

MagiCurrents



San Diego

Honest Sid Gerhart Ring 76

Volume XV No 10 October 2001

Ring 76 Web Site Now in Operation

Thanks to the skills of Sumit Dua the new Ring 76 web site is up and operating. You can read the current issue of MagiCurrents on the site as well as get information on the Ring and San Diego. If you want to visit the site go to www.shivatech.com/site/index.

Our purpose in setting up the web site is to link it with the IBM site and give people coming to San Diego next summer for the convention important information on our city and the convention itself. It is hoped people will learn more about our city before they arrive here. We are also making this an interactive site so that people in other parts of the country can e-mail us with their questions about things to do and places to see in Southern California.

If you are reading your monthly MagiCurrents online then you will be able to see the pictures and some text in color a feature not economically feasible in print versions of the newsletter. In the near future we maybe advising those who have e-mail that a new issue of MagiCurrents is available online and all they have to do to read it or print it out is call it up on their computer screen.

For those who do not have a computer or are not online we will continue to print and mail our monthly newsletter to members. The new web site will cost the ring about \$100-dollars a year to operate and maintain. Sumit Dua who designed and put the web site together has been working on ideas for the site for more than a year. Dua is the Ring 76 Treasurer and a pretty good card worker when he is not fooling around on the computer.

We are looking to the membership for idea's to make the web site more interesting and inviting to our members and readers outside of this area. So please funnel any ideas that come to mind through the MagiCurrents editors or to Sumit Dua himself. Most important visit our web site if you are online.

Magic Goes To War

In the wake of September 11th and the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center twin towers and the attack on the Pentagon and the crash of a fourth commercial jetliner in a field in Pennsylvania, all the work of terrorists, our world has changed.

In the weeks since the "Attack on America" we have found magicians are once again in the forefront of building moral and in many cases forgoing their fee for performing by presenting a fundraiser for a variety of causes.



A case in point that caught our attention was the Sunday following the Attack on America. San Diego based magician Terry Godfrey, who because the airline industry was grounded could not make it to a fair date he had booked in Texas. So he contacted the management of Seaport Village here in San Diego and told them he would

produce a magic show free of charge, if he could pass the hat for donations. Then he asked Seaport Village to match the donations he took in from his three shows. The money was sent to the New York Firefighter's Association's Widow and Children's fund.

It was a kind act by a performer who did not want to sit idle on a Sunday afternoon while others suffered. Terry told MagiCurrents in an e-mail. "I decorated my performing area with flags. After I gathered my audience I explained to them the situation. I told them that Seaport Village frowned on "passing the hat" for donations following a show, but they had agreed to this one time event to help other's across the nation. The audience applauded and donated after the performance."

Story continues on page 6.

IBM Printing New Membership Directory

At first thought a directory of the entire IBM membership sounds like a great idea. But it is turning into a nightmare for IBM officials.

The national office of the IBM in St. Louis, Missouri, has entered into an agreement with a national marketing and publishing company to print a complete directory of all IBM members worldwide. The directory is to be released in 2002, and will include all members names, addresses, e-mail address and length of time with the IBM.

IBM has given every members name and personal information to the marketing group, which is editing that information into book form. You may have already received a phone call from the marketing company asking if the information they have on you is correct? Then the person calling will then ask if you would like to purchase a copy of the directory.

The hardback edition is selling for \$70-dollars there is a less expensive soft back edition also available. They will tell you they are only printing the number of copies ordered and if you do not order now you will not be able to purchase a copy of the directory in the future.

In recent weeks we have been hearing horror stories of telephone sales people applying pressure tactics on members to purchase the directory. Some members have informed MagiCurrents the sales people on the other end of the phone will "not" take no for an answer.

IBM Headquarters tells us they have been trying for years to put together a complete roster of members and the only way they could get the quality they wanted is by farming it out to a private marketing group who will create, print and sell the book. The private information in the book on each IBM member will not be used or sold by the marketing group other than appearing in the directory. IBM officials say they have heard and are concerned about the high-pressure sales tactics and will speak to the publishing company.

Many have questioned the need for such a publication and still others believe the planned directory will be outdated by the time it is in print. Some members are upset that their names and personal information would be given to an outside company to publish. IBM Officials say they had no idea they were creating such a hotbed of controversy.



Special offer for December:

In case you are wondering why there is a Victorian Christmas scene next to this copy, it is because we are reminding you of a very special holiday offer.

With the high cost of mailing these days, the editors of MagiCurrents are trying to save you some postage by creating a special section for personal Holiday greetings in our December issue. This is aimed at saving you money on sending out cards and letters this holiday season. A one column two inch ad that can include a picture and copy featuring your holiday message will be available for ten dollars. Your ad can be funny or traditional.

All funds generated from the holiday advertising in MagiCurrents go toward keeping the publication solvent and in the black.

All pictures and ad copy must be in our editors hands no later than November 15th. If you would like to be included in our special Holiday Greeting Section of MagiCurrents for December make plans for your ad now. Contact Richard Ustick or Jack White, they will help you set your ad in print.

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Magician Lance Burton becomes a publisher

Lance Burton who's illusion show at the Monte Carlo Casino and Hotel is a huge success recently purchased Las Vegas' oldest visitor magazine "Vegas Visitor" for 100,000 dollars.

Last year the magician bought "The Tip Sheet" a newsletter/magazine written and read by Vegas' 5000 cab drivers. That publication cost him 15,000 dollars. Burton insists he is not going to give up his night job at the Monte Carlo any time soon but he believes in investing in Las Vegas.

We are told that Burton takes an active hand in the management of both magazines and has pumped a lot of new money into both sheets now that he is publisher.

Being a magazine publisher is a lucrative business anywhere but it could insure Lance a steady income in Vegas long after he is no longer that cities reigning magician. It is good magic to always look to the future.

"It's Magic," Plays In Poway

Milt Larsen brings his "It's Magic" Show to the Poway Performing Arts Center on the Poway Highschool campus Sunday October 14 for one performance at 4 P.M. All tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children.

The full line up for the show has now been announced and will include Johnny Thompson as The Great Tomsoni, Dale Salwak, The Hammers, Blackmore and Gold, Derek Scott and Greg Wilson the son of Mark Wilson.

Milt Larsen began producing the It's Magic Show in Hollywood more than 40-years ago. It was one of the most elaborately mounted magic shows and featured some of the greatest names in magic. The show is still a sensational entertainment value and features the top stage performers.

Johnny Thompson is considered the best all round magician in America. He is proficient in close up magic and is famous as the Polish Magician The Great Tomsni on the stage.

Greg Wilson grew up working in his father Mark Wilson's television and stage shows. He has been in magic all of his life and was one of the featured performers on the IBM Convention show this past summer in Florida.

Large number of magic lecturers planned for SD

-The following is a list of lectures through November that are currently in the planning stages for San Diego County magicians

October 15th David Eldridge will present a lecture that will appeal to close-up and stand up magicians. David is the manager at Brad Burt's Magic Shop. He has produced a number of videotapes and booklets on magic; his most recent "Ring and Rope" is receiving a good deal of praise from magicians nationwide. This lecture at 7 P.M. Jack's Magic Place 4275 University Ave., This is a FREE Lecture for everyone.

October 17th, J. Scott Berry will present his lecture in San Diego at Jack's Magic Place 7 P.M. Mr. Berry has won many magic competitions and performed nationwide. This lecture features close-up and stand up effects. Ticket information from Dick Dale at 619-562-7379.

October 24th Jim Pace will present his lecture again at Jack's Magic Place. Jim was a big hit at this years World Magic Seminar in Las Vegas. A creative guy who came up with things like Business Card to Flame. You will see some new and very different things in this lecture. Ticket information contact Dick Dale at 619-562-7379

November 1st Martin Lewis will lecture to Ring 292. They meet at Baker's Square Restaurant at 1630 Descanso Avenue in San Marcos. That lecture is "FREE" to Ring 76 members courtesy of the North County Ring. We thank them for their kind hospitality.

November 13th Dennis Marks will Lecture at Jack's Magic Place at 7 P.M., Dennis is a man of many talents, a writer of science fiction, entertainer and magician. A different lecture that will give you some new and creative material. This lecture is being handled by Don Soul who has ticket information.

November 16th Chad Long will present his lecture at Jack's Magic Place at 7 P.M. Craig stone is sponsoring this lecture. Long is an energetic young performer that presents true close up comedy miracles for his audience. Tickets can be purchased at Brad Burts Magic Shop.

Ring 76 September Meeting In New Location: Magic Teach In a Huge Success

The September 10th meeting of Ring 76 began in a new location Jack's Magic Museum, at 4275 University Avenue, San Diego. Thirty members attended and 8 guests. The Social hour began at 6 p.m., with a small group of members arriving early to watch the work of Tom McCarthy the Ring Sgt at Arms doing his card magic from behind the bar as members sipped on pink lemonade.

The meeting began at 7:10 with President Don Soul calling things to order. Guests were introduced, Gary Salisbury a longtime member rejoined the ring, Jim Whiting a past members was on hand for the evening as was Bobbie Lee, Sugar Bear, who is a clown/magician, Howard Arros, and David Eldridge.

Members heard from Phil Stoker who was a professional magician in Thailand for 13-years. He is retiring from magic and is selling his illusions and magic. His magic garage sale will be held in October and highlighted in another section of this newsletter.

We were reminded of the Doug Brewer lecture the following evening. Diane Lane then conducted the raffle; we had four items that included a packet card trick, a coin trick, videotape and an autographed poster from John Calvert. The raffle netted \$70.00 for the ring treasury. Sumit Dua our treasurer gave a report and announced we have \$1572.92 in the treasury.

Jack White introduced the members to the Ring 76 Library and gave the members an over view of its contents and showed them a brief card trick from one of the volumes.

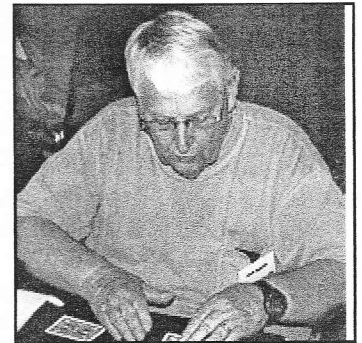
We then broke the group up into smaller groups and began the feature portion of the evening our "magic teach in". Our instructors for the evening were three longtime ring members and a new but very experienced and talented member who is a joy to watch with cards.



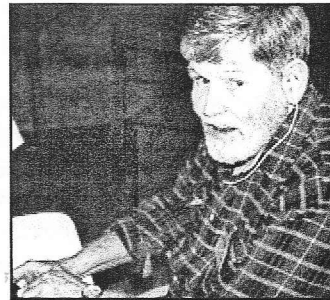
Diane Lane was at table one with a series of rope routines. Diane cut a hank of rope for each person to work with as they learned a "popping knot" routine among other rope moves. You could hear a lot of laughter from this table

as members worked with the ropes.

At table two Bob Ingalls who is an excellent teacher of magic taught a very clean coin matrix with four quarters and four cards. This is one of those tricks that come in handy when you have no props and someone says hey lets see a trick. Bob took his time and



walked each member through the effect.

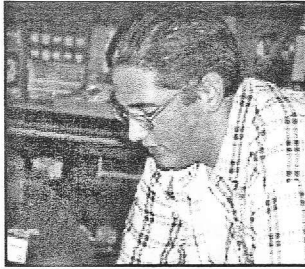


At table three was Bob Pozner teaching some of the basics of good coin work. Palming and general handling. Bob brought with him a handful of coins so that

each of his students could do the moves with him as he demonstrated. His coin in ear routine is very clever and again we heard a lot of laughing from his table.



Table four had Syd Segal presenting five of his own card effects. Syd took great pains to show each move and went so far as to have notes printed up so that serious students could take them home and practice this very clever series of card tricks.

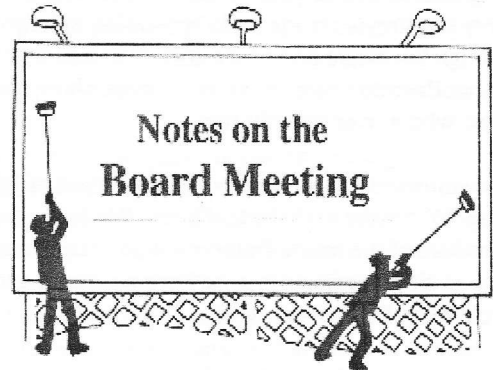


The instructors spent about 20-minutes at each table presenting their effects and helping the students learn. The instructors would then move to the next table and start all over again with a new group. It was a friendly and spirited group of entertainers and students.

Many said this was the kind of event they joined the ring hoping to attend. Another teach in session is planned for next spring.

The teach in took an hour and 40 minutes to complete and if you paid attention you could not help but learn several tricks by the time the session was over.

For those who needed to move around a little bit Jeff Marcus was at the bar teaching some excellent rubber band magic.



Because of scheduling problems the September board meeting was held on Friday September 21st at Jack's Magic Place. Heavy traffic because of a baseball game at the stadium and the Friday night rush caused some board members to be late and the meeting did not start until 7:15.

President Don Soul advised Diane Lane our membership VP., that the national IBM office in St. Louis needs updated information on which ring members are not paid up in the IBM.

Details of the October meeting were discussed. A dealers night meeting for November is still in the discussion stages. It was decided the Holiday Party/Ring meeting in December be held at our regular meeting location. Richard Ustick the entertainment VP is planning the menu and program. This will be a dinner and magic program meeting.

A highlight of the December meeting will be the drawing for raffle prizes that include a free registration to the IBM Convention next summer. Sumit Dua is getting five other raffle items. It was decided raffle tickets will sell for \$7-dollars each or two for \$10-dollars. All of the proceeds from this special raffle will go to the ring treasury.

The board is encouraging as many magic lecturer's as possible by independent bookers and producers. Which simply means the lecturers will not take place during regular ring meeting nights and the ring will not pay the person to lecture in San Diego, except on special occasions.

The board will hold a special meeting with IBM Marketing Director Chuck Maricle in October. Richard Ustick is continuing his efforts with the By Laws Committee. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Used Magic Book Heaven

If you are into used books especially magic books then head to Fullerton, in Orange County and John Cannon's great store called Aladdin Books. John specializes in used magic books with some wonderful and rare first editions and well as hundreds of hard and soft bound books.



John Cannon

He also has a large collection of books on movies, music and television. From time to time you can find some nice used magic props as well at the store. The used magic book section is very complete. The store is located at Harbor Blvd., and Commonwealth Avenue, in downtown Fullerton.

Magic Goes to War Continued from Page One

Magician and Ring 76 member Jeff Smith was moved by Terry Godfrey's efforts to do something to help others through his magic and sent e-mail letters to other magicians urging them to make an effort no matter how small to help those who's lives were in ruin.

The editors of MagiCurrents and the Board of Directors of Ring 76 concur with these efforts. We know there are many members of the magic fraternity who have given of their time in similar efforts that we have not heard about and we applaud their efforts as well.

While every performer has his or her own style of magic we thought it might be appropriate to list some effects that may work well during this period of crisis. All of these tricks are described in books that currently are available in the Ring 76 Library. What follows are merely suggestions for performers looking for special material to add to their acts. Sometimes the older material can be fresh and new to audiences of today.

Tarbell Volume 3, how to make an American Flag Blendo page 317. A Color Changing silk with a hank tube using red, white and blue silks and American Flag. In Tarbell Volume 4, a routine for Cut & Restored Red, White and Blue Ribbon.

Rice's Encyclopedia of Silk Magic Volume 1, the Fan & Flags routine page 480, also on page 482 a flag effect called, "Changing of the Colors". Rice's Encyclopedia of Silk Magic Volume 2 there are two excellent routines for Mismade Flag page 824. On page 844 of the same volume at trick titled "Pusha Da Push" a sensational routine with a dye tube and American Flag and some great patter. On page 1001 a version of 20th Century Silks with the American Flag.

There are many other routines with a patriotic flavor. Red, white and blue billiard balls, volume one of the Phoenix page 10 and 128 has a routine with red, white and blue linking ropes. In Mark Wilson's Complete Course in Magic



page 382 there is a wonderful table design constructed out of the stars and stripes.

I must also remind you of an effect that was presented by the late Frank Herman during World War II and the Korean War, he worked with a red, white and blue Trouble Wit and had a wonderful story to go with it. The routine is in

Magic Inc's, Trouble-Wit Book. Frank called this "move" in the accompanying photo, with the Trouble-Wit, "The CIA Girdle, because it sneaks up in the behind."

During this time of national crisis there is nothing wrong with including a patriotic effect in your show or as a finish to your act. It is in keeping with the times.

You can win a free registration to the IBM Convention in July 2002

You may be able to attend the IBM Convention next summer for a small fraction of the regular registration fee. Or you may win one or more exciting prizes that range from new magic video's to a new book.

Steve Burton the Registration Chairman for the 2002 IBM Convention to be held in San Diego July 2nd to the 6th has announced he is giving one free registration to Ring 76 to be raffled off to the members of our ring, the North County Ring and the two rings in Orange County.

The normal registration fee is \$110. dollars for members 165. dollars for non-members. Ring 76 Treasurer Sumit Dua has also been able to acquire a nice array of other prizes to be raffled off. A single raffle ticket is \$7-dollars or two for 10-dollars.

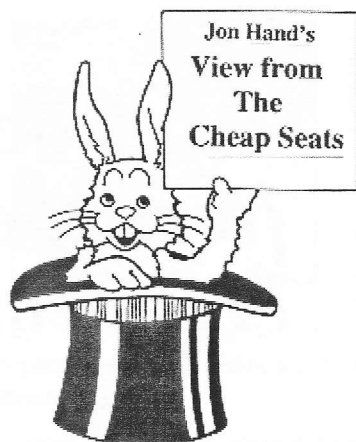
The winning raffle tickets will be drawn at the regularly scheduled ring meeting and holiday party in December, the winners need not be present at the drawing. Raffle tickets are now available at the next two ring meetings.

Any of the prizes offered is many times the value of a raffle ticket.



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Last year at this time I described a large number of suggestions for tailoring your magic show to a Halloween theme. One of my suggestions, a Jack-O-Lantern Square

Circle, caught the attention of Ring 76 V.P. Dick Ustick, who requested that I detail my construction and painting of this item for this year's Halloween issue. I had great fun with mine, performing it as a climax of a 25 minute show that I performed seven times in four hours at a school Harvest Festival. I hope you will make this mood-setting prop and use it annually during the month of October.

Materials needed:

- Pail Medium to Large Plastic Jack-O-Lantern Candy
- Juice) Large Metal Can (holds Grapefruit Juice or Orange
- Medium to Large Instant Oatmeal Round Box
- Small Piece of Half-Inch Plywood (2' by 2' at most)
- Small Bottle of Carpenter's Glue
- Model Car/Airplane Glue (optional)
- Testors™ Gloss Black Model Paint & small brush (optional)
- Spray Can of Metal Primer
- Spray Can of Flat Black Paint
- Spray Can of Flat White Paint
- Spray Can of Gloss Enamel Yellow Paint
- X-acto™ Knife (small diagonal razor on a handle)
- Full Sheet of Newspaper
- Masking Tape

Construction:

Use the X-acto™ knife to cut off the jack-o-lantern pail's handle. Turn the pail bottom up, and use the knife to carefully pierce the bottom of the pail. Work your way to the outer edge of the bottom (flat base area), and cut around the circumference of the base, removing the entire flat base plastic. This is the only tough part of the construction, so work slowly and cautiously to prevent personal injury from a slipping blade. Smooth up any rough edges with tiny knife cuts, and you are left with a jack-o-lantern tube. Note that the new bottom opening will *not* be as large as the top opening due to the circumference of the original base being smaller than the top opening of the JOL. Use the knife to pierce and carefully cut out the indented, black-painted

eyes, nose, and mouth on the pail, leaving about 1" of the black outline around these facial feature holes, or repainting around these openings with the optional Testors paint. Be sure to leave the "teeth" intact to keep as much character as possible. You might even glue on some ears, perhaps cut from the scrap base plastic and glued on with the optional model car/airplane glue. This pumpkin will function as your "square."

Fold the newspaper in quarters or eighths (depending upon the size of your pail) and insert it into your pail. Force it up against the inside of the "face" (front of the pail) and around the inside of the pail until exactly half of the inner circumference of the pail (the front half) is covered. Use the masking tape to secure into position. Shake the flat black paint fully, and go outside (or into a well-ventilated area) to prepare for spraying. Paint the entire inner rear half of the pail flat black; the newspaper will mask off the inner front of the pail so that it does not receive paint. Set aside to dry.


The next step depends upon the size of your pail and its new bottom opening. Measure the diameter of your new opening carefully, and choose appropriate sizes of oatmeal box and juice can for the "circle" and the "invisible" tube. If you have a large JOL pail, a large oatmeal box will fit into the new bottom opening of the pail, and the juice can will fit into that. If you have a small or medium JOL pail, the juice can will be the outer tube and the oatmeal box will be the inner tube. If you chose a juice can that is too close to the size of your oatmeal box, use a 13 oz. coffee can for the inner tube, or get a larger outer can.

Use a can opener to remove the entire top of the juice can. Chill the juice in another container, and drink it during construction to keep you refreshed. Use the can opener to remove the bottom of the can. Smooth any rough edges on the top and bottom of this metal tube. Remove the can's label and wash thoroughly, setting aside to dry.

Open the oatmeal box and save the contents for future breakfasts. Remove the bottom, which is NOT an easy task; I took my box to a friend's woodworking shop and had him cut it off smoothly and cleanly with a band saw.

Prime your metal can with the spray primer, and allow drying for about an hour. Prime your cardboard tube

View from the Cheap Seats Continues on page 8.



Brad Burt
Owner

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View from the Cheap Seats Continued from page 7.

with the flat white spray paint, and allow drying similarly. Now, use the flat black spray paint to finish your "invisible" tube (make it black inside and outside), and the gloss yellow spray paint to make your outer tube. Allow both tubes to dry thoroughly, and second coat for total coverage. Two light coats are always better than one heavy coat.

Cut your plywood to an appropriate size base for your Pumpkin Square Circle. Use the remaining scrap to cut four blocks about 2" by 2", and use carpenter's glue to attach them to the base as feet. Paint the base with two coats of flat black, both on the top and bottom, and set aside to dry.

Assemble your effect by placing the black tube in the center of the base, covering it with the yellow tube, and covering both with the pail. The yellow of the inner tube shows through the jack-o-lantern's eyes, nose, and mouth, giving the appearance of a lighted JOL. Load as usual and perform as any Square Circle. If you can produce spooky items from the seasonal departments of Dollar Tree/Big Lots/Wal-Mart, your production will retain unity of mood. Concocting a storyline around the JOL would be ideal for a kid's show. I produced a small terrarium bowl with water and a couple of goldfish in it as the climax of my load.

Have fun with this Jack-O-Lantern Square Circle, and drop me an email to tell me how it all worked out for you.

Editors note: Our thanks to Jon Hand for sharing this clever effect with our readers: For more information Jon can be reached at this e-mail address: jonhand@hotmail.com



Message from the President

Disturbed is not the word. A night of one of the most successful Ring 76 meetings in quite a while followed by the most heinous crime ever experienced in modern times. What can I say? I'd like to believe it was a Franz Harary illusion but the events in New York were all too real to totally absorb, even at this moment, for this author.

Let's try to focus on what's ahead for the Ring, though. Recently, I was contacted by Kevin James who is excited about new products he has for sale. He sent me some flyers that will be available to you at the next meeting. He'd appreciate it if you'd pick one up.

There are two lectures coming up this month for you and next month promises to be just as jam-packed with appearances by Martin Lewis at the North County Guild November 1st as well as a Ring-sponsored freebie, also in November, from TV's *Wonderama* producer, Broadway's musical *Baker Street* co-creator and founding member of New York's mentalists' group, "The Legendary Thirteen", Dennis Marks.

Right now, though, I hope you're getting ready to entertain the Ring in a jugular vein as we hold our October Halloween-themed evening meeting. There will be something special to introduce the performance portion and you won't want to miss it so plan to get to the Magic Place well before 7 p.m.

By the way, we could use more committee volunteers. Join Richard Ustick (constitution review committee), Jack White (2002 I.B.M. convention committee), Gary Schwartzwald (junior magicians committee) or Diane Lane (Quality Ring committee) in their efforts and please help them out. Contact information is contained in the MagiCurrents masthead with the exception of Gary's and you can reach him at (619) 697-9468.

Don Soul, President Ring 76.

**DON'T MISS OUR
OCTOBER 8TH MEETING**
A brief talk on Spook Shows
Then you perform a trick that is
appropriate for HALLOWEEN!

Our pre-meeting entertainment
at the bar from 6 to 7 provided
by Jeff Marcus.



Magic Notes From Jack White: Making Magic Stronger!

Many of you may know about a special online IBM Ring that is e-mailed everyday. It's called IBM Ring 2100 any dues paying IBM member can belong and receive the information.

Recently a San Diego magician Greg Wythe who is an IBM member but not a member of Ring 76 had the following item online. I found it most interesting and good food for thought. Here is part of what Greg had to say.

If you, as a magician, see another magician and notice he or she is "flashing" a gimmick or some other obvious error in their show, do you say anything to them?

I recently watched a magician from a balcony seat in a theater that features just magic. I could see very clearly how many of his tricks worked. He did a metamorphosis and I could see his assistant lying on the floor behind the platform. It was not his fault it was the fault of the venue. I was torn as to whether or not to tell him after the show, I did not because I was unsure if it would seem out of line.

Another example was a street magician in San Francisco who told me, after I mentioned to him that I was a fellow magician that he was the "finest street magician I would ever see." He was the most God-awful insult to magic I have ever seen. He did a very clumsy linking ring routine in which he flashed very badly every time he linked or unlinked. He did a three-card monte with a gaffed card that flashed every time he turned it over and he spoke his patter like Marlon Brando as the godfather reading a Hungarian translation of the Magna Carta. Spectators were walking away saying "did you notice you could see the....."

What is the proper way to let someone know that they are making an error without sounding pompous or condescending?

I think we can all identify with Greg Wythe's comments and share his quest for how do I handle these situations. A Professional Magician Paul Sponaule had these comments in response that make good sense.

If a friend sees how an effect is done, that is sometimes due to the familiarity between the two people, but if you, as a total stranger, can see what I'm doing, I want to know about it.

Personally, I would prefer that I be told that I am flashing a card, or that you can see the coin between my fingers.

Frankly I would much rather have a fellow magician tell me than hear it from some loud mouth in the audience.

Magic club meeting are a good place to have your magic critiqued. Some rings have a critique sheet that is handed to a performer after their show. A committee of advanced performers usually fills out the sheet.

We must all depend on video-tape, or the good-will of a knowledgeable magician to tell us of our mistakes and hopefully how to correct them.


Criticism is very hard to take, especially if we are on the receiving end. But if the criticism is given as honest and helpful advice it may go a little easier and perhaps make a mediocre magician a good performer.

I don't think that we can afford to be so thin-skinned that we risk sullyng our art in order to protect our fragile ego's. If that's the case, just think how our egos will be bolstered when we do the effects WELL and people are mystified by our legerdermain.

We hope that each member that performs at Ring 76 functions will make an effort to help fellow members in a constructive way. Let those that present some tricks and slights that need work or that deliver unclear patter know there is room for improvement. But do it in a constructive way.

If you are on the telling end of the conversation, then try to phrase your comments in such a way as to not sound like you are making a blanket indictment of the performer's abilities.

The important note in all of this is trying to be helpful. We thank Greg Wythe for asking the difficult question of how do we handle this situation.



**Writer
Collector
Magician**

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San Diego, Ca. 92105
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E-Mail: prestooone@home.com

Large Collection of Used Magic and Clown supplies for sale

For 13-years Phil Stoker presented a stage show at the Royal Orchid Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand. He has now retired from performing and is ready to sell his stage props and illusions.

Phil has been living the last few years in San Diego but is soon moving to Nashville, Tennessee and is planning a giant magic garage sale on Monday October 15th from 4 to 9 P.M. The sale will take place at 3771 Mount Aladin Ave, San Diego.

The inventory includes many clown costumes with some items that have never been worn or used. He has a large supply of unused clown socks.

He is offering a Christmas illusion that allows you to produce Santa from a large sleigh. He has a comedy illusion that is called The Popping Head where you assistant's head is popped off the body. Stoker tells us that he has been adding

to his magic inventory for years and its time to pass it along to others who can use it he adds, it all must go and he is ready to deal. All of his props and tricks are for professional use and are made to troupe.

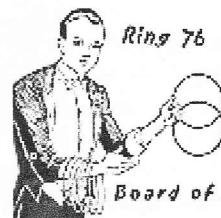
Here is some of the small magic Phil is offering for sale. Abbotts Goofus Plant with travel case, Lion and Snake built from Osborne plans and the complete routine is included in the package. Several milk pitchers, flower basket productions, feather flowers, a large selection of close-up effects some in new condition.

Clown shoes, Stoker did most of his shows in clown make-up and costume. There are boxes of masks, magic wands, cards, silks and a couple of tables for childrens parties.

For his childrens shows Phil gave away prizes and toys. He has a large supply of those items and more boxes of games for children to play.

Because he has been performing for many years some of the props in his garage sale are collectable in nature. There is no list of what is for sale but it will be displayed so everyone can see what is available.

The sale is at Phil's home in the Clairmont Mesa area of the city. At this point this will be a one evening only event. There are some treasurers in this collection.



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Magic

Genii Magazine has a new web site called the **Genii Forum** that has become very popular on the Internet. 16-year old **Brad Aldridge** a North County artist and magician designed that site. Brad, has a vision problem similar to card worker Richard Turner's but he does not let that both him. Aldridge met Genii editor and publisher Richard Kaufman at the IBM Convention in Florida this past summer. Kaufman was so impressed with Aldridge's work and enthusiasm that he put him to work redesigning the Genii web site. By the way if you would like to visit the web site and look at Brads work the address is: www.geniimagazine.com/forum/cgi-bin/ultimatebb.cig

If you are planning on attending next summers **PCAM convention** it will be held in Page Arizona, August 6th to the 10th. Page is in the heart of Navajo land and there are not a lot of hotels in that area. If you want to take part it is suggested you call Duane at the Page Lake Powell Quality Inn and make a reservation. His number is 520-645-8851. Rooms are going to be hard to find at this convention. Page, is located on the shores of giant Lake Powell and is almost on the border of Utah and Arizona.

William James Gillis III, former member of Ring 76 now lives in Washington D.C., has announced he is getting married April 20th 2002 in Willimington Delaware. William proposed to Greta Burawski while doing a magic show at one of the Presidential Inauguration Parties for George W.



Bush in January, they just set the date. Bill is currently being kept busy on the east coast doing corporate and hospitality shows, however the San Diego Rotary Club is flying him in on October 3rd to perform at their weekly meeting.

If you drop by the Magic Shop at Seaport Village you might see a new face behind the counter demonstrating magic, his name is **Jed Panganiban**, he loves close up magic and is always happy to show you the latest popular item in tricks. Jed is joined by longtime magician and demonstrator at the store **Chanee Somphorn**. You will find both of these talented youngmen doing their stuff most afternoons and early evenings at the store.

Jack Evans President of Ring 292 in the North County has confirmed we will have an exchange show with their ring bringing a show to our meeting and Ring 76 taking a show to their meeting in March 2002. Details and exact dates are still to be worked out. In September **Don Soul, Bob Ingalls and Jack White** all paid a visit to the North County ring meeting and joined in the fun. Drop by and pay them a visit they are a good group and they meet the first Thursday of every month.

The closing down of Lindbergh Field in the wake of the terrorist attack on New York City, cost **Terry Godfrey** a

Newsline

fair date in LaMarque, Texas the weekend of September 14,15 & 16th. Terry had hoped to catch a plane out Friday morning, but the flight was canceled that caused him to miss a day of the three-day fair. He tried to get there by train but all seats were booked, he did not have enough time to drive his car, by airplane was his only possibility of getting there. This is Terry's last fair date this year. He will be featured on the stage at this years Harvest Festival at the Community Concourse downtown October 12,13 and 14th.

J.P. Jackson under going treatment for T-Cell Lymphoma must be feeling better he just purchased a new car and is looking over the lists of antique magic he receives from collectors around the country. He is always looking for a new treasure to add to his already fabulous collection. Hang in there J.P., your friends are all rooting for you!

Ring 76, 2nd Vice President **Diane Lane** got out of a sick bed after spending a week in the hospital to be one of the instructors at Septembers ring meeting. Diane suffered with a stomach conditon that is much improved now. Thanks for a great effort Diane.

Bob Ewing a visitor to Ring 76 is working on a new act that includes a robot. Bob says he has some exciting things in mind for the act. Perhaps Ring 76 members can get a sneak preview in the next few months?

The Post Office will issue a new Houdini Postage Stamp in July of 2002 for the 100th Anniversary of SAM an organization founded by Houdini.

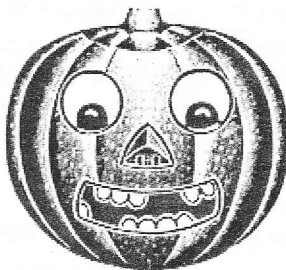
Our Next Meeting: October 8th

Jack's Magic Place, 4275 University Ave.

Social Hour 6 to 7 Meeting at 7 P.M.

Theme: Bazaar Magic for Halloween:

Come and perform your favorite mystery that would be suitable for a Halloween Party. There will be "Tricks & Treats" for everyone!



Help us scare up some fun and magic for this meeting:

***Return Address: 6040 Bob Street
LaMesa, Ca 91942***

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Take the time to read this issue of MagiCurrents there are important stories about your ring and its members.