



# MagiCurrents

## Making Magic Profitable

### Where Are All My Shows?

By Joe Mystic

**A**ll right, I've put an ad in the back page classified section of our local magazine and I've sprung for a one line bold listing in the yellow pages (Donnelley). Oh yeah, I even pinned my card up at the Laundromat and told my friends at work that I do magic. Now, where are all my shows?

If this resembles at all the way you go about getting magic shows then don't quit your real job. If you think that you are really worth \$100 or more per hour to just perform. GET REAL. There are those of us who do perform 2,3,4 and more shows each week. In the 2 or so hours we spend performing we may make \$200 to \$1000. I don't really believe that I am worth \$500 per hour, but I know that for every 1/2 hour that I perform. I have done 5 hours of phone calls, advertising, meetings and in general pushing my show. The time and effort varies from show to show, but you get the idea. You can be one of these full time entertainers or you can have a full time job and pick up an extra show or two each week. You can't just sit back and wait for your phone to ring. You have to go find the work.

There is more work out there than you could possibly imagine. Finding it is the key. How many times have you passed the construction of a Wal-Mart or other such new construction? How many times have you driven in to find out if they were having a grand opening and who was

see MYSTIC on page 4



September

## RING REPORT

By Gary Schwatzwald

Treasurer **Bill Monroe** organized our fun and informative pre-meeting which began with the sharing of three tricks that are on video. We first learned Michael Ammar's version of David Williamson's 'Coin in a Pen Cap'. This strong effect seemed accessible to most of us after a little practice. We then worked on David Roth's 'Retention Pass'. After a few minutes of practice, we were able to fully appreciate Roth's unmatched ability. We also reviewed Aldo Colombini's 'Italian Salad', but ran out of time before we had a chance to practice this card effect.

see RING REPORT page 5

## MAGIC ON TV

### WORLD'S GREATEST MAGIC III

A PRELIMINARY REPORT By Gary Ouellet

**T**he World's Greatest Magic III is still in final editing as I write this and probably three weeks from being delivered to the network but here is an advance preview... It will, as usual, run the night before Thanksgiving on NBC, from 8 to 10 PM.

The host is John Ritter (of Three's Company fame) and Rita Rudner joins Mac King for the Mac King School of Magic (here we go again!).

Ritter and Rudner were terrific to work with.

Mac's segments were shot in the Magical Empire, and for the record, the tricks are either very old and standard chestnuts in every beginners book, or else created by Mac for the Teach-a-trick

see WGM III Page 6

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## Greg's Garrulity

(The President's Column)

I thought the September meeting of Ring 76 was a lot of fun. And judging from the comments I heard, others enjoyed themselves also. And why not? Our treasurer **Bill Monroe** selected a few dynamite effects on video which we all could learn from. (Thanks also for picking up the munchies, Bill.) Having the 60-inch or so TV certainly didn't hurt. There were also positive comments about the roving teach-in. Thanks to **Dick Dale**, **Jeff Marcus** and **Bill Monroe** for their participation and willingness to share some cool effects and moves with the rest of us.

On the other hand, we were sorry to hear about the medical problems one of our own, **Ralph Mauzy**, has been having. His inability to safely drive, as well as some other activities, has made it necessary for him to give up his position with the club as sergeant-at-arms. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Ralph, for a complete recovery.

Magic Heritage Day, a.k.a. "Magic Day at the Villa" (or something close), is starting to take shape. Somehow it wouldn't be the same without performers and fortunately lots of them have again volunteered to magish for the public at the event on Sunday, October 27. In fact, all of the several folks asked to donate their performances have agreed to help. Thanks too for those who signed up at the Ring 76 September meeting to help in some way. This will be one of our big events of the year, if not the biggest, to showcase the art of magic for our city. The San Diego Historical Society's Villa Montezuma house near downtown San Diego will again serve as the venue.

At last year's Magic Heritage Day we filled the house with performing magicians and entertained about 300 people as they strolled from room to room. We served refreshments, displayed lots of old posters and showed classic performance videos of master

see **WAUSON** page 4

## Scott's Thoughts

by **Scott Wells**,  
A.I.M.C.



### Volunteers of America

I recently read an editorial in a magic club newsletter regarding the use of volunteers on stage. The crux of the monograph was the espousal that people prefer to watch a magic show and pray that they don't get called out of their comfort of their seat to risk embarrassment on stage. Moreover, the job of the magician is to entertain without any direct interaction with his audience. I can't more heartily agree with the premise; however, there are several items that I must address.

First of all, at the very heart of magic is interaction. A magician cannot get a proper reaction from the sterile atmosphere of a television studio nor on the stage of an empty theatre. This is not an individual sport, but a performing art. There must be feedback, reaction, and response. After all, when no one is out there when we perform, it's called "practice." Of course, other performing arts don't require the audience to come on stage and interact with the orchestra, actors, nor ballet dancers; however, magic is unique. It's the interaction that sets it apart from the other disciplines.

Several successful stage magicians do not use audience members during their performances. I would venture to say that the majority of stage magicians (mentalists not included) don't use volunteers. Many comedy magicians have developed successful acts without the use of volunteers. But there are quite a few whose acts depend heavily on the use of volunteers. I am one of those. Let me start at the very beginning, so please stick with me for the ride.

I love close-up magic because of its intimacy. There is a bond that I try to form with my "guests" or "friends," as I like to call them, during the short time that I have to meet and entertain them. I want them to have a good

time and a pleasant experience that they will remember long after they have forgotten my name. I want them to remember that not all magicians are corny, nattily attired, nor try to embarrass them. Most of us have seen how everyone's eyes suddenly look elsewhere when the magician calls for a volunteer or else some guy laughingly points to the lady sitting next to him saying "pick her, pick her." And then there are the overly anxious (or drunk) who quickly raise their hands in hopes of having their moment to show off in the spotlight or heckle you from the stage. Selecting the right volunteer is indeed an art and choosing the wrong one can break a show. This is nowhere more apparent than with a hypnotist. I once worked with a hyp who spent 15 minutes trying to hypnotize his subjects to no avail then finally closed with an apology.

Although I love beautifully choreographed magic with illusions, livestock, and manipulations, I think that the audience might as well be watching a play or strolling through a museum admiring the artwork or, worse yet, sitting at home watching it on television. My point is that with these types of performances, there is no direct involvement, only passive interaction where the performer gets immediate feedback in the form of applause or laughter. It is difficult for one's character to flow off of the stage and into the hearts of their passive audience.

My performing philosophy is that I want to bring magic to the individual in a personal way. If I can't perform for them one on one, then I'll solicit the help from an audience member and interact with them on stage and let the rest of the audience peek in on the fun. They could be watching from home on TV, but the fact that I called on one of them proves that it is real, no trick cameras, no bad angles, and more importantly, that I could just of easily selected one of them to assist. It keeps my audience on their toes watching everything that I do because I may call on them next. In fact, I have so many routines that involve direct audience

participation, my real task is finding material that doesn't involve a volunteer yet works for my stage persona.

Unfortunately, it is true that there are far too many magicians who berate, belittle, and otherwise emasculate their volunteers. After someone has overcome their momentary fear of stage fright long enough to come on stage, the last thing that a performer should do is renew and reinforce their fears by embarrassing them in front of the audience. I have seen my audiences cringe when I first ask for volunteers; however, after they see that everyone that I use is having fun and nobody is getting embarrassed, the later volunteers come a bit more easily.

Secondly, I believe that magic should not be presented as a challenge. It should be presented as fun and entertainment for everyone including the volunteers and not at the expense of someone who is made to look foolish. If my audience knows that I don't take the whole thing too seriously, then they won't mind coming on stage to assist me because I don't mind being the brunt of my own jokes; however, I don't necessarily want to be made to look the fool either because it would contribute to the buffoon image that some people hold of magicians. If you have fun with your audience, then they will have fun with you. I try to make people have fun with the situation that is created and the magic that results. I try to create a sitcom (situational comedy) on stage that they are familiar with from TV wherein a situation is created during the comedic interaction between the players on stage and magic makes everything come out okay in the end. I want people to laugh at the situation rather than at the characters in the sitcom. I find this difficult to do when performing without an assistant.

Finally, I believe that the controlled spontaneity that is created during the interaction with the volunteer cannot be duplicated if I use a regular assistant. I say "controlled" because after hundreds of shows with

the same act and using the same lines, one can generally expect certain responses. But each time I perform, I act as if their response or my reply is being said for the very first time. This is what helps give the show freshness. I also believe that it is preferable to use a volunteer rather than a regular assistant because audience volunteers will talk with the

rest of their group after the show to prove that your magic was genuine and propagate the resulting myths that always emerge wherein

facts get blown out of proportion and the magic gets exaggerated. Furthermore, they will forever have a personal memento of the magic show . . . a memory that cannot be extracted.

My philosophy has been developed over a long period and is right for me but may not be for you. As always with my column, I want you to look at your own act, personality, and performing situation and determine what is right for you. Just remember the Golden Rule that can be paraphrased for magic . . . if you are going to use volunteers, then treat them with the same respect that you would want for yourself if the roles were reversed.

**"If my audience knows that I don't take the whole thing too seriously, then they won't mind coming on stage to assist me . . ."**

## ASK THE PRO



Curtis R. Clark

**QUESTION:** When working in a restaurant or bar which is more suitable, a tuxedo or a suit?

**CURTIS CLARK:** It may depend on the type of establishment you are performing at. If it is a fancy upscale restaurant a tux would probably be more suitable but is not a must. Sometimes what you wear may help you or hurt you with respect to your approach to and being accepted by the table.

I worked a dive bar/restaurant (which will go unnamed) for over a year. This establishment was frequented by mostly military personnel. In this atmosphere I found a suit or just a vest fit in better and had the personality I had to "put on" to entertain this type of crowd.

You have to be your own judge on this, what do you feel most comfortable wearing? Are you OK in a tux or are you more at ease in a suit or sports jacket & tie? A good deal of the time for restaurants and clubs I wear a suit with a tie featuring dice/cards etc that gives it the "magic" touch.

If you feel good and are comfortable you are probably going to perform better and be on top of your game. At the same time of course you must look professional. Common sense goes a long way.

**DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION FOR THE PRO?** Send it to MagiCurrents.

Curtis Clark has been performing at restaurants, clubs and conventions for over thirteen years. Curtis performs at the Gathering Thursdays 6:30 - 9:00 and at Moose McGillycuddy's Fridays 6:00 - 9:00.

## Ring 76 Online

<http://www.websmart.com/ring76>

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Ring 76 Web Page Sponsors Sought. Support Ring 76 and get a Web Page too. Contact Jim Fry (554-0335) for details and rates.

"Three rules ... to attaining perfection... Practice, More Practice, and still more Practice."

**Mark Wilson**

Mark Wilson Course In Magic, p 16



*Wauson from page 2*

magicians at work. The primary goals this year will again be to amaze the public and promote our craft to those who attend. However, we would like to fleece the flock just a tiny bit more than at the 1995 event. For example, last year no fee was charged for admittance, whereas Villa Montezuma normally requires a few bucks for a tour of the house \*without\* magical entertainment. We did charge a nominal amount for refreshments, caricatures by **Don Soul** and the seance performed by **Rick Bruce** and assistants.

Special thanks go to **Rick Bruce** who has again volunteered to spearhead our team. Thanks also go to **Don Soul** for being Rick's right-hand man. As mentioned at the Ring 76 meeting, all board members have also agreed to help in this effort. It's not too late for \*you\* to assist. Just call any of the board members and we'll do our best to put you to work as a ticket taker, go-fer, refreshment server, dogcatcher, bouncer or international relations consultant.

Until next time...

Greg

You Can Be the Difference  
Volunteer!

*MYSTIC from page 1*

hiring entertainment? Have you seen a banner for the 12th annual city picnic? Did you write down the phone number and call to see if they might like a magic show? If they had already hired all of their entertainment, did you make note of the date and phone number so that you could call earlier next year for the 13th annual city picnic (if it is the 12th year, it is a safe bet that there will be a 13th)?

Be creative in looking for shows. Don't assume that if they weren't planning on a magician that your out. Many times you can put the idea in their head and book a show where there were no place for one. Never approach a potential customer without looking neat and clean. It is not always necessary to be in a suit and tie button the other hand you can't be in shorts and sandals. ALWAYS carry business cards. This is the most cost effective form of advertising there is.

(Joe Mystic is a full time entertainer and the President of Entertainers Direct, Inc. (an entertainment booking company). Joe books approximately 1,500 shows for children and adult parties each year. Joe personally performs at 300 to 350 of these shows yearly. If you have any questions or need help with an idea, you can call and talk with Joe at 278-4557.)

## Ring 76 Board Meeting

September 16, 1996

Home of Ann & Gary Schwartzwald

Attendees: Rick Bruce, Sherri Luft, Bill Monroe, Don Soul, Greg Wauson, and Gary Schwartzwald.

### Sergeant at Arms

Ralph Mauzy, has unfortunately resigned his position as Sergeant-at-Arms for our ring. He has medical issues that need his attention and therefore he is unable to continue to serve on the board. The board will be contacting people to find a replacement for Mauzy. The board will miss his involvement and we wish him well.

### New Business

The board again discussed the issue of those stinking badges. It was agreed that Jim Fry will run a new set of badges that match our current membership. The badges for board members will be slightly different so that board members can easily be identified in case of an emergency or a question.

The board decided to reinstate the Member Directory. A form will be developed by Rick Bruce and sent out with a newsletter. Please fill out the form completely and return so we can have an accurate and complete Member Directory. Don Soul has agreed to design a new cover.

The board will have membership applications at each ring meeting.

See **BOARD** on Page 7

# *Magic Day at the Villa*

A Ring 76 Sponsored San Diego Community Magic Event

Sunday October 27

Magicians, performers, supporters and helpers of all kinds needed.

Call: Rick Bruce 299-1875

## RING REPORT from page 1

Our business meeting began with President **Greg Wauson** welcoming 23 members and introducing our three guests for the evening. Officers gave painless and brief reports. The cost of our newsletter (*MagiCurrents*) was questioned. Treasurer **Bill Monroe** assured the membership that costs will be easily covered and the newsletter will continue in its outstanding format, even if Monroe has to pay for it himself. The October meeting will focus on a community event, **Magic Day at the Villa**, and on spooky magic.

President Wauson introduced renowned (*MagiCurrents*) author and world traveler, **Jim Jolly**. Jolly has gladly submitted excellent articles to our newsletter and has helped to delight our readership. The Magic Castle hosted Ring 76 members in August. As expected the evening was informative and fun for the dozen members that attended. Wauson sadly announced that Sergeant-at-Arms, **Ralph Mauzy**, has resigned his position. He is having some medical problems and does not have the energy to continue as our Sergeant-at-Arms. Also discussed was the concept of a Junior Ring. Rick Bruce was unable to make the meeting but was recommended to develop and organize a Juniors Ring. We're confident he'll do a great job.

Wauson asked for volunteers to assist Jim Fry with the duplicating and mailing of our newsletter. **Loch David Crane** and **Joe Mystic** were at the meeting and volunteered to assist with the newsletter. Wauson then presented our newest member, **Paul Thomey**, with a certificate for the outstanding (and successful) audition Thomey performed last month. Great job Paul.

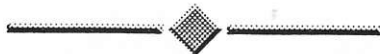
This year's Magic Heritage Day will be called, **Magic Day at the Villa**, and will be held at the Villa Montezuma on October 27th. The Historical Society requested that there be no seances this year. This event will benefit both the magic ring and the city of San Diego. Many Ring 76 members have volunteered their time and talents to make this a successful event. Treasurer **Bill Monroe** then

conducted our raffle in which three prizes awarded to members and guests. For the second month in a row, no board member won the raffle. There were 'California three strikes' comments made. We'll see how the raffle goes next month.

The entertainment/instruction for the evening was provided by **Dick Dale**, **Jeff Marcus**, **Bill (raffles) Monroe**, and **Greg Wauson**. Each of these magicians had a group of ring members and 10 minutes in which to teach an effect. After 10 minutes members moved to the next instructor. This continued until each group of members worked with each performer. Dale did a dynamite strong string effect. Marcus taught us the basics and finer points of the Elmsley Count. Monroe led us through the *Asher Twist* by Lee Asher and Wauson did a snappy job teaching us a flip stick move with a Bic pen. All the instructors did a great job and all of us learned some more magic.

The evening concluded with **David Loch Crane** performing a Jumbo Side Kick routine.

**Dick Dale** announced that Jerry Colisio is selling a magic collection. Colisio can be reached at 426-4838. He also announced that Karen Jones, 687-3721 ext.29 or 36, is looking for performers to entertain battered and abused children, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:30 - 2:30.



### Obituary

## James Elwood Cruthirds

(Ring 76 Member 1987 - 1992)

James Cruthirds died on August 25, 1996. He was born on November 3, 1921 in Biloxi, MS. After graduating from Mississippi State with a degree in Aeronautical Engineering James joined Douglas Aircraft. He retired in 1985 which was also the year that James joined IBM.

His passionate love of magic was exhibited by his performances for grandchildren and involvement with Ring 76 in San Diego.

Dick Dale  
CA TVP



*I.B.M. Ring 76*

## Board of Directors 1997

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If you can help Ring 76 fill this position, talk to a Board Member

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**Don Soul** - At-Large  
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SUBSCRIPTIONS to *MagiCurrents* are \$10 per year for out of the area magicians.

MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS should be sent to the club Treasurer, Bill Monroe. All Ring 76 Members must be a member in good standing with the International Brotherhood of Magicians.

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*MagiCurrents*  
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San Diego, CA 92122-1993  
or emailed to:  
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*WGM III from page 1*

segments. (An aside - Pendragon tells me he was at a magic convention recently and a young man stepped up to him after to get his autograph. The man explained that this was his first magic convention and he started in magic by learning the vanishing cup Pendragon taught on WGM I. A last note: Brett Daniels saw Mullica teaching the cut and restored hanky on WGM I, had never seen the trick before, loved it, and put it in his full evening show where it gets a great response every night!)

A new addition to this year's show is Mister Hands - white gloves on a black background performing a quick visual. These were used as transitions, and will probably be back next year.

1. Brett Daniels - Appearing Lamborghini. Those of you who have seen Brett's show, or World's Greatest Magicians Live on Tour have seen this. What makes it strong, in my opinion, is the speed of the appearance. Brett, by the way, built this himself from scratch.

2. Hans Klok & Sittah: Flambe Illusion, DeKolita Chair to Crystal Box. This team is from Holland. If you have never seen them, we were struck by their looks and style. Hans is just now preparing for a tour of Holland with a new full evening show.

3. Joseph Gabriel - The Monks. Gabriel will have opened in New York by the time the show airs (a full evening show titled Magic on Broadway) which features this illusion I first saw him perform at the Flamingo Hilton in City Lights. The set dressings and Enigma-like music gives this piece a gothic feel.

4. Michael Finney - Card on Forehead. Michael is funny, and this trick, which is performed with a volunteer, had us worried. It depends on Michael continuing to hide the fact from the spectator that the selected card is on Michael's forehead. We had only one chance to shoot it. Watch the master in action.

5. Galina - Floating Ball. Galina is from the Ukraine and this is a very sexy and sensual piece. If you have not seen her perform it recently you are in for some surprises. If you have never seen her, I think you will be pleasantly surprised. We tracked her

down in Berlin (where she is performing for the next year).

6. Nathan Burton - Toilet Trick. Nathan may be best known for the Microwave Illusion but this was too much for NBC's Standards and Practices. Nonetheless, the production of a toilet, his great toilet paper blower, and the vanishing policeman, all represent original thinking.

7. Guy Hollingworth - Twisting the Aces and Torn and Restored Card. Guy is from the UK, a sort of a magical Hugh Grant. His torn and restored card is a miracle.

8. David Williamson - Rocky Raccoon. I think David is one of the funniest men alive (he so cracked up John Ritter with this routine that Ritter, in tears, had to have his make up redone). This is David's classical routine, and his first appearance on WGM.

9. Greg Frewin - The Twister. Just when you think you've seen them all, along comes Greg with a neat new idea on the Twister Illusion. Don't want to spoil the surprise, but this is brand new. Designed by Greg.

10. Steve Wyrick - The RPLA Illusion - again, don't want to spoil the surprise, except to say that this may be the largest stage illusion in existence! Built by David Mendoza.

11. Jean-Pierre Vallarino - The Champagne Act - Jean-Pierre, from Nice, France, is not only a good friend but an incredible close up worker. He performs coin productions, matrix effects, a sandwich effect, and ace production and other amazing close up in a four minute act set to music. If you are into finger flinging and advanced card and coin moves you are in for a treat.

12. Dirk Arthur - Sleight of Tiger. Many did not know Dirk before they saw his appearing helicopter on WGM II. He is now in Jubilee at Bally's in Vegas (Frewin replaced him at the Crystal Palace in Nassau) and this effect (not in his show at Bally's) features a tiger production at a speed which is truly amazing.

13. Bob Arno - The Pickpocket Act. Although many of my friends knew Arno I had never heard of him until I opened an unsolicited videotape one day that came in the mail. Everybody

loved it. This is a funny act (notice the technique when he steals the belt).

14. Brett Daniels - Sawing in Half: Brett is back, and just when you think this is the old thin model double sawing, don't get up to get a beer. There is a surprise coming. Again, this is a brand new illusion, designed by Brett and built by Bill Smith.

15. David Williamson - Cups and Balls. When you have someone like Williamson who excels in stage and close up, the decision is tough - which do you use? We used both, and this time he is in the dressing room entertaining show girls with close up.

16. Hans Klok & Sittah - Be-headed. The Dutch team are back with a new Steinmeyer illusion that was completed only a few days before the taping. Built by Bill Smith.

17. Peter Marvey - Manipulation. Peter is from Switzerland and won the championship in the manipulation category at FISM. He specialty is starting with no props on an empty stage. Note the bare handed card productions. Guaranteed: you will be fooled.

18. FINALE: The Pendragons - Showgirl Vanish. Jonathan and Charlotte vanish 25 showgirls on stage. As an aside: many remember the Houdini TV show some years back when Charlotte could not step out of the Metamorphosis trunk because her costume (after a costume change) was not on. Well, we never did see the bathing suit she was supposed to step out wearing - actually, it was designed by choreographer Michael Darrin. In this piece, Charlotte is wearing the infamous costume we were supposed to see in that special!

As to the Vanishing Showgirls trick, I could write a book on "mega-illusions/TV show closers". They don't exist in anyone's repertoire, obviously, and must be created for the special. Magicians love them, hate them, are indifferent. The truth is that they are not easy to come up with. Unlike the rest of the show, where we use existing material, the mega-closer is always



something that must be created (there are exceptions - Penn & Teller's bullet catching being one). The Pens and the girls spent the week before the taping rehearsing this piece. Bill Smith built the prop, and the method is pretty neat. Again, for the illusionists out there, I think you will appreciate the speed at which they pull this off.

WGM III: Directed by Kent Weed. Lighting by Simon Miles, Art Design by Bruce Ryan. Shot on location at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas. Can I get a little bragging in? My son Ryan edited all the music (we cannot use commercial tracks for licensing reasons so this year we used a stock library and scored the show before taping - in the past we scored the show in post production).

Hope you have a chance to see it. The performers and their magic:

(Our thanks to Gary Ouellet for permitting us to reprint his September 16, EG post here for the members of Ring 76.)

## Loch David Crane

is performing the benefit for Canine Companions for Independence (CCI) at Del Mar Race Track September 28. Another *Ring 76* member helps the San Diego Community with Magic!

## Sankey Pankey, by Richard Kaufman - A Review

I recently bought this book and I was immediately impressed with the material in it. For those of you who haven't seen any of Sankey's tricks, I suggest you do. He's got some great stuff, and a lot of it is contained in this 86 page hardcover. Now, some of you might be thinking "Only 86 pages? Seems kind of short to me..." but I assure you what the book lacks in size, it makes up for with quality material. Almost every trick I have read in it is a really interesting item that I will USE. There are 29 of Sankey's best routines in here.

The magic in this book is so strong because a lot of it is wacky, off beat, and different. It's not just cards

and coins either. Some of the tricks are just with borrowed objects. A few of the tricks in this book are taught in his "Sankey Tized" videos, but I suggest you get both the book and the videos. Here are some of the best routines from the book:

"#\*@!" - This trick is great! It's like "The Dream Card" from Ortiz at the card table, (so you know I like it ) but it doesn't require a wallet. Basically, you remove a folded up card from your pocket. You have the spectator pick & sign a card. You then show that the folded prediction that's been on the table in full view the whole time is the spectator's SIGNED card! Great trick!

Mexican Jumping Coins - This is a really clean coins across routine using three coins. It makes use of the bizarre "one behind" principle. I found it pretty difficult, but I don't do that much coin magic. It's worth the effort though, because the routine looks great.

Dough - This is great and it's totally impromptu! You borrow a bill from a spectator, and affix a signed post-it note to the center of the bill. You fold the bill in half, and ram a pencil through it - the audience can clearly see the pencil burst through the post-it note, yet the bill is unharmed. The strange thing is that even though the bill is unharmed the signed post-it note has a hole through it! Everything can be examined - everything can be borrowed!

Ring Around the Collar - This is my favourite piece from the book. I am going to use this. You borrow a ring and use it in a trick (see below) then vanish it. Later, it is found to be IN THE KNOT OF YOUR TIE! Yes, that's right, you loosen your tie, and inside the knot is the borrowed ring. This is great!

Stirring Silver - This routine is also great, especially when used with the above trick. You borrow a ring and a spoon (perfect for restaurant situations) and procede to ram the bowl of the spoon through the ring. You then have an audience member hold the spoon and you yank the borrowed ring through the bowl again. This is a very strong trick.

- Bob Barlen ([bbarlen@mgl.ca](mailto:bbarlen@mgl.ca))  
(Reprinted with Bob's kind permission. All rights reserved.)

## BOARD from Page 4

Rick Bruce assured that the 1998 International IBM Conference might be in San Diego. We hope to confirm this rumor in the near future.

Joe Mystic has graciously volunteered to assist with the duplicating and mailing of our newsletter. To keep costs at a minimum the board recommended keeping the newsletter at 8 pages and to use Mail Boxes etc. for duplicating.

## Magic Heritage Day

Magic Heritage Day will now be referred to as **Magic Day at the Villa**. The following is somewhat of a stream of consciousness account of the boards discussion of **Magic Day at the Villa**. The event will be held at the Villa Montezuma, from 12 noon to 4:30pm on Sunday October 27, 1996. Awe will be limited to the downstairs portion of the Villa and there is a concern/hope that with the expected barrage of publicity that we may need to turn away crowds. We plan to have magicians and refreshments outside to help control and entertain the crowd. Possible and probable magicians include; Rick Bruce, Monte Stratton?, Mike Stillwell, Greg Wauson, Jack Blaylock, Joe Mystic, Loch Crane, Ken Deer, Curtis Clark, Jim Jolly, Craig Stone, Diane Lane and Sebastian Figueroa. (My apologies for misspellings) **Contact the ring if you would like to perform or help out in other ways.**

The ring will ask for voluntary donations. Don Soul will do caricatures also for donations to the ring. We hope to once again display the collection of J.P. Jackson. A seance is planned for Thursday night, October 24th. This is expected to be covered by the media and conducted by the seriously mysterious Rick Bruce. Sherry Luft will arrange and schedule the performers. We plan on having an IBM booth with video as well as some archive magic videos playing that day. Rick Bruce is the driving force behind **Magic Day at the Villa**, and deserve credit and gratitude. If you have ideas or concerns regarding this event please volunteer to assist us. Thank you.



**Club Meeting Themes:**

**October** Pre-Meeting Show and discuss Penn and Teller's performance on the Jay Leno show

Meeting Spooky Halloween Magic or (MDV) Practice

**November** Meeting Lecture possibilities include Gregory Wilson, Steve Valentine and Aldo Colombini

**December** Massive Pot Luck**If you've read this far...**

I've just finishing reading a novel, featuring magician 'Shifty' Lou Anderson, and written by Del Mar resident William Murray. Nine Murray novels feature Anderson as a close-up magician and horse player who ends up solving a murder. Each novel contains horse playing, magic, travel, some opera and of course a murder. Home bases for Anderson are Del Mar, Los Angeles and Las Vegas. Most of these Anderson novels are light hearted travelogues, but a few were not that light. I have enjoyed them and thought they might be of interest to you. Please let me know if you recommend other fiction that has magic as one of its themes.

- Gary Schwartzwald  
Ring 76 Secretary



All shows subject to change. Information based on best available at press time. Call the Magic Castle for up to date information (213) 851-3313

**SEP 30 - OCT 6**

E. CLOSE-UP  
L. CLOSE-UP  
E. PARLOUR  
L. PARLOUR  
PALACE

Jerry Andrus  
Chad Long  
Jillian Gottlieb  
David Sandy  
Doug Malloy  
Larry Wilson & Co

**OCTOBER 7 - 13**

E. CLOSE-UP:  
L. CLOSE-UP:  
E. PARLOUR:  
L. PARLOUR:  
PALACE:

Bruce Cervon  
Jeff Bornstein  
Bodine Balasco  
Fernando Keops  
Chuck Fayne  
Scott Cervine  
Jason Byrne

**OCTOBER 14 - 20**

E. CLOSE-UP:  
L. CLOSE-UP:  
E. PARLOUR:  
L. PARLOUR:  
PALACE:

Celeste  
Fernando Keops  
Peter Studebaker  
Bob Markwood  
T.C. Tahoe  
Brad Cummings  
Michael Rappa

**OCTOBER 21 - 27**

E. CLOSE-UP:  
L. CLOSE-UP:  
E. PARLOUR:  
L. PARLOUR:  
PALACE:

John Shearer  
David Malek  
Terry Luncford  
George Tovar  
Terry Seabrooke  
Torkova  
Loren C. Michaels

**MAGIC CASTLE LECTURERS**

Sep 29 - Richard Sherman  
Oct 6 - Chad Long  
Oct 20 - Peter Studebaker  
Oct 27 - Torkova

<http://www.magiccastle.org>

# Spooky Halloween Magic

Pre-meeting:  
Penn & Teller on the Jay Leno Show

• • •

October 14, 1996  
6:30 PM

• • •

Francis Park School  
6501 Linda Vista Rd  
San Diego, CA

MagiCurrents  
4046 Caminito Terviso  
San Diego, CA 92122-1993

Roy & Betty Armstrong

2548 Littleton Road  
El Cajon, CA 92020