

MagiCurrents



President's Message

It was good to see such a large turn out for our November meeting and it was especially nice to see so many of our friends from North County visit and check out the Jeff Marcus rubber band teach-in. Jeff did a great job and everyone walked away with magic they could immediately put to use. I'll try to keep this message short, but there are a few up coming events I hope you'll participate in.

As you know December 14th is our potluck and show. The entertainment for the show will be great and the food will be whatever you want it to be. Please join us for a great time, great gifts, accompanied by terrific food and friendship. Thank you (again) to Jack White for opening his Magic Museum to us.

Do not wait, do not hesitate, sign up now for the close-up contest while you have time to refine your act. Last year the close-up contest was one

of the best nights of magic I have seen. Join in.

It is the holiday season so please remember to give to someone. What ever it is you choose to share, it will make a difference to the recipient. Accept other people's gestures of kindness and don't hold back; do something to help someone smile.

See you at the potluck and I hope you each have a great New Year.

Gary S

.....
 • Jack White's Magic Place, •
 • 4275 University Avenue is •
 • the place to be Monday •
 • night, December 14th •
 • starting at 6:30. •
 •

• It's the annual pot luck •
 • holiday dinner. You should •
 • have been contacted by a •
 • board member by now to •
 • advise us on your •
 • attendance and what dish •
 • you'll bring. •
 •

• There'll be a raffle and a •
 • gift exchange, too! Bring a •
 • gift, receive a gift. Kids are •
 • also welcomed to be in on •
 • the exchange. •
 •

• We're looking forward to •
 • seeing you there! •
 •

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I.B.M. Ring 76

1998 Board of Directors

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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, Julie Dale. All Ring 76 members must be members in good standing with the International Brotherhood of Magicians.

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MagiCurrents
10068 Branford Road
San Diego, CA 92129

Ring 76 November Meeting

This month's pre-meeting consisted of **Jeff Marcus** conducting a rubber band teach-in. Because there are so many tricks out there involving rubber bands, thanks to Dan Harlan's wonderful instruction videos, Jeff concentrated on two: The Snap and band penetration through thumb held by a spectator. Useful, impromptu things when put on the spot to perform. **Dick Dale** then presented his pass-the-mat trick, a clever presentation where a shuffled deck of cards was cut into four piles, each pile mixed by two volunteers. One turned over the top card of one selected pile and **Betty Armstrong** opened a sealed envelope given to her by Dick before the meeting. The prediction matched the turned-up card! The mat was passed to **Ralph Mauzy**.

After Dick set the tone of the meeting theme - mental magic and mentalism - six member/performers proceeded to dazzle us. First up was **Jeff "J.J." Smith** who did a neat two-deck coincidence involving Betty then four people from the audience each peeked at a card in a deck tossed amongst them-

selves. Jeff named their four cards! **Tom Kasner** next gave us an absolutely fantastic thought transmission effect involving a briefcase containing a notepad. As one spectator then another inscribed a number or design on the pad concealed from Tom's view, Tom was able to perceive their thoughts. (Tom, was your electronic wizardry at work on this one?). Jeff Marcus took center stage and had **Donna Soul** assist as he called for single-digit numbers from three spectators. With those numbers, Donna mentally rearranged them, turned to a page in a common phone book and concentrated on a phone number. As difficult as it was, Jeff wrote down his perception, handed it to **Sherry Luft** then had Donna announce the phone number. It matched the sheet of paper Sherry was holding. (Gasp!)

Next, **Loch David Crane**, as Baffling Bill Cody, then related a story from Indian legend, using a deck of cards as an example. He had two spectators mix the deck thoroughly. Baffling Bill

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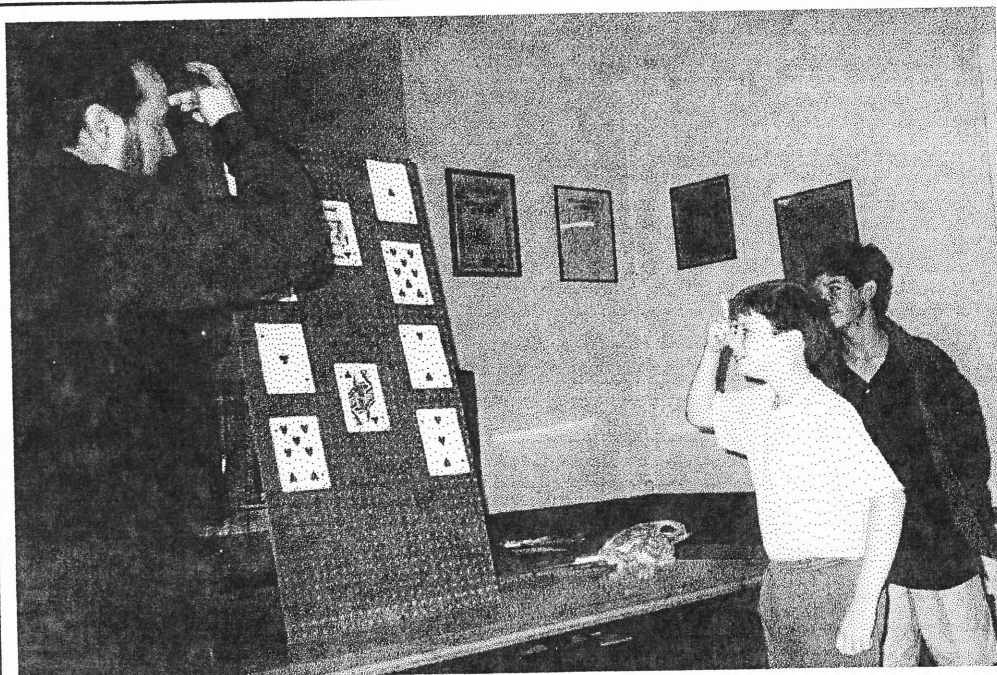
Ring 76 Board Meeting

This month's board meeting was at the home of **Dick and Julie Dale**. Attending were **Don Soul, Gary Schwartzwald, Ralph Mauzy and Tom La Chance**. The first order of business was a review of entertainers for the upcoming Christmas party. Several people have volunteered to provide entertainment, including a mystery guest which Gary is keeping a secret. Those attending will provide enough servings for eight people. There will also be a wrapped gift exchange in value of not more than \$10. Those bringing a gift will receive one. It will start with a social hour beginning at 6:30, dinner at 7, the gift exchange and raffle at 7:45 then the entertainment.

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About Ring 76...

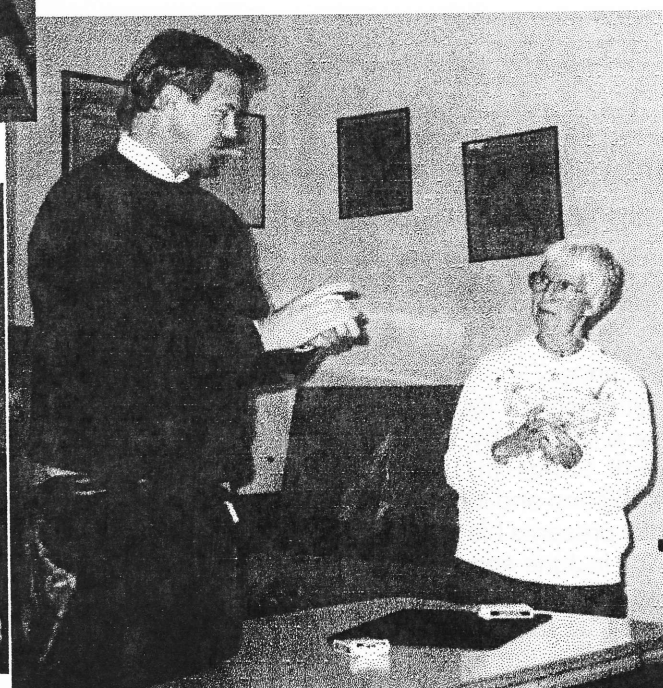
- Members must be at least 12 years old
- Non-members may attend three Ring 76 meetings at no charge (except for special events)
- Local dues are \$20 per year (under 18 years is \$10)
- Membership in the IBM international organization is required. IBM dues are \$40 the first year. You will then receive "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.



Left: Dick Ustick and son, Alex, use a mystical coin to transmit and receive thoughts. Below that: Loch David Crane relates the ancient Indian rites as he divines the mates of three selected cards. Lower left: Debbie Travers receives her IBM certificate and pin from Tom La Chance. Below: Jeff Smith asks Betty Armstrong to assist him with mental telepathy.



Ring 76 November Meeting



Editorial Reply

Last month's editorial commentary regarding the Masked Magician elicited the following response...

Last month's *MagiCurrents* had an article suggesting that exposure of magical secrets on television is not all that harmful and that we should just let it "run its course." I strongly disagree.

Many illusionists have had to spend thousands of dollars replacing tricks that have been exposed and they have spent countless hours practicing new tricks to replace them. Most Ring members do not do big illusions and therefore many of them do not realize the big problems TV's exposures have caused. Perhaps the problem is easier to understand if you think about what may happen in the future if TV exposures continue. As they become more commonplace, eventually your tricks will be exposed. Think about your favorite trick, one you have spent hours learning. When TV exposes that secret, perhaps you'll begin to understand the problem. Arguments that magicians should just adapt won't make you feel much better.

It's true that magicians are probably not yet losing bookings because of the exposures. That will come later, when the exposures are more commonplace.

So what should we do? Let the problem "run its course"? There is absolutely no reason to believe that will happen if producers feel no pressure to stop. Now that the snowball has begun rolling, exposures will continue on other networks. The Masked Magician is not the only one who is willing to sell out his trade. And it will begin to affect us, who don't do the big stuff.

W.A.M., the World Association of Magicians, has hired experts to help them. These experts understand what affects TV producers. Let's follow their advice. Write to some advertisers.

It is your hobby, or your profession, that may suffer if not enough magicians are willing to help.

Rich Robertson

Events Calendar

Here's a list of events furnished to Gary Schwartzwald by Ring 313. Maybe you'll find something you like. Contact Tom Clifford at (949) 448-9533 for more details.

In January, Faulkenstein & Willard will present a lecture. In March will be a lecture by Kenton Kneppler. April brings in the Greg Wilson workshop and lecture. Aldo Colombini presents his workshop and lecture in June and in August, Michael Ammar will lecture. All this happens up in Irvine at Ring 313 (the John Fedko Ring). It might be

worth the trip. They meet on the last Tuesday of each month.



As noted elsewhere in this newsletter, Ring 76 will sponsor a Daryl workshop and lecture in August, '99. With a brand-new set of material, Daryl will make your admission price well worth it. More details will follow as we near lecture time.



Mention was made recently that a program entitled "Jonathan Kreek" will debut on PBS at 10 pm, December 17th and will run every

Thursday. By all appearances from the promos, it seems to have something to do with magic. We'll wait and see.



Street magician David Blaine is set for another dynamic special of city-hopping in February.



And don't forget, magic meetings are held in both the North County (Oceanside) and the East County (El Cajon). Ask a board member for details on attending.



October Meeting

(Continued from page 2)

took the deck then removed three prediction cards and placed them face down. A number was randomly supplied by **Sumit Dua** which was used by one spectator to count off that many cards into three piles. He then had the other spectator turnover the top cards of each pile and, wouldn't you know, its color mate had been selected by **Loch Dick Ustick**, with his son, Alex, put on a display of great thought transmission using ancient coins. Each placed the coin on their foreheads. With Alex removed from the stage, Dick had someone come up and merely point to a display of a dozen cards on a placard.

Upon returning, Alex, with the help of dad's thoughts, knew exactly which card was selected. This was repeated one more time. Finally, **Paul Thomey** performed "Back From Lunch", emptying a paper bag of nine or ten decks, each rubber banded. Tossing out five of the decks, each member of the audience opened theirs, cut anywhere in the deck, removed a card and placed the remainder back into their cases and the cases back into Paul's paper bag. As each deck was removed - still banded - Paul perceived each spectator's cards, one by one, which they then displayed. (Hey, Paul, didn't you have a little help from Larry Becker on this one?) What an excellent routine for Out Of Body and what a delightful evening of entertainment.

November Board Meeting

(Continued from page 2)

Next, a discussion of lecturers for the April meeting was examined which include the possibilities of Whit Hadyn, Peter Pit and Kevin James. Dick will contact those magicians for availability. Also, Daryl's millennium lecture tour will be scheduled for August. Daryl promises all-new material. This will be a Ring 76 fund-raiser and Daryl is more than happy to appear.

Don was given the Ring One policy manual on diskette, as obtained by Dick Dale, and he will modify it in time for the April board meeting to reflect Ring 76. Ralph then announced he is making progress on creating new badges via the computer and will present several layouts to the board, also in April.

Tom handed out membership phone lists to each board member for them to call and finalize who will bring what to the Christmas party and get a head count. This information will be given to Don who will notify Jack White to prepare the meeting place. He will also contact Julie with the head count so that she can round up beverages, paper plates, etc. The board will supply a turkey and ham.

The performing platform situation was next on the agenda. **Tom Kasner** has decided to buy back the platform and will issue a check for \$200 to Don, who, in turn, will reimburse the Ring 76 treasury.

It was agreed that there will be no board meeting in December. Don announced he will not be in town in January during the time for publication of *MagiCurrents* and Gary received assurances from **Greg Wauson** that Greg will take over editor chores during that time to put out the February issue.

The subject of future president recommendations by the board for the June election was thrown open. Tom, Julie and Don were all mentioned as possible candidates. If Don runs, someone will have to take over newsletter chores. At this time it is unclear as to who the board will select to offer the membership as the board's choice for that office or other positions. Interest from members is encouraged.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Close-Up!



In two months our Close-Up competition takes place. Last year's challenge showed off eleven Ring members and their efforts were outstanding. Can we count on **YOU** to be a contestant this year? If so, touch base with Dick Dale and get on the list for January 11th.

The Ring 76 website is online. Want to see plenty of pics and a great promo for our group? Want to find out what's in our library? Then visit

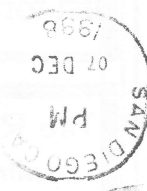
**CMSS.LIMAX.COM/
RING76/RING76.HTM**

Thanks to the diligence of Tom Kasner, you're in for a treat when you visit our site.

Find out what Ring 76 is all about by getting on the web now! Links to many magical sites are also listed.

Don & Donna Soul
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San Diego, CA 92129-3223

MagiCurrents
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San Diego, CA
92129



AT THE CASTLE

What's Happening

| | |
|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| December 14 | 6:30 pm Christmas pot-luck Dinner Jack's Magic Place |
| January 11 | 6:30 pm American Legion Hall - La Mesa theme: Close-up competition |
| January 25 | 7:00 pm Board meeting Tom La Chance's home |
| February 8 | 6:30 pm American Legion Hall - La Mesa theme: My favorite trick pre-meeting: teach-in |
| February 22 | 7:00 pm Board meeting Tom La Chance's home |
| March 8 | 6:30 pm American Legion Hall - La Mesa theme: Auction pre-meeting: Swap meet |
| March 22 | 7:00 pm Board meeting Don Soul's home |
| April 12 | 6:30 pm American Legion Hall - La Mesa theme: lecturer TBA pre-meeting: dues night |
| April 26 | 7:00 pm Board meeting Don Soul's home |
| August 11 | Daryl lecture |

| December 21 - 27 | Dec 28 - Jan 3 | January 4 - 10 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CLOSE-UP GALLERY Early - 7:30 - 8:30 - 9:30 Paul Green Late - 10:30 - 11:30 - 12:30 Joycee Beck | CLOSE-UP GALLERY Early - 7:30 - 8:30 - 9:30 David Regal Late - 10:30 - 11:30 - 12:30 Andrew Goldenhersh | CLOSE-UP GALLERY Early - 7:30 - 8:30 - 9:30 Steve Silverman Late - 10:30 - 11:30 - 12:30 Tom Ogden |
| PARLOUR Early - 7:45 - 8:45 - 9:30 Dylan Sardo Late - 10:15 - 11:15 - 12:15 Andrew Goldenhersh | PARLOUR Early - 7:45 - 8:45 - 9:30 Ross Johnson Late - 10:15 - 11:15 - 12:15 Mark Haslam | PARLOUR Early - 7:45 - 8:45 - 9:30 Meg & Sue Murphy Late - 10:15 - 11:15 - 12:15 Aldo Colombini |
| PALACE of MYSTERY 8:30 - 10:00 - 11:15 Mark Haslam Enrico De La Vega Luna Shemada | PALACE of MYSTERY 8:30 - 10:00 - 11:15 Darren Romeo Luna Shemada | PALACE of MYSTERY 8:30 - 10:00 - 11:15 Billy McComb Amos Levkovitch Goldfinger & Dove |
| SUNDAY BRUNCH PARLOUR Children's Shows 12:15 - 1:15 - 2:15 J. C. Dunn | SUNDAY BRUNCH PARLOUR Children's Shows 12:15 - 1:15 - 2:15 Dan Jordan | SUNDAY BRUNCH PARLOUR Children's Shows 12:15 - 1:15 - 2:15 Aldo Colombini |

Lectures

(for magician members only)

Lectures are normally held at 3.00 P.M. in the Parlour

- Dec 6 Ed Fowler aka Carlyle, who now lives in Virginia Beach, was the original Castle seance medium. He has a vast knowledge of mentalism and will show new effects and some interesting twists on old ones.
- Dec 13 Dale Salwak Dale is recognized world-wide as a master magician and teacher. He has taught the Chavez Course for many years and will discuss the various aspects of showmanship and presentation. His main theme will be how to get the most of each effect.