board, new energy and lots of excitement, you will want to be an active part of *Ring 76*.

And speaking of the label and our records, we will be previewing the new *Ring 76 Membership Directory* at the August meeting. Stop by and make sure all the information we have for you is up-to-date and accurate. Call Jim Jolly with any membership questions.

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PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS

By Rick Waterhouse

Welcome to the first issue of Magicurrent's under the auspices of your 95/96 officers. I hope that members who attended the convention will drop by the next Ring meeting and share the highlights with the rest of us.

Magic in San Diego

I recently took an afternoon to check out the Sigmund & Freud Sea Lion magic show at the San Diego zoo. Ring 76 member Joe Mystic was performing and I am pleased to say that he delivered a good show that was well received by his audience. After the show, I stopped by to chat with Joe. He tells me that he hasn't really seen any IBM folks at the Zoo's nighttime magic shows.

Part of our goal, as an IBM Ring, is to further the art of magic on a local level. To me, this also means supporting those performers, shows, and venues that feature magic locally. I would like to encourage all of you to make it to the zoo and check out their three different magic acts. If (and only if) the performer looks like he has a second after the show, be sure and say hi.

Old Business

Over the next few weeks, your new officers will be tidying up a few loose ends. We will be preparing the new member's directory. Please let us know of any address corrections or changes ASAP. We expect to receive the approved by-laws back from IBM within a week or so. Assuming all goes well, the general membership will be given the opportunity to vote on the new by-laws by September. Finally, Jim Fry and Jim Jolly will be going over our member list to verify who has paid up for this year, and who has not. If you have elected not to rejoin us this year, we will be giving you a call just to confirm. If you believe that you have renewed your membership (and we call), we'll work it out.

Visiting Magi

Gospel Magician and Evangelist Felix Snipes performed at Mira Mesa's First Baptist Church. Both Greg Wauson and I attended the show. I understand that Felix had a really good mentalism show on Friday night, and he performed a very professional straight magic show on Saturday. I bring this up because of a very nice gesture that he made on Saturday night. During his show he asked if there were any local magicians visiting his show. He then, graciously, suggested that the members of the flock contact the local magician for future engagements. I was very impressed by this gesture. Things went very well until he asked me what kind of magic I perform... Oh well. I still think it's something we might want to consider if we ever work well outside of our local market.

New Members

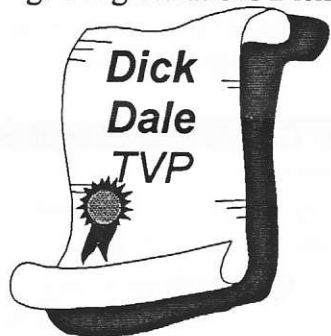
We are currently processing some applications from new members. Our new applicants will be given the opportunity to audition for their membership. Please be prepared to help and support them. This is a process which has not been observed in the club for some time, but is nonetheless an important part of becoming a member of IBM Ring 76. The board has been discussing the traditional "rituals" surrounding membership and welcome your comments.

Well, that's about all I have to say this month. Don't worry, I'm gearing up for next month. Until then, be sure and bring your neatest gizmos, gaffs, and gadgets for our August pre-meeting.

Regards,
Rick Waterhouse

I.B.M. T.V.P.

Congratulations to our own **Dick Dale** on his recent election to the office of Territorial Vice-President of the International Brotherhood of Magicians. Dick is a full-time professional magician and will represent all the IBM Chapters in the territory. We at *Ring 76* are indeed fortunate to have Dick as an active member of our Ring. Congratulations Dick.



The 46th Ring 76 Installation Banquet

The 66 members and guests of Ring 76 were treated to a very special installation banquet July 10. Held at the Regency Plaza Hotel in Mission Valley, the 46th Installation Banquet for I.B.M. Ring 76 was well attended by members and guests alike. With a panoramic view of San Diego's Mission Valley and the setting western sun, the scene was quite picturesque.

Gatherers were treated to the famous *No-Hostbar* from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. with the opportunity to visit and get reacquainted with old and new members alike. With the warmth of friends and family (and a touch of dessert heat), people and air were circulating.

Dinner was a wonderful buffet prepared by the Catering department of

the Regency Hotel. With a small assist from the magicians present, the stage and flow of people was lively and enjoyable. The guests and friends of *Ring 76* were treated to fresh salad, chicken, lasagna, fresh vegetables and cheesecake. Dinner was from 7:30 until 8:30.

After coffee, there was the ceremonial presentations of awards and appreciation. First presented was **Member of the Year** by last year M-O-T-Y Mark Flores. Mark told those gathered that, although a close vote, with many member receiving votes, Greg Wauson had been voted **Member of the Year**. Rick Waterhouse, past and current *Ring 76* President presented a special edition plaque of *Magicurrents* to the outgoing editors Dick Dale and Mike Lowe for the outstanding, tireless job they performed all year. TVP Dick Dale presented each one of the outgoing Board members of *Ring 76* a plaque with thanks for their efforts.

Following the awards and recognition of the 1994-95 Board, Dick Dale, IBM Territorial Vice-President swore in the 1995-1996 Board for *Ring 76*.

The ceremonies were followed by the real treat of the evening was Mr. Harry Eng, the entertainment. Mr. Eng's performance demonstrated some of the most difficult and unusual feats of magic the people had ever been exposed to. In addition to bring his wonder and mind-boggling puzzles (ever seen a complete deck of card, in card case, inside a bottle?!), Harry Eng demonstrated his amazing ability to recall numbers literally into the scores and scores of digits. People are still talking about the performance days after the show. A special treat for *Ring 76* members the following night when Harry Eng lectured for about 2½ hours on many of the prior evening's feats.

Everyone is wondering what next year's banquet holds in store for us.

Invisible from page 1

The whole performance was done by Victoria Chaplin (Charlie's daughter) and her husband Jean Baptiste Thierrie. They wrote, directed, staged, selected the music, and made their own costumes. It was fantastic!

Victoria, a clone of her mother, Oona, was agile, graceful, a fine gymnast, a beautiful dancer and a wonderful mime.

Jean -Baptiste could walk on the stage and make you laugh. His forte was funny wigs, outrageous clothes, a "putty face", silliness, suitcases galore--which held all sorts of surprises - and MAGIC!

Our favorite magic was the sawing-in-half. The table is rolled out - the box removed and the lady (Victoria) was placed on the table. The box is replaced and the steel blades shown, then forced through the box and the woman. Then the middle section is removed. Jean Baptiste is so thrilled with this section of the box, he brings it to the front of the stage - turning it around and showing her middle through a small door. Upon returning to the table he starts to replace the middle section. A blank look crosses his face. At once the audience realizes that he doesn't remember which way it belongs! After moments of frustration, he sets the middle portion on top of the illusion and rolls the table off - exit stage left!!! Next trick!

Go see the Invisible Circus. We guarantee it is not!!!

SHORT CLASSIFIEDS

A former magician named Frederick in the north county is selling a bunch of magic props. There are some real deals here. Contact him at 739-1788 or see Rick for a list (including original and selling prices) at the next meeting.

The Reviews

Daryl's Video: Volume 8
The Great White Rope
\$29.95

by Greg Wauson 

Brad Burt's latest advertising newsletter talked highly about several videos. But, if your budget only has one video in it, you've got to make a choice. For me two weeks ago it came down to one of Michael Ammar's new money videos or a Daryl rope video. Brad gave the nod to Daryl, since rope magic can play to a small or big audience (and also because the video runs two hours). With some reticence I took his advice.

For many years I have mostly shied away from rope magic; too often rope magic moves are too evident or, even if they aren't, the effect itself isn't very strong or just may not appear magical. My opinion started to change otherwise when I witnessed Tabare's brilliant (and very magical) rope routine at the 1994 Desert Magic Seminar in Las Vegas. Also influential was David Williamson's ring on rope routine on his Dave II video. And now Daryl's video has convinced me ... rope magic can entertain and have a mind-boggling impact on an audience.

Daryl's video is a winner for several reasons. Daryl's fresh and enthusiastic presentation is a key. Also, his handling of the rope is natural and he offers useful suggestions for making the most from each effect. Daryl has good teaching skills and uses red and white ropes to make the moves understandable. This particular video is volume eight (the third of Daryl's three rope videos), featuring ring and rope effects, various knots and miscellaneous items. Especially good are his eight-minute rope routine including the strongest and most convincing presentation of the Professor's Nightmare I have ever seen. And if you're not fooled by the Jumping Knot of Pakistan you are more on the ball than I am. Also good are almost all the "ring on rope" items. Daryl explains it all in detail.

I learned many new moves and plan to incorporate several into my performing repertoire. A few final thoughts: the audio and video quality are excellent, the tape lasts a full two hours, at \$29.95 the price is right and, oh yes, the fireplace in the background gives it a warm, cozy ambience. Don't pass this up.

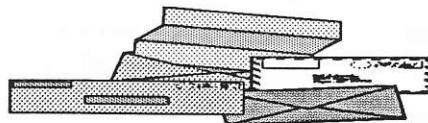
Greg Wilson's Double Take
The Video on Double Lifts
\$29.95

by Rick Waterhouse 

With over two hours of material, seven strong routines and over twenty-five different double lifts, this video is probably the definitive work on the subject. The double lift has been called the most misused sleight in magic. Greg Wilson takes us step-by-step through several get-ready procedures, double-lifts, and replacements. By breaking the move down into its base components, Greg allows us to practice the sleight in manageable chunks, and eventually create our own double lift creations.

This video coupled with a few hours of practice will have you double-lifting your heart out. In fact, that might be the danger. After watching this tape and practicing its contents, you will be tempted to work a double into everything you do. Regardless, this tape is worth every cent. Buy it if you want to polish up your double, or review the techniques of Wilson, Vernon, Marlo, Nash, and others.

Member Happenings



Jim Jolly married Kelly Courter on Saturday July 22. Jim and Kelly spent their honeymooned aboard the Royal Caribbean. They even got to see David Birch perform an outstanding dove and fire act aboard ship. Kelly is doing part-time counselling, spending time with Jim's two daughters Megan and Crystal, until fall. Jim's recently transitioned to a *think tank* group for Naval maintenance development on North Island. *Ring 76's* congratulations!

Board Report

The first Board meeting of 95-96 as held July 17. at Jim Jolly's. Rick Waterhouse reported to the Board that the Installation Banquet was slightly profitable and that the *Ring* received a very nice letter from the Regency Hotel's Catering Manager, thanking the *Ring* for choosing The Regency Plaza. The Board discussed the issues of Associate Members and New Members and will be evaluating these with the entire bylaws in the near term. *Ring 76* bylaws have been sent to IBM and are expected back in 3-4 weeks when they will be further reviewed.

The Board discussed the getting the *Ring 76* members more involved with the community in the coming year. *Magic Week* is in October and the Board will pursue performing in Heritage Park. The next Board meeting is scheduled for August 21 at Jim Jolly's, Caminito Niguel, 273-8485 at 7 p.m. All *Ring 76* members are invited to attend.

The Board is interesting in hearing from all *Ring 76* members on how to improve the *Ring* and all aspects of Magic in the community of San Diego. Call any board member to see how you can participate.

Help...

I need information on the following thirteen original members of *Ring 76*. I would like to find out more about them for the history of *Ring 76*. These founders are: Thomas E. Oliver, Larry C. Burns, Richard R. Stahl, Edward Harrison, Ted Angell, (Continued *Charter* pg 7)

10 minutes with David Costi

by Rick Waterhouse

The Las Vegas Desert Magic Seminar has long attracted attendees from all over the world. This year, we were given the opportunity to listen to a man named David Costi. David began with a ten minute monologue that was truly a Seminar highlight. Mr. Costi graciously allowed me to excerpt parts of his video tape chat.

When you read these words, try to see the man in your minds eye. Picture a modest Italian gentleman whose voice ranges from the soft melodies of a poet to the impassioned fire of an evangelical zealot as his hands punctuate his ideas. If you can try to see the man, as you read his words, then you may experience some small percentage of the charming impact shared by those in his lecture hall.

First, I apologize because English is not my first language. I hope that I can make myself understood fairly well. When asked to do this lecture, I started thinking about what to do, what to show. And very honestly, I said "I shall be taking a risk". The risk is that this room might empty itself in the next ten minutes. For one very simple reason. I think that most of us know at least 200 effects. If we really sit down and think about it, I think that most of us know at least, really, 200 effects. So I said to myself, "what good would it be, to bring maybe two or three of four new effects"? We will all be knowing 204 effects. Correct or no? But what's the use of it... If we cannot take the maxi-

mum out of the 200 that we already know? If we really can not take out of it the maximum of the five of the 200 that we know? So, for those of you who are expecting me to surprise you, I think that you will be very much disappointed... because I am still learning magic myself. So I don't repute myself at such a degree as to be able to teach.

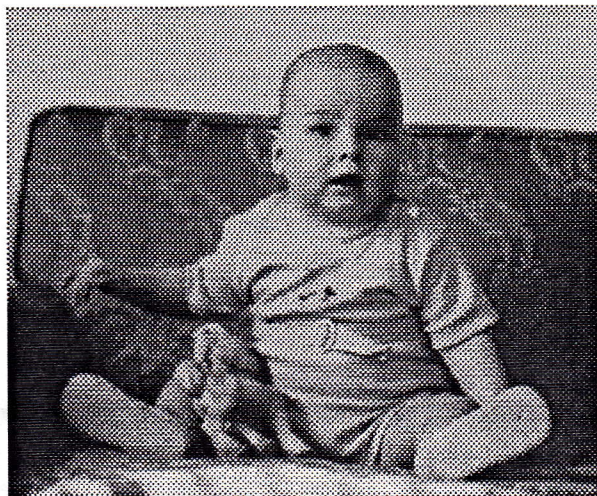
So that's not my aim. But, very egotistically, I should say that my aim will be to put forward the philosophies and the way of thinking of teachers that I had the honor and the opportunity to follow.

If we really analyze magic, we see that 99.9% of the time, something is lacking, something is missing. It is not going through. Why? We all read the theories. We all know the theories. Misdirection: "Oh, you look that way, and..." Very theoretical. I consider... I am not a professional magician. I do not make a living off of this. I Love Magic. I'm here because I love it. I love sitting with people, doing magic, learning magic. Magic is an Art. But remember always, that there is no art without culture.

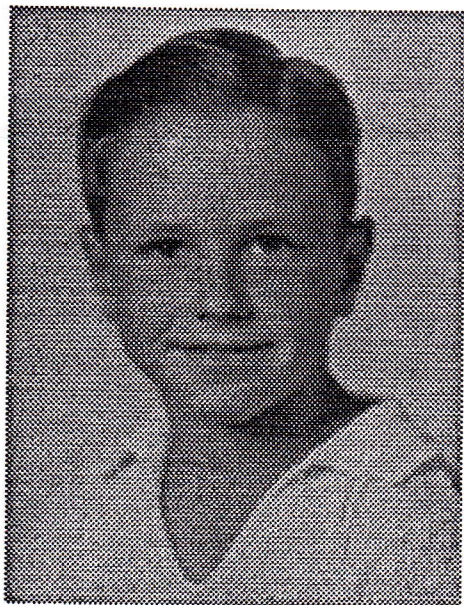
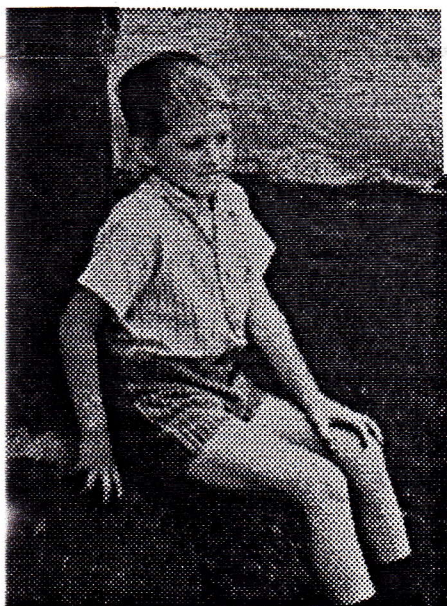
Unfortunately, very often, what is lacking in our art, is culture. Everything makes up culture, everything. From our backgrounds, from our interests, from our daily life, from what we study in magic, this helps to build up our culture. Are not our effects that have to value us, but us who have to value, give value Levant said, "The magician must be better, to our effects. than his trick". And he's CORRECT! The magician must be better than his trick. Otherwise anyone could just

see COSTI page 7

The Ring 76 1995-1996 Board of Directors



*RICK WATERHOUSE
GREG WAUSON
JIM JOLLY
JIM FRY
DICK BUSH
SHERRY LUFT
MARK FLORES*



COSTI from page 5

walk into a magic dealer, buy ten effects and just do them. But you will have a lot of things lacking.

What I mean is, we must, if we really love magic, if we really want to upgrade it to the level of Art with a capital A, sit down and analyze it. And once we have analyzed it, analyze it again. Really, how many of us, when they read a book where a trick is excellent, have really thought of how the structure of the trick is built to achieve the effect? Why is such-and-such effect in the hands of so-and-so a miracle? And we buy it, \$50.00, and tomorrow I'll do it. Fantastic. And in our hand sits just another trick. Why?

Have we really thought, structuring our routines about the timing, the pose, the misdirection. The misdirection is not just the glance, it's the voice. We can not learn misdirection. Misdirection must be fitted on us like a tailored suit. It

must be part of our normal way of acting otherwise it will be just an artifice. So, this is why, I was very much in doubt of what to do here tonight. I brought some effects. I don't want to call them tricks for a reason. I don't want to diminish them, to bring them down to the status of tricks. When someone says "Show us a trick!" Well, this is not the way. I would never lower myself to perform for somebody that would say "Do us a trick". Because, the trick I am doing... is a piece of ART! It cost me sacrifice. It cost me time. It cost me work. It cost me study. So, I want people to respect my effect, not my trick, my effect. What I am going to show them. This is what we have always to bear in mind. That we are not selling peanuts. Even if many of us are not professionals, but wouldn't it be good to feel that you are transmitting an emotion. If you get through to your public and you transmit an emotion, you make them

laugh, you make them cry, you make them think, then you are transmitting emotion. And only THEN, you are achieving something! When somebody reads poetry, or a ballet dancer dances, or somebody sings, they are transmitting something. The skin has, I don't know how you call them, goose pimples. And you are receiving something. And you know that it's only fiction, that they are on a stage, that it isn't true, and that afterward they will go out and have a pizza, or whatever, but in that precise moment they are transmitting you an emotion. These people are giving us something. THEY are artists.

So, this is a little bit my way of thinking. It's not my own. It's been transmitted to me. I'm studying on it, but honestly it is the road that I will pursue even if I will not find consensus because it is what I feel.



CHARTER

SAN DIEGO MAGIC CLUB - Ring No. 76, San Diego, Calif.

International Brotherhood of Magicians

This is to certify that Charter is hereby issued for an affiliated Ring of the International Brotherhood of Magicians, and that the names of those appearing hereon, are recognized as Charter Members of Ring No. 76.

GIVEN under my hand and seal in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the International Brotherhood of Magicians this 10th day of May, 1942.

International President

Thomas E. Oliver
Ted Angell
Stewart Wilson
Kevin Barry

Larry C. Burns
Howard L. Chernoff
James H. Thompson

Richard R. Stahl
Lt. R. W. Hafler
Howard C. Valle

Edward Harrison
Herman S. Englander
William Risley

Charter from page 3

Howard L. Cernoff, Lt. R. W. Hafler, Herman S. Englander, Stewart Wilson, James H. Thompson, Howard C. Valle, William Risley, Kevin Barry.

If you know of these people or know someone who might know anything about them, please call me at 443-9710 or leave a message on 561-0247. Alternatively send any information on Ring 76 founders to:

Dick Bush
12970 Hwy. 8, Bus.
Space #55
El Cajon, CA. 92021
Thank, Dick.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Quick Tricks Hungry Hunter 402 Fleeter Parkway El Cajon, CA 442-0517	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Board Mtg 7pm - Jim Jolly's - 273-8485 2980 Caminito Niquel	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	August 1995	

At The Castle

July 31, 1995

Annual Special Junior Week

Closeup Gallery

(Early 7:45, 8:45, 9:30 - Late 10:15, 11:15, 12:15)

- E: Greg Shane
- L: To B. Announced

Parlour

(Early 7:45, 8:45, 9:30 - Late 10:15, 11:15, 12:15)

- E: Matt Marcy
- L: Wesley Edberg

Palace of Mystery

(8:30, 10:00, 11:15)

- Brian Stoops
- Dominick Krisinski
- Jason Neistadt
- Thomas Meier
- Dan Cole

- Bob Dorian M.C.

August 7, 1995

Closeup Gallery

(Early 7:45, 8:45, 9:30 - Late 10:15, 11:15, 12:15)

- E: Mike Wong
- L: Martin Nash

Parlour

(Early 7:45, 8:45, 9:30 - Late 10:15, 11:15, 12:15)

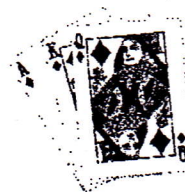
- E: T.C. Tahoe
- L: James Chantler Brown

Palace of Mystery

(Early 7:45, 8:45, 9:30 - Late 10:15, 11:15, 12:15)

- Brian Gillis
- Scott Cervine
- Amos Levkovitch

(All shows subject to change. Information based on best available at press time. Call the Magic Castle for up to date information.)



At The Shops

Brad Burt's

4690 Convoy
San Diego, CA
(619) 571-4749

Hours: M-T 10:00-6:00

Friday 10:00-8:00

Sat: 12-4 Sun 12-4

The Magic Shop

849 W. Harbor Drive
San Diego, CA
(619) 236-1556

Hours: Sun-Sat 10:00-10:00

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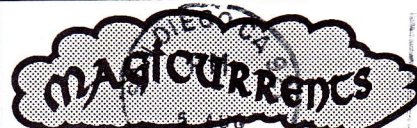
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RING 76, SAN DIEGO, CA

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