

# MagiCurrents



San Diego

Honest Sid Gerhart Ring 76

Volume XV No 12 December 2001

## Ring 76 Holiday Party & Show

The December Ring 76 Potluck dinner and show has become a tradition and this year we hope to make the event more exciting than ever before. We have three members all well versed in close-up magic performing at the bar at Jack's Magic Place, 4275 University Avenue, they include Sumit Dua, Tom McCarthy and Robert Pozner. They will keep things lively for the pre-meeting from 6 to 7 PM., Monday December 10<sup>th</sup>. Dinner will begin with a buffet potluck meal at 7 PM., followed by our ring produced show.

We will have our stage set up and Ring 76 members volunteering to do a trick or an act will not only be showing off their talents to our members but they will also be auditioning as part of a special program that will be presented on January 5, 2002, for the visiting IBM Convention Committee as they meet in San Diego for the planning sessions for next summer's national convention.

If you would like to be on our holiday Ustick, our entertainment Vice President address in [rustick@flash.net](mailto:rustick@flash.net) His phone be helpful if we have an idea of how many

The success of the potluck portion of our part. The ring has purchased a 20-pound Ustick has volunteered to cook it at home the menu is up to you our guests. Because Magic Place, we suggest you bring items refrigeration. There is no stove so bring There is a microwave oven for last minute



program please advise Richard and show organizer. Ustick's e-mail number is 619-463-2407. It would people will be performing.

holiday event is up to those taking turkey and Executive Chef Richard and bring it to the party. The rest of there is no real kitchen at Jack's that do not need a great deal of your cooked dishes already prepared. things that need to be zapped.

Here is a list of possible items you might potluck dinner. Salads, raw veggies, dips, hors d'oeuvres, cheeses, bread/rolls, cold cuts, sandwich condiments, desserts, soft drinks. Ring 76 is supplying paper plates, napkins and plastic silverware and cups. The sgt-at-arms, Tom McCarthy will appoint a committee of volunteers to help bus the tables after dinner. If you would like to volunteer let Tom know in advance.

want to consider bringing for the

We will also have a "blind" gift exchange. Bring a wrapped gift under 10-dollars in value. It can be an old magic trick, a gag gift, or a novelty item. Something we can have some fun with. Keep it clean because the gifts will be opened at the party. You will be receiving a phone call asking if you plan on attending this meeting and if you are bringing a food item for the potluck in advance of this event. It will be a fun evening and a great way to kick off the holiday season.

# November Meeting Brings New Member, Movies and Dealer's Night

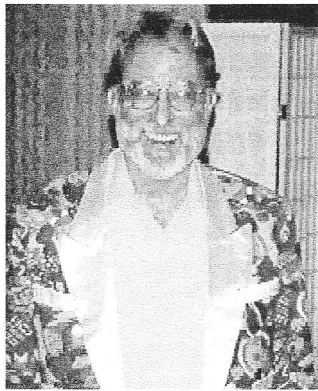
November 12th was a warm fall evening in San Diego as members made their way into Jack's Magic Place on University Avenue. Two and a half hours later when those same people began to leave it was raining but the weather for those attending the Ring 76 meeting was not an issue.

Close-up magician Jeff Smith was the guest performer at the bar for the pre-meeting entertainment. Jeff Can be seen doing his magic at the Gathering a restaurant in Mission Hills on most Sunday evenings as well as other venues around the city. Jeff kept a big crowd asking for more



**Jeff Smith**

for the better part of an hour.



**Phi Stoker**

bargain prices. He was dressed in one of his brightly colored jackets from his days as a hotel performer in Southeast Asia

Mike Klicman from the North County joined us for some laughs and magic. Mike has been battling a series of health problems and is now well on the road

to recovery and we are always happy to have him as part of our ring.

Ring President Don Soul called the meeting to order a few minutes before 7 p.m., because of an involved program for the evening. Don conducted a brief business meeting that included announcements about two lectures for November.

David Lopez was introduced as a new member of the IBM and his application has been accepted for membership in the ring. David asked to audition and his bubbly personality and enthusiasm got him a round of applause as he presented a card routine. When he finished he was asked to leave the room while his application was voted on. When he returned he was told he now had all rights and privileges of a Ring 76 member. Congratulations David.

Jack White then introduced a reel of 16mm film clips of magicians of the past. Several clips of film were kinescope prints from television programs.

The film included Harry Blackstone Sr presenting a card trick using a lot of showmanship and a Svengali Deck and 10-volunteers from the audience. That clip was broadcast in 1958. It was followed by a clip from a daytime variety show and featured Harry Blackstone Jr., pre-beard and moustache. Harry Jr.



was very young and presented the vanishing birdcage and his pickpocket routine. The next clip was from a variety show known as Super Circus and featured a performer whose identity we cannot be sure of but presented such a well routined billiard ball act that blended into Lloyds multiplying candles that his work brought a round of applause from our membership watching the 50-plus year old film.

The next clip was Richardi Jr. Appearing on a program called "Hippodrome". This vintage clip of film was from 1962, and shows the dancing and prancing fast moving Richardi and company. His canary in egg is still beautiful to watch even today.



**John Scarne**

Two explaining what to look out for in card games.

When this film was released magicians across the country were up in arms over the public exposure of the sleight of hand involved in this magic. You might say that John Scarne was the Masked Magician of his time.

It is interesting to note that several of the younger magicians in the audience thought Jack White was slurring his words when he talked about close-up magician John Scarne. They thought Jack was talking about John Carney and they couldn't understand why he was putting an "S" in front of Carney's name. (Oh, to be young and not know.)

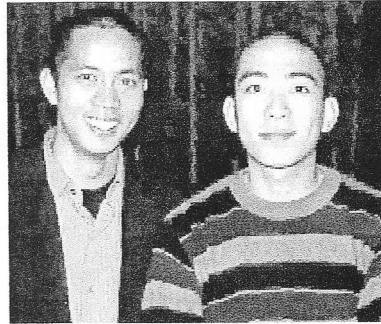


**T.C. Coley**

Then Entertainment Vice President Richard Ustick took over the program and introduced Mary and T.C. Coley who operate the Magic Shop at Seaport Village. They in turn introduced two of their demonstrators Chanee Somphorn and T.J. who presented some of the most popular effects from the magic shop. T.C. Coley demonstrated a new puppet,

Santa Claus.

When the demonstrations were over every person attending the meeting received a magic wand and attached was a bag with a trick and a number on it. In addition to giving every member a 10-percent discount on every item



sold they gave out some very nice gifts that included books and video's. The top prize which was valued at more than one-hundred dollars worth of magic went to Bob Ingalls.

After the dealer night presentation there was a lot of fellowship and exchange of magic ideas with many of our members.



**Mary Coley**



**Bob Ingalls and Don Soul**

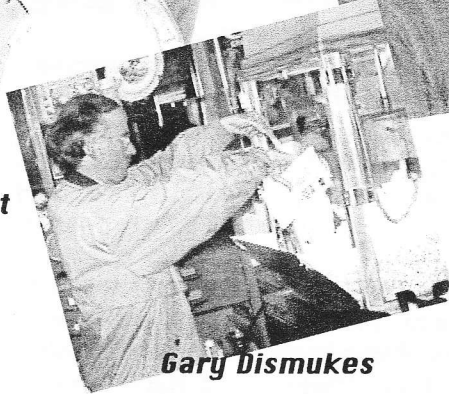
## PICTURES OF NOVEMBER RING MEETING:



**J.P. Jackson & Charlis Gott**



**Mike Klicman**



**Gary Dismukes**



**Gary Salisbury**



**The Boys at the Bar**



**Charlie Norris & Mary Coley**



**Jeff Marcus & Marcus Loeb**



A couple of fiction books that might interest the magic community are now available and would make ideal holiday gift giving suggestions.

### ***"Carter Beats the Devil"***

First off is, *"Carter Beats the Devil"* written by David Glen Gold. This is an historical fiction novel about Magician Charles Carter, aka Carter the Great. Overall the book is historically very accurate and will bring you in contact with a variety of real life characters, including President Harding. Gold takes the reader through Carter's upbringing, his discovery of magic, his personal life, and of course, his career.

Carter was a California guy, so some of the background information may add a little extra reading pleasure for Golden State historians. You get a great sense of the time period and how life was, for a performer climbing the entertainment ladder. Author Gold brings suspense and intrigue to the reader and easily will keep you turning the pages.

Although the ending is a bit too fictionalized for my tastes, I think this book is definitely a worthwhile and enjoyable read. Give this book a try if you are into magic and history. I guarantee it will beat the devil out of many other magic based novels.

### ***"Grift Sense"***

James Swain is one of those highly talented Florida magicians, and a pretty nice guy. I read his first novel, *"The Man Who Walked Through Walls"*, several years ago. I thought it was an excellent magic based novel and have been anxiously awaiting his next book. Well it's out and I read it.

The only bad news is that it is not magic based. *"Grift Sense"*, as you can tell by the title, is a con man, hustling, gambling, themed novel. If you like gambling stuff, and fast paced, fun, its pretty damned interesting.

Many authors open their novel with a quote. If you enjoy the following quote that Swain uses in *"Grift Sense"*, you'll enjoy the book.

"And God said to Moses  
Moses come forth  
And Moses came fifth  
And cost God  
Two hundred and fifty bucks."

*If you would like more information on the reviewed books Gary Schwartzwald can be contacted via e-mail at: [gschwart@grossmont.k12.ca.us](mailto:gschwart@grossmont.k12.ca.us)*

## **Important Reminder!**

The first meeting of the New Year will be a week earlier than usual and will take place on January 8, 2002. The change in schedule is to accommodate those members who will be attending the World Magic Seminar in Las Vegas that begins on January 13<sup>th</sup>.

The January meeting features card magic. So dust off your card routines and break out your favorite card tricks and be prepared to do some card magic January 8<sup>th</sup>.



**Brad Burt**  
Owner

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San Diego, CA 92111

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E-mail: [bburt@magicshop.com](mailto:bburt@magicshop.com)



### Magic Pro-Tips By Brad Burt

Some years ago I spent time researching what I hoped would be the best, easiest and most lucrative method of working restaurants as a magician. I interviewed friends all over the country and read literally everything that I could find on working this peculiar venue.

Here is the plan I came up with to make restaurant work a success.

1. Have a professional photograph taken of you in a magic pose. Then have it professionally mounted in a glass covered picture frame with copy that might read something like, "The Amazing Magic of Brad Burt. LIVE at your table courtesy of Joe's Restaurant."

The above should all be professional hand lettered and hung in a conspicuous place so those coming into the restaurant can see it and know which days and the time you will appear. This will become the magician's first encounter with patrons or the restaurant.

2. Have again, professionally produced tent cards that can be placed in those small metal-holding clips that you often find on restaurant tables. Have "no" mention of tips, just that the magician is available to entertain patrons of the restaurant. The table tent should instruct guests to ask the server or wait person to have the magician to come to your table.
3. Make sure you have plenty of business cards in your pockets at the restaurant to hand out to people you entertain because they become potential clients.
4. What this system does is eliminate the awkward approach of "cold calling" at a table.

Now you have a more comfortable situation for both you and the restaurant audience. It also looks much more professional and thus you are more likely to be able to quote a higher price for outside shows that come from those who watch you work at the restaurant.

One reason this approach does not find favor with some magicians, I believe, is because it will involve a modest capital out lay of several hundred dollars. But magicians who have used this method tell me it is money well spent.

I urge you to give this method a try the next time you have a restaurant gig to work. It will bring you the magician prestige and bigger tips.

For more on this subject contact Brad Burt at [www.magicshop.com](http://www.magicshop.com)

## Diane Lane Appears at Charger Blood Drive:

For the 23<sup>rd</sup> year the San Diego Blood Bank teamed up with the San Diego Chargers to stage their annual holiday blood drive.

Those who roll up their sleeve and gave the gift of life were entertained throughout the day by a huge array of talent.

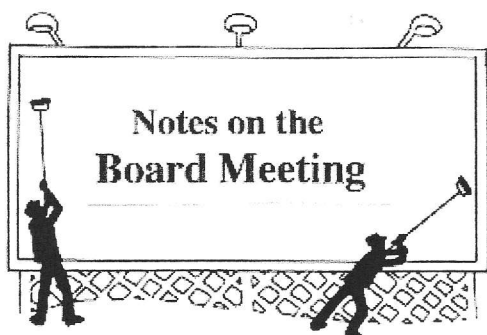


### Lightning Bolt & Diane Lane

Diane Lane was on hand for her 9<sup>th</sup> year of entertaining at this event. For most of her appearances at the Charger Blood drive's past she would appear as "Snickers doodle" the magic clown. This year Diane appeared without makeup and was magical Diane.

Also appearing from Ring 76 was Jack White who was the master of ceremonies for the afternoon entertainment on the main stage. Another ring member performing at this event was Joe Mystic who has worked this show room for many years.

This one blood drive brings in enough blood to keep the supply safe for San Diego County Hospitals through the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year holidays.



The November 26<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting was held at Jack's Magic Place. A good portion of the meeting was taken up with plans for the December meeting and potluck. Please read page one of MagiCurrents for details of that meeting.

Don Soul is working to have Magician Ron London present his lecture in March and has confirmed Rich Marrotta for a February "Free" lecture.

It was also proposed that the winners of the Close-up and Stand-up contests held annually receive a cash award of 25-dollars. There was much discussion and decided the prize would come in the form of a gift certificate from a local magic store.

There was also much discussion about the Installation Banquet and it was decided it will be held on our regular meeting night of July 8, 2002. We will make an effort to have the new National President of the IBM be the installing officer as the meeting comes on the heels of the

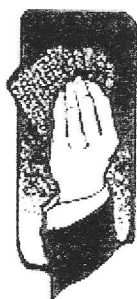
IBM Convention. We are also working to have the banquet at the Town & Country Hotel.

The treasurer Sumit Dua reported there is about 1700 – dollars in our treasury will all outstanding bills paid. Sumit also reported that our ring web site is about ready to go online. A few minor details must be worked out. The web site address will be Ring76.com

Tom McCarthy has completed the design for the ring banner. He has purchased the stand and expects to have the banner in place at all meetings in late December or early January.

Immediately following the board meeting the Constitution and Bylaws committee that consists of Richard Ustick, Don Soul, Dr. Joel Moskowitz and Jack White met and hammered out the final draft that will hopefully be presented to the entire membership for a vote in January and February. Creating this new Constitution has been an arduous task to say the least. It is hoped that each member will take the time to read the document before it is voted upon. Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m. Complete Minutes of the Board meetings can be obtained from Ring Secretary Jack White.

**There will be NO board meeting in December!**



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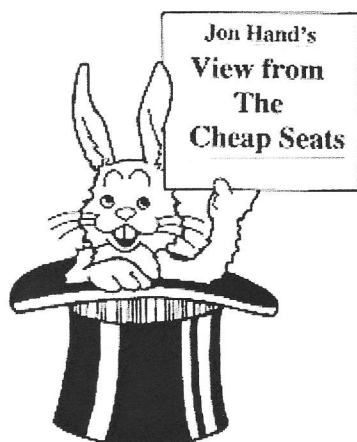
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## 20% Commission

*Paid for all Magic Show referrals*

1. 10% finder's fee, payable directly to you
2. 10% donated directly to Ring 76 IBM

**Contact Magician Michael E. Johnson**  
(760) 747-4627 or (858) 483-8632



With the holidays upon us you may be thinking about gifts in a magical vein, and there is nothing better than a good magic book. I will toss out a few favorites of mine that you might consider. This article could fill up the entire December newsletter if I made recommendations on videos, props, silks etc., so I will restrain myself to notable books making their reappearances.

Bound periodicals are experiencing resurgence, and most magicians would really enjoy them. Tricks, philosophies, discussions, reviews, and humor by "name" performers are all present, and the books are goldmines of ideas. Contributors are literally a "who's who" of magical writers, thinkers, and performers past and present. The list that follows is only a small assortment of the many titles available.

**Magic Menu, Jim Sisti**—10 years in two volumes  
**Phoenix, Bruce Elliott**—6 volumes  
**Jinx, Ted Annemann**—3 volumes  
**Apocalypse, Harry Lorayne**—3 volumes

Getting a friend or relative started in magic is fun for you, and good for magic. Some wonderful beginner books are once again in print, and here are a few of my favorites.

**The Magic Book, Harry Lorayne** filled with good effects and good teaching techniques.  
**Complete Course In Magic, Mark Wilson**, is a classic book and a lifetime reference.  
**Amateur Magician's Handbook, Henry Hay**, may actually be too good for the casual beginner.  
**Magic for Dummies, or Idiot's Guide to Magic**, good books for testing interest, but both contain some gems from "name" performers.

Dropping a hint to a loved one for a gift? Many classic magic books are now in print once again and this is the chance to add them to your library. **Our Magic**,

**Maskelyne and Devant**—a great read for thinking magicians.

**Greater Magic, J.N. Hilliard** (Kaufman expanded edition)—a must in every magic library.

**Modern Coin Manipulation, T. Nelson Downs**—the coin book that started it all.

**Sleight of Hand, Sachs**—get a used 1940's Fleming edition if you possibly can.

**Art of Magic by T. Nelson Downs**—ghostwritten by J.N. Hilliard, predates Greater Magic and an excellent book.

**Modern Magic, More Magic, Later Magic** all by Hoffman—older books all filled with good ideas to update.

**Modern Magic Manual, Jean Hugard**—much standard information in this volume and a great reference book.

There is more than enough here to keep you reading and studying for years! So, drop a hint for your wants, give a start in magic to a friend, or give friend hours of reading pleasure. May your holiday season be magical in every sense of the word, and keep the magic alive in 2002!

*Jon Hand is a regular contributor to MagiCurrents: He can be contacted at [jonahand@hotmail.com](mailto:jonahand@hotmail.com) and he welcomes feedback on his column.*

## Magic Lecture booked For January:

Dick Dale has booked Tim Ellis and Sue-Anne Webster the Wizards of Australia to present a mind-blowing lecture to San Diego Magicians Thursday January 17<sup>th</sup> at Jack's Magic Place beginning at 7 p.m. Tickets will be sold at the door only at \$15-dollars per person.

Tim Ellis and Sue-Anne Webster will come to San Diego after presenting their award winning lecture at the World Magic Seminar in Las Vegas. They go from here to the Ohio Magifest in Columbus.

Tim will present his Razor Blade Eating that is safe and does not involve switching razor blades. A mentalism effect using his cell phone, he will demonstrate a unique way to change cash into a credit card and turning a bill into fruit. The evening will be filled with unique and clever magic from down-under. Make plans to attend this first lecture of the New Year. It will be a stunner.

# Seasons Greetings



**Don Holcomb**  
wishes everyone  
the Happiest of  
Holidays!



*Magic of the Holidays*  
from  
**Jack White**



**Magical Moments**  
of the Holidays  
from  
**Diane Lane**

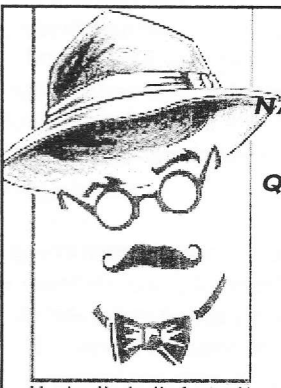
*Good Tidings to all Magicians*  
from  
**Bob Ingalls**



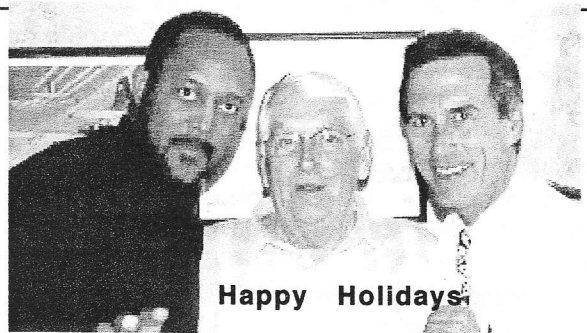
**Seasons Greetings**  
from the  
**Ustick Family**



**HOLIDAY GREETINGS**  
**DON & DONNA SOUL**



**BE HAPPY**  
**NAM MYOHO RENGE KYO**  
**QUESTIONS ON MEANING**  
**TERRY GODFREY**  
**619-426-1839**



**Happy Holidays**

**Dan Thomas**

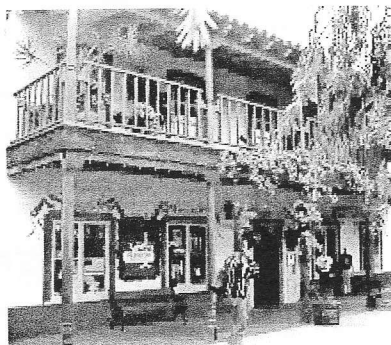
## Magic Notes from Jack White

### Never a dull moment at a Magic Shop:

As you have no doubt already read in this publication Mary and T.C. Coley made a significant contribution to our November meeting. This is not the first time they made the members of Ring 76 the beneficiaries of their kindness. The Coley's operate the Seaport Village Magic Shop and the Southpaw Store (left handed store). They have been in business for themselves all their married life.

They began operation of the magic shop at Seaport Village, September 11, 1989. Neither of them knew anything about magic. Gary Buss, had a magic shop next to the Coley's Southpaw store. When he went out of business and closed up Mary started stocking a line of magic and joke items.

The day I dropped by the store was one of those sunny afternoons and we were seated on a bench in front of the magic shop. Mary and T.C., said they welcomed a few minutes away from the hustle and bustle of the store to talk about what they have accomplished over the years.



The Seaport Village Magic Shop is open from 10 in the morning until 9 at night, seven days a week 365 days a year. Yes, that means no real days off for the people who run this shop.

Mary says she and her husband realized from the beginning they were going to have to learn how to perform many of the tricks they sold. They told me that from time to time a magician would drop by and show them a couple of moves to make a trick work a little better but for the most part they learned the hard way by performing the same trick over and over again at the counter of the shop.

Mary's favorite trick is "Scotch & Soda" a coin trick by Johnson Products. One morning while working behind the counter David Copperfield who was appearing with

his big illusion show here in San Diego sauntered into the shop.

Mrs. Coley recognized him immediately and did what any good magic store owner would do; she said, "Would you like to see a trick, David?"

He smiled and said, "Yes, I would." You must remember this is a person who was new to the magic business asking the most famous magician in the world if he wanted to see some magic.

Mary picked up her scotch and soda coins and went into her routine. When she finished Copperfield said, "I want one of those and I need some of these gag items." He began pulling various packaged joke items off the racks on the walls of the store and piling them up on the counter. It's not every magic shop that can brag that David Copperfield is one of their regular customers. Yes, David drops by the Seaport Village Magic Shop almost everytime he is in town and his parents who live in LaJolla come to the shop from time to time and purchase items for themselves and to send to David.



The Coley's have tried to make their shop a full service magic shop. While they stock a large supply of what magicians call "slum magic" which is the inexpensive

stuff that keeps the shop going. They also have a good supply of parlor and stand up props for local and visiting magi. They carry a nice line of Morrissey Magic as well as Viking, Tenyo and other prominent manufacturers of clever magic.

The joke department is really the bread and butter line of material. I was happy to learn from T.C., that someone is currently making a snake can with a spring snake that is covered in silk instead of the more common plastic. He added that the hottest joke item right now is a battery operated "Fart Machine". Of course the Whoopee Cushion, Joy Buzzer and Whoops the phony vomit are still popular joke items and continue to be good sellers.

You will find a nice supply of the latest books in magic on their shelves. Both hardcover and soft back volumes. But the Coley's are quick to tell you that videotapes are now outselling books on magic. So they carry a big line of videotapes and encourage the beginners to watch the tapes to better learn how to handle the tricks they purchase.

Mary says she and her husband learned early on they had to demonstrate the tricks they sell and when someone purchased a trick they had to teach them the handling of the trick as well. They became sales people and teachers in one day.

The Coley's are in their store almost everyday and they love getting out on the floor and meeting people and showing them something that entertains and mystifies and gives them a laugh at the same time. But they do get away for a few days at a time to attend a magic dealers show, or gift show to see what is new and make their purchases.

Mary was born at University Hospital here in San Diego and grew up not too far from Jack's Magic Place on 33<sup>rd</sup> street. T.C. was raised in Tyler, Texas and came to San Diego to work for Convair. The two met and were married and moved back to Texas where they operated their own floor covering business for 21-years.

They moved back to Southern California and T.C. opened a lock shop in Oceanside, Mary became a real estate broker. She still maintains her real estate license.

Today Mary says, looking out over the crowd at Seaport Village she gets more satisfaction out of selling a dollar forty-nine cent joke item than watching a half million-dollar real estate deal crumble because a seller backs out or a buyer does not qualify for a loan. But she has kept her real estate license just incase.

Since the events of the terrorist attack on America on September 11<sup>th</sup> business has been very slow. The Coley's say September and early October were the slowest months business wise since they opened the

magic shop. They are hoping for a good Christmas Holiday.

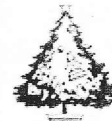
The Seaport Village Magic Shop normally has two good business seasons each year. July and August when the park is filled with tourists. Many of those tourists have been coming to this magic shop to make their purchases for 12-years. Some continue to purchase their magic through the shops website throughout the year.

The second business rush is during the Christmas holidays. The real rush will start when students are out of school and will continue through the first of the year.

Mary Coley will tell you that it's the people that come through their store each day that makes the business new and exciting for her and the six other people who work there. In the morning a group of young students come in and buy some jokes and Mary takes part in the process of making them laugh. That afternoon a semi-professional magician drops by and looks over some of the close up magic in the case. Mary keeps in practice showing him a couple of the newer items.



Later that day a juggler arrives at the shop in search of the Dube line of juggling items they keep in stock. That evening she teaches a ten-year-old boy how to do a coin trick. There is never a dull moment at the Seaport Village Magic Shop.



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## Message from the President

Wow! A basic card sleight such as the double lift still stirs controversy. Recently, I e-mailed a few "Ringers" my ideas concerning the double lift. I aimed at not only explaining my newly-discovered method (or at least, I think it is, although it may be similar to a Rossini move) but asked for background input regarding whether or not it had been published before, as it is such a simple move.

What I created instead was a lively debate amongst the e-mailed members of the local magic community - but also included Paul Gertner, Dave Goodsell and Dennis Marks from outside Ring 76 - about the attributes of "flair" vs. a layman's perception of magic and its moves.

So who's right and who's wrong? There is no such thing. I think it's a matter of personal preference, if I comprehended the comments accurately. Such a simple move as a

double lift has so many variations; each with its necessity for application under appropriate circumstances, that it seems all I've really contributed is yet "another damned double lift," as my e-mail header stated.

I bring up the topic and its debate to point out something to each and every Ring member. Ring 76 has the golden opportunity to have a Linking Ring Parade published before the 2002 convention. If you read your Linking Ring you know that it's pretty much a one-man show spotlighting a contributor's original effects or variations of presentation. My "Layman's Double Lift," for lack of a better title at this juncture, will be my contribution to the Ring 76 Parade article. What's yours?

This is our chance to grab some attention and any Ring member is welcomed to participate in revealing, explaining or otherwise present a magic trick or sleight he or she has created. In the past we have seen some outstanding ideas shared with Ring members by Syd Segal, Bob Ingalls, Loch David Crane, Dick Dale and others too numerous to list in this message. I invite, plead and beg you to get your fresh idea in to our Ring secretary, Jack White, ASAP. The deadline for submission is January 15<sup>th</sup> and without a sufficient number of contributions we'll be shut out. It's better to have more than less, in this instance, so please, please get your info to Jack before time runs out. Thanks.

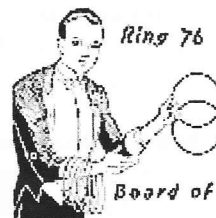
**Terry  
Lunceford**

*Magician*

**Supports Ring 76 and  
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Brotherhood of Magicians**

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Former Ring 76 President and Ring founder **Art Hannum** suffered a ruptured aorta and was hospitalized for 14-days in September, in very critical condition. We are happy to report with good doctors and loving care from his wife **Pat** he is recovering. A respirator was put down his throat and caused some damage to Art's voice box and he may still have to have more surgery in the future to repair his damaged voice. Ring 76 sends our best wishes to the Hannum's.

Our Pennsylvania transplant **Tom Kasner** was in San Diego County in early November visiting his children who still live locally. Tom made it out to the Ring 292-meeting in the North County. Tom is an electronic whiz kid and has created his light up card known at "LED 2 a Card" now in Jumbo size. Tom is still a member of Ring 76 and it's always good to see him and have him back in Southern California.

**Ring 292 in the North County** will have their annual "**Flea Market and Swap Meet**" on December 6<sup>th</sup> at Baker's Square Restaurant in San Marcos, a table to sell costs 10-dollars. This is an opportunity to get rid of all that old magic you never used and make a few bucks to reinvest in new props and tricks.

**Loch David Crane** has been booked by a movie theater at Universal City to do magic in the lobby for a special showing of the new Harry Potter movie. Loch is shedding his well-known Bafflin Bill Cody outfit for a mid-evil chain mail look.

**Bob Ingalls, Andrew Sabat and Jack White** received a standing ovation when they did a magic production number that included a Mis-Made Flag with Ray Charles singing "America" in the background. The show was for 250-people at Portuguese Hall in Point Loma. The patriotic



finish to their show brought the audience to their feet with loud applause.

Longtime Ring 76 member **Al Knox** now living in Scotland Neck, North Carolina has asked to receive our monthly newsletter, MagiCurrents. They are on the way Mr. Knox. Al, we are happy to report is doing fine and continues to remain active with his magic. We may have the pleasure of seeing him again at this summers IBM Convention at the Town & Country Hotel.

**J.P. Jackson and Marcus Day** both took part in the **Los Angeles Conference on Magic History** in mid-November. That conference is by invitation only and is open to just 200-people. Needless to say it is an exclusive event and according to J.P., featured many clever and informative lectures and presentations all evolving around magic. The next L.A. Conference is in two years.

A different kind of magic show was presented at the Sunshine Brooks Theater in Oceanside in November. It was called "**An Evening of Magic and Espionage**" a playlett featuring the talents of **Carrie Campbell, The Fabulous Valentis, Joel Ward and James W. Kellogg jr.** The show was presented twice on Friday and twice on a Saturday evening.

**Michael E. Johnson** did a show supporting the Neighborhood Holiday open house in LaJolla in November. Michael impressed his audience by using a 1-thousand dollar bill in one of his tricks and created some unbelievable sleight of hand with 100-million year old fossilized dinosaur fang. Some unusual props for a magician to be carrying around in his pockets.

**Dick Dale** made a brief appearance on KUSI-News at 10 in Mid-November. Dick was performing at a North County education conference urging students to read. He performed a rubber ban trick for the Channel 51 camera crew covering the event. Dale's program is designed to reveal the magic of reading and learning and was part of Children's Book Week at the Escondido Public Library.

For the past six months **M. Vince Ugricich** has been working at the Galley at the J Street Marina in Chula Vista. He does strolling magic on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings. Vince has spent the last 23-years of his life in the U.S. Navy and has worked evenings as a magician. He invites all Ring 76er's to drop by and see him.

**Armando Torres, Liye Payasin, Mago Rafat, Carlos Soriano from Mexico City and Mr. Alex from Los Angeles along with ventriloquist Mago Ruly** appeared at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Festival of Magic in Tijuana Sunday November 18<sup>th</sup>. **Armando Torres** of San Diego will be making a magic lecture tour of Mexico during December.

We are sorry to report that T.J. (that is the name he goes by.) one of the demonstrators from the Seaport Village Magic Shop was injured and his car totaled following the November ring meeting. T.J. was on his way home from the meeting when the accident happened on rain slick roads.

***Our Next Meeting: December 10th***

***Jack's Magic Place, 4275 University Ave.***

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

***Ring 76 Holiday Party, Potluck Buffet & Show:***

***Those taking part in the show are auditioning for a special program, January 5th, for the IBM Convention Committee meeting in San Diego.***

***See our front page story for details about the potluck buffet and show.***



***HAPPY HOLIDAYS***



***Return Address: 6040 Bob Street  
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***Take the time to read this issue of MagiCurrents there are important stories about your ring and its members.***