



MagiCurrents



President's Message

by Gary Schwartzwald

I felt great after our September meeting. As I looked around the room at our meeting, I saw many of the things I hoped to see. Mostly, and most importantly, I saw a lot of people interacting over magic. There was a **Dick Dale** led rope teach-in that had the attendees participating, interacting and volunteering tips; **Tom La Chance** did an truly outstanding job on his *Pass-the-Mat* trick; we had two top-notch auditions and a slew of excellent performances for our evening theme of comedy. In addition to that I saw clusters of people performing magic, laughing and telling lies. The number of people, the diversity of the group, and the interactions over magic all contribute to the atmosphere I hope to see at our future meetings.

As a point of clarification, we can have a room at Francis Parker if we so desire. Mary Brown has done a great job for us in that regard and is to be commended. After much discussion and consideration the

board voted unanimously to have our next two meetings at the American Legion Hall in La Mesa. We all agreed that this was the best location for the club at this point. Unfortunately, there is no perfect location. We'll keep looking and please contact the board member of your choice if you can recommend a suitable meeting place.

My first goal is to have magic meetings that have a lot of people participating. It was great to see that at our last meeting. I liked seeing the new faces who are becoming members and meeting the members who have not attended in a long time. Even though being on the Ring 76 Board is rewarding, I appreciate the people who have

taken the time to give me positive feedback and encouragement. I'm glad you're enjoying the meetings and the directions we are going.

I believe we have a great lecture planned for October. Bob Markwood comes highly recommended and I'm sure he will have something for everyone. I look forward to seeing you at the lecture on the 13th. Let me know if there is something we can do for you. If you're enjoying the meetings, bring a friend.

Gary S

INSIDE	PAGE
President's Message	1
September General Meeting	2
September Board Meeting	3
Tape Talk	4
This Month's Meeting	5
What's Happening	8



I.B.M. Ring 76

1997 Board of Directors

Gary Schwartzwald - President
6135 Haas Street
La Mesa, CA 92042
(619) 697-9468

Tom La Chance - Membership VP
447 Nila Lane
El Cajon, CA 92020
(619) 441-3747

Dick Dale - Entertainment VP
2447 Nielsen Street
El Cajon, CA 92020
(619) 562-7379

Julie Dale - Treasurer
2447 Nielsen Street
El Cajon, CA 92020
(619) 562-7379

Don Soul - Secretary
10068 Branford Road
San Diego, CA 92129-3223
(619) 484-3492
fax (619) 484-4832

Tom Kasner - Sergeant-At-Arms
12859 Calle De Las Rosas
San Diego, CA 92129-3014
(619) 484-0695

Greg Wauson - Past-President
11007 Red Robin Place
San Diego, CA 92126
(619) 566-5654
wauson@incom.net

Bill Monroe - Member-at-Large
31980 Corte Albano
Temecula, CA 92592-6702
(909) 693-4613

SUBSCRIPTIONS to MagiCurrents are \$10 per year for out of the area magicians.

MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS should be sent to the club treasurer, Julie Dale. All Ring 76 members must be members in good standing with the International Brotherhood of Magicians.

*MagiCurrents is published monthly by Ring 76. All rights reserved. Articles and contributions should be sent to: MagiCurrents
10068 Branford Road
San Diego, CA 92129*

Ring 76's September Meeting

by Don Soul, secretary

This month's meeting was held at Patches Sports Bar and Grill in the suburb of Grantville and will most likely continue to be Ring 76's new venue because of its proximity to membership. Before the meeting started, VP **Dick Dale** and President **Gary Schwartzwald** held a rope trick teach-in for our 25 members and 9 visitors. Of the many variations on magically tying a rope, there was ample opportunity to select one's favorite method.



Tom La Chance thrills the audience.

The meeting opened with Gary introducing the board as he then presented VP **Tom La Chance** - the board's current "mat holder" - who performed a Cut and Restored rope routine with impeccable patter and timing. After he stunned us, he "passed the mat" to Sergeant-at-Arms **Tom Kasner**, who will have a month to prep. Good luck, Tom.

Gary next informed us that the October lecturer will be **Bob Markwood**. **David Ebert** was then presented his I.B.M. membership pin and certificate which had been intended to be presented at last month's meeting.

After announcements about the transfer of Ring 76 library custody, future Ring 76 competitions and meeting themes and an upcoming magic show, two guests auditioned for membership: **Dale Robins** and **Craig Beresh**. Each performed smoothly and confidently, impressing the audience with Dale's Professor's Nightmare and Craig's variety of card effects. Both were welcomed as new Ring members. A brief break followed and then our monthly raffle was held.

(Continued on page 7)

About Ring 76...

- Members must be at least 12 years old
- Non-members may attend three Ring 76 meetings at no charge (except for special events)
- Local dues are \$20 per year (under 18 years is \$10)
- Membership in the IBM international organization is required. IBM dues are \$40 the first year. You will then receive "The Linking Ring" magazine, one of magic's best publications.
- Prospective members are required to perform a five-minute magic audition at a Ring 76 meeting.
- Ring 76 members receive the monthly MagiCurrents newsletter and may attend all monthly meetings at no charge.

Ring 76 September Board Meeting

by Don Soul, secretary

The monthly board meeting held September 22nd began at 7:00 at the home of **Dick and Julie Dale**. Attending were **Gary Schwartzwald**, **Dick and Julie Dale**, **Tom La Chance**, **Tom Kasner**, **Don Soul**, **Greg Wauson** and **David Lane**.

The first topic was audition certificates to be presented to new members. Tom Kasner will check with Greg regarding previous computer templates used. Next the close-up contest was explored. Dick will be the point man for those interested in signing up to participate.

No raffle will be held at the upcoming October lecture. Ticket sales have improved, the board believes, because of the improved quality of items to raffle. Next, it was mentioned that Rick Bruce has a block of matinee afternoon seats for *It's Magic* to be held in Escondido November 1st. The group price per seat is \$17.85 each and we need a minimum of twenty sales to keep the price.

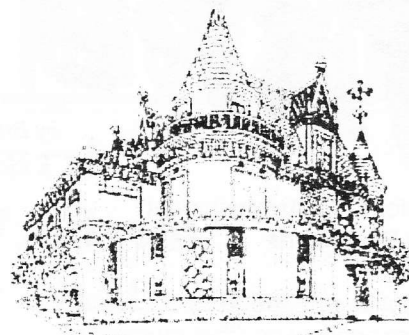
The subject of disturbances during the monthly meeting was next to be reviewed. There was unanimous board agreement that, out of courtesy and respect for the other members, everyone attending meetings should not allow themselves or the person next to them to disturb the meeting and it would be prudent for the membership to police themselves in this regard.

A directory of Ring 76 members has been planned and, based on one month's input, or lack thereof, none of the membership has objected to being

listed. Therefore, Tom Kasner will begin assembling the list and Don will contribute the cover artwork. Distribution will most likely be an inclusion into an upcoming issue of the newsletter. With regard to the newsletter, Joe Mystic has requested reimbursement for several months of copying and postage from the previous administration. However, he has not provided receipts. Greg will contact Joe to work out details.

A critique of Patches as a future meeting place was discussed. Tom Kasner had dropped by the day before and discovered the management had built a Go-Go cage at the partitioned area off to the right side of the stage. We agreed it was not very enticing since it was a distraction, particularly for a lecture, and further limited the meeting space in general; Patches was ruled out as a venue for Ring meetings. The option of Francis Parker school was examined but because the various rooms the Ring would meet in have limited seating capacity, it was not an encouraging proposition, based on the September turn out. Dick brought up his recent contact with the La Mesa American Legion Post and that there should be no problem in using the facility. Board members being familiar with the Legion hall, it was considered favorable for at least this month's lecture if Dick can firm up the booking. Depending upon his negotiations, the board chose to hold the October meeting and possibly the November meeting at the Legion hall with a backup site being Francis Parker school. Dick assured the

(Continued on page 7)



Last call for a trip to the Magic Castle in Hollywood! Anyone interested? There hasn't been much response from Ring 76 members. Surely, you must know someone you'd like to bring to this "adult Disneyland for magicians." This isn't a recruitment campaign for the Castle. Instead, it's what would be a full evening of fun and excitement in the company of friends and fellow magic lovers. We need more people to make it happen. Just tell any board member at the meeting or by phone and we'll get something together. Without making your interest known this offer will *vanish* right before your eyes!

TAPE TALK

by Bill King

"Close-Up Astonishment" by Paul Harris

Paul begins the session with a commentary on "that moment of astonishment." His current goal is, as it is with all of our performances, to capture that blink in time and hold it for as long as possible. Known essentially as a card man, Paul displays a range of presentations that are a bit different than that of other performers.

The opening effect is entitled "Bizarre Shrink." Two jokers are introduced back-to-back with a rubber band around the pair. The band removed, a four of hearts is taken from between the two face-up cards. The four is then placed back between the jokers and adjusted into a 'T' shape. The four is now grasped at the narrow end by the spectator between forefinger and thumb. The joker and four are then pulled away leaving a miniature four of hearts in their grip and the two jokers in the performer's hands. As with most "in-the-hands" transformations, this one is strong stuff! "Cue Cards" is a take-off on Larry Jennings' "The Visitor." A card is selected and placed in the left hand packet. It mysteriously jumps over to the face-up right hand packet turning face-down as it goes. The sequence is repeated and the two selections are then revealed in yet another place in the deck. The "Flop Change" as Paul coins it, is a very nice revelation in the form of a card change. I have had a little trouble with snap changes, but this one is a piece of cake. A null card is transformed into a selected card in the blink of an eye. This effect is easy to do and is a stunner!

"Screwed Deck" is a unique way to get into a card sequence. Two halves of a card box are shown from the ends, one with a screw and the other with a screw hole. The box is then assembled by twisting the two halves together, but they are backwards when tightened together. The complete deck is removed from this screwed-together box, but the cards, mirroring the outside of the box, are backwards as well. Not to worry; a simple twist and the cards are ready for your first effect. This thing looks pretty goofy, but if you are looking for something beyond simply taking the deck out of the box, this could be for you.

"Fantasy Aces" is a four ace production cooked up by Paul and Daryl Martinez that is a bit different. It is fast and flashy, so check it out. "Card Cuffs" from Brainstorm in the Bahamas is a seemingly innocent pick-a-card thing, but this one has a twist. The spectator selects a card, signs it, and sees it lost in the deck. A spelling sequence begins with the signed card appearing at the last letter of the helper's first name . . . but the plot thickens. A different card is fashioned into a pair of cardboard thumbcuffs which the performer places on their thumbs. Trying to spell the name again the performer fails. However, the thumb cuff card is now removed to and turned face to the audience revealing the signed selection. "Rubber Band Scam" is a four ace production using a rubber band to encompass the deck.

There is next a short philosophical discussion with Paul sharing the idea that you, as a performer, have to "start from scratch." His mean-

ing is that your presentation should be yours alone using the influences of your mentors.

"Sugar Shocker" caught my eye as a neat coffee shop stunt that can give you some impromptu recognition. This bit of business was reported from the one of the Tom Mullica tapes recently reviewed. Paul adds a wonderful little nuance that strengthens the effect by the power of two. As the packets are being numbered, simply turn a few of them over to confuse the onlooker as the elimination process is happening. I tried the effect on my daughter without Paul's addition and even though she wants all of Dad's stuff to be cool, it died. The sides of the packets that were numbered were all the same and the final one was the only one turned upside down. It was evident that nothing magical had occurred. Paul's thought to tear the final packet open and add the contents to your coffee destroys the marking on both sides of the forced item. Clever!

"Quick Con" gives the old three card Monte a new look. Two like cards, the two black jacks in this case, begin on the table face up. A third card is fairly cut, pulled out, and the balance of the deck is laid aside. The three cards are handled briefly and the question is posed . . . where is the odd card located . . . top, middle or bottom? Both hands are turned palm-down and the two like cards are dropped to the table face-up. The final question . . . which hand is holding the odd card? Both palms are turned up to show the vanish of the money card! The deck is spread face down to reveal the money card face up in the center of the spread. "Gambler-Mentalist-Magician" is a variation on the previous effect. "Double Decker", the deck undergoing a color changing.

(Continued on page 7)

ATTENTION, SAN DIEGO MAGICIANS!

Mark Your Calendars!

Monday, October 13th, 7:00 pm

American Legion Post, 8118 University Ave., La Mesa

I.B.M. RING #76 presents

A BRAND NEW special lecture by

BOB MARKWOOD

- Founder & Director of *The Professional Performer's Workshops* and *The Mentoring Workshops*
- Author of *Poof, You're a Frog!!!*
The Business of Entertaining Children & Poof II You!!!
The Business of Entertaining Children Continues...
- Inventor of *Who's the Greatest?*, *Pizza Oven Surprise* and *Big Bucks*

EXPAND YOUR MAGIC AND MARKETS

Bob's lectures always provide a wealth of creative ideas and practical techniques to improve your performing skills and expand you share of the market. Whether you're a children's entertainer, restaurant worker or corporate magician, you'll benefit from his insights on making your magic entertaining for the commercial world, listening to the client's needs and customizing your routines for increased bookings, getting more money per show, designing strong and effective promotional materials, getting press coverage and much, much more.

Those of you who've heard Bob before know he doesn't hold back. He believes in giving and is not afraid to share a wide range of concepts and practical tips, all of which are audience- and client-tested many times over. He'll tell you in detail how he beat out 100 magicians to book George Lucas' (of Star Wars fame) 50th birthday party, secured work at 9 of the 13 Poconos resorts with his clever "Postcard Campaign," got front page newspaper articles for dozens of magicians around the country and expanded his role as the bumbling magician in the upcoming film, *Boys Will Be Boys*, from a one-scene 'extra' to a featured role with lines.

Bob's wife, ANNE WHITE, will also be on hand with her complete traveling photo studio, doing magician's publicity photos by appointment on Monday or Tuesday, Oct. 13th or 14th. Call Anne directly at (213) 257-6611 to schedule a photo session.

LECTURE FREE TO MEMBERS ■ NON-MEMBERS \$10 ADMISSION

Close-Up Contest Nears

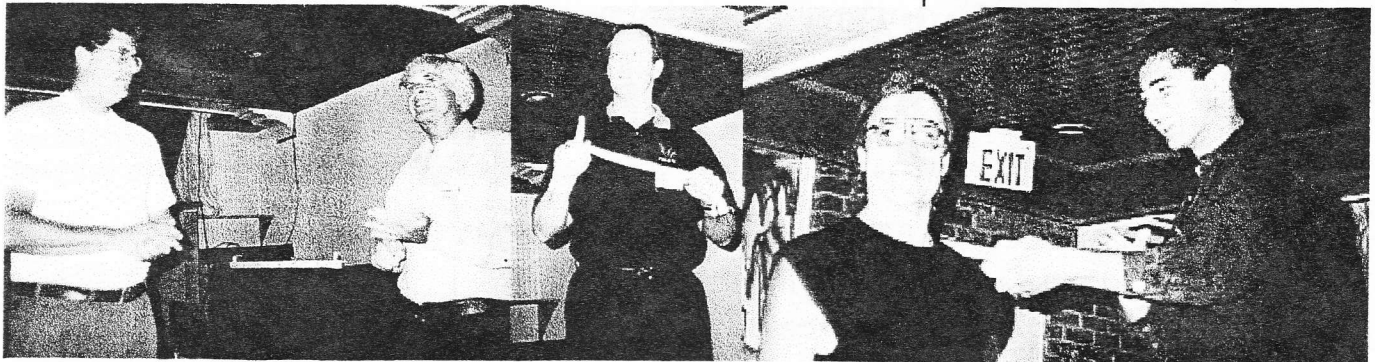
This year the emphasis is on entertaining and nothing would be better than to see as many members as possible participate in our two events; the Close-Up competition in January and the Stand-Up competition in June.

All you need to do is prepare a close-up routine lasting anywhere from five to ten minutes and give it your best shot at the January meeting. We've seen some absolutely terrific work from Paul Thomey, Sumit Dua and others these past few months and if that's any indication, we should be in for quite an exciting evening. Now it's YOUR turn to join in the fun.

Oh, by the way, the contests will be

judged and a special award will be presented to the winners of each competition at the July installation banquet. Think of it. If you enter both contests you double your chances of claiming one.

To become an entrant in the competition contact Dick Dale at (619) 562-7379 or speak to him at the meetings and tell him you're interested. We'd love to see your magic.



Left, Craig Beresh auditions for Ring 76 with the help of Fritz Lotze. Center, Dale Robins also auditioned using a rope trick, the theme of our September meeting. Right, Dom Bromley assists Sumit Dua with a baffling card experiment.

IT'S MAGIC!

IT'S MAGIC! will be in town for its 41st annual series of shows. Featuring the top magicians of the Magic Castle as well as other stars from the international world of magic, including Las Vegas, this is one opportunity for the entire family to see several of the world's class acts in a dazzling all-star show.

Set to appear in this year's edition are Ronn Lucas, Mark Kornhauser, Tina Lenert, Nicholas Night, Kevin James and The Pendragons. These exciting stars can be seen at the California Center for the Performing Arts in Escondido for one day only - Saturday, November 1st at the 2:00 matinee and again at 8:00pm.

And here's even greater news! Rick Bruce has obtained a block of seats for the 2:00 matinee at an incredibly discounted price of \$17.85 per seat! If you pass this up, turn in your Glorpy. You must act now. Time's running short and with such a line-up of performers you're going to have to call Rick right away to get your tickets.

Contact Rick Bruce at (619) 299-1875 now!!

Ring 76 Online

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

Sponsors:

**SEAN KEYS
WEBSMART**



Ring 76 Web Page sponsors needed.

Support Ring 76 and get a web page, too. Contact Greg Wauson at (619)566-5654 for details.

Ring 76 September Meeting

(Continued from page 2)

After the raffle it was time for "Comedy Magic" with an astounding eight members willing to tackle such an intimidating theme. Skipper **Frank Herman** started things off with "The Salute to the Vanishing American: The Door-to-Door Salesman," a well-crafted (as usual from the Skipper) patter involving a large accordion- folded paper formed into various products the salesman was trying to peddle. Very entertaining. Next up **Myron Joseph** had volunteers **Jeff Marcus** and Gary Schwartzwald tie up his hands behind his back then instantly removed one of his hands to shake and thank them both for helping. Afterwards, Gary asked Myron if he knew how much longer we had before the meeting was over. Surprise! No watch! It was lifted during the tie-up. **Fred Rohrer** came up next and, with **Diane Lane's** help, he showed an empty card-sized box and closed it. Asking Diane to imagine a flower (she chose a rose) and a value of a card (the Queen), Fred opened the card box and inside was the Queen of Roses. **Mizzraim Medrano** came forward to demonstrate that even **Julie Dale** possesses psychic powers. He had her hide her face behind a decorative piece of cardboard as he roamed the audience. Julie was able to perceive exactly what Mizzraim would be doing.

The next member to entertain us was **Paul Thomey** with a hilarious "private eye" patter to accompany Card Between. Shows what you can do to dress up a simple trick that everyone's seen. Ever ready **Sumit Dua** delighted us with a new card force - one we've never seen before. He had **Don Bromley** pick a card... at gun point! After "freely" selecting the King of Hearts he asked new member Dale Robins to sign it whereupon Sumit impressively performed the difficult Guy Hollingworth's Torn and Restored Card. Great, Sumit. Clever **Joe Mystic** got onstage next to tell us of the time he worked a nudist camp with nothing more than a blank set of cards. Yes, the Nudist deck but very funny patter. Jeff Marcus was the final performer showing us a variation of Professor's Nightmare and a rope with more ends than it should have had plus a lightning fast knot tie. That ended the laugh filled evening of enthusiastic magic.

Tape Talk

(Continued from page 4)

"Cardboard Connection" allows the performer to tear the center out of two playing cards and link them together. The linking display is a good convincer and the finish is top notch. The two cards only a moment ago visibly linked together are now placed over each separated outstretched thumb of the helper. This one gets your scribes' pick-of-the-tape for pure visual WOW! Paul wraps up with something you'd least expect a card man to show- the "Balducci Levitation." Paul's collaboration with Jerry Griffin is a performance-for-one that is really spooky.

This tape is definately hot!



Paul Thomey's hilarious patter did much to lighten the evening.



Jeff Marcus did knot disappoint.

Ring 76 September Board Meeting

(Continued from page 3)

board he would inform us of the outcome within 48 hours. The Ring 76 library was then bestowed upon Tom Kasner by David Lane with the understanding that Tom will create a database of the library contents.

The final issue was to initiate plans for participation in The I.B.M. Ring Quality Program. Each board member was given a copy of the committee compliance rules and it was determined that Tom La Chance and Don will begin to compile the information necessary to complete the application. The date of the initiation of chronicled events shall be the first board meeting of the new board, July 28th, 1997. With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.



Don & Donna Soul
10068 Branford Rd.
San Diego, CA 92129-3223

Magic Currents
10068 Branford Road
San Diego, CA
92129



What's Happening

- October 13** Ring 76 Meeting, 7:00 pm
American Legion Post, La Mesa
Guest Lecturer: Bob Markwood
- October 27** Ring 76 Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
Tom Kasner's home
- November 1** It's Magic!
Escondido Cntr. for the Performing Arts
- November 10** Ring 76 Meeting, 6:30 pm
American Legion Post, La Mesa
theme: Turkey magic
pre-meeting: Video teach-in
- November 25** Ring 76 Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
Tom Kasner's home
- December 8** Ring 76 Annual Christmas Party
theme: Pot Luck dinner
pre-meeting: Collector's Corner
- December 22** Ring 76 Board Meeting, 7:00 pm

At the Magic Castle

Sep 29 - Oct 5	October 6 - 12	October 13 - 19
CLOSE-UP GALLERY Early - 7:30 - 8:30 - 9:30 Jerry Andrus Late - 10:30 - 11:30 - 12:30 Gregory Wilson	CLOSE-UP GALLERY Early - 7:30 - 8:30 - 9:30 John Shryock Late - 10:30 - 11:30 - 12:30 Monte Smith	CLOSE-UP GALLERY Early - 7:30 - 8:30 - 9:30 Bruce Cervon Late - 10:30 - 11:30 - 12:30 Fr. Jim Blantz
PARLOUR Early - 7:45 - 8:45 - 9:30 John Lovick Late - 10:15 - 11:15 - 12:15 Larry Clark	PARLOUR Early - 7:45 - 8:45 - 9:30 Victor Cephas Late - 10:15 - 11:15 - 12:15 Steven Youell	PARLOUR Early - 7:45 - 8:45 - 9:30 Chuck Fayne Late - 10:15 - 11:15 - 12:15 John Shryock
PALACE of MYSTERY 8:30 - 10:00 - 11:15 Bob Jardine Brad Cummings Christopher Hart	PALACE of MYSTERY 8:30 - 10:00 - 11:15 Aldo Colombini Chip Lowell James Chantler Brown	PALACE of MYSTERY 8:30 - 10:00 - 11:15 Rich Bloch Doug Mallory Victor & Diamond The Pendragons will perform all shows on Monday, Oct 13. First show at 7 p.m.
October 20 - 26	Oct 27 - Nov 2	November 3 - 9
CLOSE-UP GALLERY Early - 7:30 - 8:30 - 9:30 Lou Serrano Late - 10:30 - 11:30 - 12:30 Whit Haydn	CLOSE-UP GALLERY Early - 7:30 - 8:30 - 9:30 Elvind Lowig Late - 10:30 - 11:30 - 12:30 Bob Jardine	ALL BRITISH WEEK CLOSE-UP GALLERY Early - 7:30 - 8:30 - 9:30 Nicholas Elmhorn Late - 10:30 - 11:30 - 12:30 David Penn
PARLOUR Early - 7:45 - 8:45 - 9:30 Woody Pittman Late - 10:15 - 11:15 - 12:15 Dick Barry	PARLOUR Early - 7:45 - 8:45 - 9:30 Jarle Leirpoll Late - 10:15 - 11:15 - 12:15 Jeff Martin	PARLOUR Early - 7:45 - 8:45 - 9:30 John Wade Late - 10:15 - 11:15 - 12:15 Billy McComb
PALACE of MYSTERY 8:30 - 10:00 - 11:15 Mike Elkan Franz Harary & Co	PALACE of MYSTERY 8:30 - 10:00 - 11:15 Mark Haslam Cameron & Co	PALACE of MYSTERY 8:30 - 10:00 - 11:15 Terry Seabrooke Mystina Alan Shaxon