



MagiCurrents

San Diego

IBM
Convention
Issue

Honest Sid Gerhart Ring 76

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Ring Election Results Installation Banquet July 8th Dinner & Show

At our regular meeting June 13th, 39 members of Ring 76 cast their ballots for President and Board of Directors. Don Soul was re-elected for a second term as President; Bob Ingalls was voted in as 1st Vice President in charge of entertainment. Diane Lane was re-elected to a second term as 2nd Vice President in charge of membership. Jack White will serve a second term as Ring Secretary and newsletter editor.



Don Soul
President

Richard Ustick will become the new Treasurer replacing Sumit Dua who asked that his name be removed as a candidate because of the pressures of medical school. Sherry Luft will become the new Sgt at Arms, relieving Tom McCarthy, who is leaving the board because of scheduling problems and his workload at Cox Cable. Sherry was the second woman in ring history to be elected President. She has been off the board but remained an active member for the past seven years.

Roy Armstrong is retiring from the board as member at large. Bob Pozner, who is a past President of the Ring and a long time member, is replacing Armstrong.

The newly elected President and Board of Directors will be sworn in on Monday, July 8th at the Al Bahr Shrine Temple. Territorial Vice President Dick Dale will officiate at the ceremonies.

In addition to the swearing in ceremonies, there will be a special presentation making four longtime members Honorary Lifetime Members of the Ring. This will be the first time this award has been officially presented.

Bev Bergeron Lecture Sunday June 30th At Jack's

Bev Bergeron will present his famous magic lecture for San Diego County magicians Sunday, June 30th as a pre-event to kick off the 74th Annual IBM Convention to be held at the Town & Country Hotel, July 3rd to the 6th.

The lecture will be held at Jack's Magic Place at 2 PM, June 30th; admission is 15 dollars at the door. Bev is best remembered for his days with Mark Wilson's television magic show. Bev was Rebo the Clown and responsible for many of the tricks and illusions presented weekly on that popular television program. Bev has appeared in more than 300 television shows with his magic.



Bev Bergeron
Mr. Magic

Over the years, he has appeared with Red Skelton, Lucy Ball, Merv Griffin, Steve Allen, Andy Williams only to name a few. Bev will be appearing at the IBM Convention, but he will only be presenting his lecture this one time at Jack's Magic Place. There is something for every entertainer in this lecture. Some close-up, some stand-up material, and lots of comedy material.

This is one of those lectures you will walk away from having picked up something useful for your own act. Bev has just written a new book about the life and magic of Tony Marks, the great nightclub performer. You will hear some great stories from that book and hear about Tony's sensational magic. This is the perfect way to kick off the Convention week ahead.

Tickets will be available at the door; Jack's Magic Place is located at 4275 University Avenue. This will be an exciting lecture so plan to attend and bring a friend who enjoys good magic.

Ring 76 June Meeting filled with Magic, Elections and Announcements:

Ring 76's June meeting was filled with important business and one of the most looked forward to competitions of the year. The annual "stand-up" competition. June is also the month our Ring dues are due and payable. Diane Lane, Don Soul, and Betty Armstrong carried that process out in an orderly fashion. If you did not attend the June meeting, you will receive a bill in the mail for dues.



Committee collecting dues at the door:

President Don Soul called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM, after an active pre-meeting of magicians performing at the bar with some excellent close-up magic.

The first order of business was the election of Ring President and Officers.

J.P. Jackson, a member of the elections committee, from the floor nominated David Lopez as a write-in candidate for Sgt at Arms. Ballots were then handed out with the election committee's slate of officers.

In addition to the regular ballots, a special ballot for "performer of the year," "Member of the Year," and "Stand-Up Performer of the Year" was circulated. The outcome of the regular election is reported elsewhere in this newsletter. The other awards will be announced at the annual installation banquet on July 8th.

Terry Lunceford announced a pre-convention party to be held at his house in LaMesa July 1st. Some top name magicians from out of the city will be attending that gathering.

Jack White made an appeal for volunteers for the coming convention. Members quickly filled the six volunteer jobs and their names are being forwarded to a committee chairperson.

Richard Ustick, our first Vice President in charge of entertainment, took over the meeting and noted it was just one year ago that magician Mike Rogers died and asked for a moment of silence in his memory. Ustick then opened our show with one of his original songs about "Shamondon the Magician." Ustick has become so good

with his special magic songs that he has been asked by the IBM Convention Committee to do two songs during the convention itself.



David Lopez

The next contestant in the stand up contest was David Lopez, who presented a very clever effect in which a can of Coke A Cola is opened and poured into a glass. The can is crumpled up, and suddenly it straightens itself out again, and the once open pull tab is now closed. The restored can is opened, and more liquid is poured into a glass. It is a strong effect, and David has improved his presentation.

Next came Don Holcomb, who told of his travels and purchasing magic in France. He presented a nice routine with a beautiful old silver Wonder Box and the production of some silks. He then took the silks and went into a routine with 45-rpm records. The records turned the same color as the various silks he used. Don is a magic hobbyist and has come a long way in his performance abilities.



Don Holcomb



LochCrane

Loch David Crane, better known as Bafflin Bill Cody, took center stage with his 10-gallon hat, fancy western shirt and Indian breastplate. Loch has been doing the Bafflin Bill Cody act for several years and has truly assumed the character he plays. His effects are presented with very flashy props from a period long ago. The highlight of his routine is his card stab. It is most effective, and he has an excellent story. All contestants were kept to an eight minute act, so much of Loch's act was cut. But he chose some of the best material for this contest.

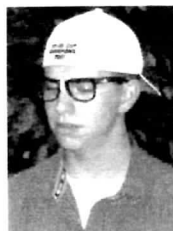
Next came Bob Ingalls, who has his own style and it is heavy on comedy. Bob started with the production of a rubber dove and some funny byplay. Then he went into a very effective and different card effect with a pocket calendar, a deck of cards, and a spectator from the audience. This is a stunner and is not a catalog item, but something Bob found in a book and has improved upon

himself making it a very original effect. He closed his act with a piece he does to music with the Gypsy Thread and a flash ending. He offered a strong eight minutes of magic and comedy.



Bob Ingalls

Our sixth contestant was Josh London, who has just graduated from high school, is getting ready for college, and is preparing a lecture tour on card magic, and is writing a monthly magic column for this publication. Josh is an excellent close-up magician, but he knows he must have a stand-up act as well, so he has put a lot of work in to developing a very clever and fast moving rope routine that does just about everything you can do to and with a rope. There is a cut and restore, an endless loop, jumping knots, disappearing knots, stretching a rope, linking ropes, and in the end you have just one piece of rope. Many of the guys in the audience who do rope routines were caught with their mouths open as Josh presented his act.



Ken Shelton

Following Josh was another of our younger magicians Kenny Shelton, who has been experimenting with various stand up effects. He presented a signed card from the mouth with the help of Bernita Whiting. Then he did a very polished "Miser's Dream" and a very clever coin vanish. It was a nice routine.

Michael Johnson, a hardworking professional magician, held down the anchor spot on this show. Michael has a strong personality, loud voice, and a unique presentation. For this contest, Michael presented several very different experiments in mental magic. This is an area he has had a lot of practice at and it shows in his act. His work was mystifying, fast, and funny. His phone book tear at the end of the routine is a real "wow" for the audience, and also, the one untorn page has the number of an earlier prediction. This act was original and strong.

Closing the competition program was Jack White, dressed like a pitchman with his "Shady Lane Shoeshine Machine." A machine in a box that will give your shoes a new look. Jack borrowed a shoe from a lady in the audience, put it in his shoeshine machine, and then proceeded to burn it up. After some byplay, the original shoe is returned to its owner and everyone is happy.

Because of the large number of contestants, a time limit was necessary or we would still be watching magic. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM with the announcement that the winners will be revealed at our July meeting.

IBM Convention Visitors to receive Free S.D. Guide Book:

T.J. and Mary Coley, who operate the Magic Shop at Seaport Village have made two thousand copies of Barry Berndes's San Diego Guide to points of interest and restaurants reviews. The books will be free of charge to all attending the IBM Convention.. You can pick up your complementary copy at the Ring 76 Hospitality table in the dealers room.



In addition the book has discount coupons for the San Diego Zoo, Harbor Cruises, the Reuben H. Fleet Space Theater, Birch Aquarium, and dozens of other points of interest.

It also features the reviews of 185 restaurants, with maps of the city and maps of Tijuana and restaurants south of the boarder. There is also a map of the trolley system.

These books can be picked up at the Ring 76 Hospitality table in the dealers' room and they are FREE.

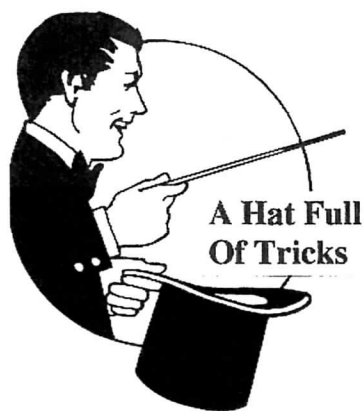
We should also remind you that tickets to the various convention shows at Civic Theater are on sale at the Seaport Village Magic Shop for \$12 dollars per seat. Good seats for all shows are still available at press time.



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By Josh London

Space Aces

Effect: You show the four aces face up on top of a face down deck. You then thumb off each ace one by one. You then proceed to vanish each ace one by one, until you get to the last ace. The last ace is placed faceup on a face down deck. You then give the deck a shake, and it disappears from atop the deck. Then all four aces find themselves faceup in a face down deck.

Performance: To perform this trick, you will need 32 aces. Not really, you only need the four aces. Place the aces, alternating in color, faceup on a facedown deck. I prefer to have the spade second from the top, with reasons that will be apparent later.

You will thumb off each ace one by one, until you have all four aces in your left hand; this is not the case though. While you are holding the deck in the right hand Biddle grip, your left thumb comes over and touches the top of each faceup ace.

With your left thumb, you pull that ace off the deck into your left hand, dealing position. This is done with the second ace, but you hold a left pinky break under the second ace. You pull the third ace off the deck in the right hand; maintain the break below two aces now. Then on the fourth ace, your left hand comes over, and as you pull the last ace off the deck, you add the two aces above your left hand pinky break to the bottom of the deck, while you take the last ace in your left hand.

Table the deck, and now your position is this: you have a facedown deck, with two aces reversed on the bottom. In your left hand you have two faceup aces

(the audience believes these to be all four aces).

Turn the aces facedown in your left hand, dealing position. You will now vanish each ace one by one. You will perform the best card vanish (in my mind:) the Rub-a-Dub Vanish.

Here is the explanation if you do not know how to perform this vanish. With the two aces in your left hand, your left thumb pushes over the top ace. Your right hand then comes over and apparently "swipes" the ace onto the table. What actually happens is this: you pull back the ace just as the right hand is hovering over it. This is a very pretty (did I just say "pretty"?) vanish. You do this vanish, and then you count the two cards as being three. You do this by simply switching each card for the other one until you reach "three" cards. You now do the Rub-a-Dub Vanish with the second ace. This time, instead of counting two cards, you can show the two aces by turning them face up.

Now with the last ace, you do a Finley Tent Vanish. You show an ace in your right hand; with your left hand you hold the other ace in facedown dealing position. Now, you place the ace in your right hand onto your left hand fingertips, like you are building a card house. Hold the ace in a vertical position with your left hand fingertips. Your right hand comes over and covers the vertical ace in your left hand, and apparently "takes" the ace in the right hand; you rub your empty right hand on the table and the third ace disappears.

You can turn over the ace(s) in your left hand. Keep them together as one. Now pick up the deck, being careful not to be a Masked Magician and expose the two aces reversed on the bottom of the deck. Place the ace(s)faceup on the facedown deck.

You are now in perfect position to perform a pass. I will not even try to explain the pass, because there are so many resources out there, and that takes a whole new set of lecture notes to explain. Now all four aces are faceup in a facedown deck, spread the cards over to show the aces are lumped together, and receive your applause with open arms!

Afterthoughts: This is my version of Jay Sankeys trick, Smuggler Aces. I think I have made some great improvements on his trick with Space Aces. If you want to check out Jays version, see his video Sankey Very Much. I have received a lot of compliments about this trick. I am very proud of this; I think that this is my greatest trick that I have out. Please enjoy it! I should tell you that if you want to do the Rub-a-Dub

Continued on page 5



Magic Pro-Tips

By Brad Burt

Editors note: In recent editions of MagiCurrents Brad Burt has given us some very worthwhile information on something he calls "The Magicians First Aid Kit." The first aid kit is a box containing a variety of items to get you through almost any crisis while on location for a magic show. These columns have generated a lot of interest and conversation among Ring members. This month Brad adds a couple of additional items to the kit.

I have a really nifty couple of additions to the Magicians First Aid Kit idea. The first is a small Flash Light. The second is even better: one of those Multi-Tool things that turns into needlenose pliers and has knives, screw drivers, etc. They save a lot of space, and if you need to, you can repair an ageing Fiat!

Here is an interesting challenge. Watch the first and the last David Blaine specials and try to come up with the underlying philosophy that he and his handlers have used to produce the first magician in maybe 50-60 years to which lay folk actually ascribe "real magic power." Forget the simplistic hoocha about his unethical use of camera tricks or whatever. Won't wash.

I have had phone calls and e-mails from intelligent folk that really believe that Blaine does REAL magic. I had an e-mail from a grad student at M.I.T. who raved about the guy. Why? I will guarantee this: Those that

figure it out will have access to some very subtle and clever manipulation of the perception of who they are as magicians.

One clue: Blaine is NOT the character on the T.V. That is an act. The act is the result of testing various personalities and finding which one produces the greatest effect on the minds of spectators. Watch how he acts very, VERY carefully, and you will see something about the manner in which he does what he does. Think of the idea of Advance/Retreat in psychology. Consider a more powerful and flashy persona on stage. How do people react to David Copperfield. I'll tell you: a great 'entertainer' that does "TRICKS!" His personality jumps from the screen, the stage. He advances into your psychic space and becomes bigger than his 'tricks'.

Blaine, on the other hand, seems to stumble upon a spectator situation. He looks slightly confused. Slightly diffused. He touches things, and things happen in way that projects what happens into the minds of both his immediate audience and those at home. He affects the perception of what is possible.

Why is the use of things like standing for a zillion hours on top of a pole so clever? And, let me tell you.....the ice thing, the buried alive thing, the pole thing....ARE REALLY, REALLY CLEVER from a psychological point of audience reference. Why?

Well, I have either given you something to think about, or a bunch of you think that I am nuttier than you ever thought before! In any case I truly wish you all the very, VERY best of success in magic!

Continued from Page 4

Vanish, but don't have a table, you can perform it on your right thigh, and it works just as well.

The main difference between Sankey's and mine is that at the end of the effect, the aces are found faceup in a facedown deck.



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SPECIAL MAGIC SECTION:

Okito Coin Box Routine:

by Ted Dunning

Ring 76 member

Editors note: In early spring Ted Dunning presented his Okito Coin Box routine after a ring meeting. Everyone watching was very impressed with his handling of this classic effect. I asked him to write it up for MagiCurrents. He not only wrote it up, but he added to his already clever handling with even more material. We also thank Don Soul for creating the graphics for this article. What follows is a truly delightful routine.

Effect:

This effect is a reverse Okito assembly performed using the one-ahead technique and a Boston box. Four coins, four cards, and a Boston box are used to illustrate the way stocks are bought and the money is put into the bank under the names of the companies. Coins are placed into the coin box as "stock certificates" are purchased the number of pips on each card representing the number of shares with the suit providing a hook for patter. Just before the climax, the audience sees the box full of coins and four cards faceup on the table. The box is closed and opened a moment later to show that the coins have disappeared from the box. The cards are slid back to reveal that the coins have reappeared one under each card.

Equipment:

One Boston box with no coin glued on the bottom, five half-dollars or whatever coins fit the box. The box should be standard size and should fit four coins and one on the bottom. Four cards should also be selected. For this description, a 5, a 10, a 2 and a 3 are used. Suits are chosen to enhance the patter; a 5 of diamonds can represent five shares of a *diamond* mine, a 2 of clubs can represent two shares of a chain of athletic *clubs*, and so on.

Setup:

At the beginning, you should have the coin box in your pocket, loaded with four coins inside, the lid on top, and one coin on the bottom. The four cards you are using should be placed on your left. The cards should be face-down and be in the sequence (reading from the top of the stack) 5, 10, 2, 3.

General Sequence:

In this description, it is assumed that all cards are picked up with the left hand, but all objects are displayed to the audience with the right hand. This gives the appearance that the performer is right-handed, but actually is done to motivate transfers.

Take the coin box out of your pocket, fully loaded, with your left hand. Take off the top and place it to the right side, then dump the coins on the table. Transfer the box to the right hand under the guise of showing it to be solid, but retain the coin on the bottom in the left hand. Move the coin to classic palm in the left hand as attention is held by placing the box on the table and describing the setup for the patter. Arrange the coins in a horizontal row at the top of your work area, all face up, and the box in the middle.

Drop the rightmost coin into the coin box with your right hand making lots of noise but keeping your left hand well clear of the box. Pick up the 5 card (which should be on the top of the stack) with your left hand as you drop the coin from classic to fingertip palm behind the card. Pass both to the right hand so that the right thumb holds the coin to the back of the card.

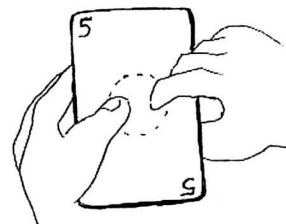


Figure One

Display the card dramatically (See figure 1). Place the card on the table. You now have one card on the table, with a coin loaded under it, one coin in the box, and three coins at the top of the work area.

Flip the rightmost coin onto its neighbor so that they are arranged head-side-to-head-side. Pick up both and display them prominently with your right hand, sliding them to create noise. Pick up the coin box so that your left fingers partially screen it and slide the coins around the box so that one drops noisily into the box



Figure Two

and the other slides noisily onto the bottom (See figure 2). Offset the coins substantially before starting your slide and make sure they are head to head to make the slide go smoothly. Display the box momentarily sitting flat in your left hand fingers. Transfer the box to the right hand for display, but retain the coin from the bottom. Display the box as you classic palm the retained coin. Place the box onto the table with the right hand. Pick up the 10 card as before and place it on the table after passing it to

the right hand and displaying it. You now have two cards loaded, two coins in the box (that are masquerading as three) and one coin at the far left upper part of your work area.

Reach for the remaining coin with your right hand, screening the coin box with your arm. As you screen this way, pick up the coin box with your left hand, palm down and thumb under the box; then turn your hand palm up, thus inverting it onto your left fingers. As you withdraw the right hand, slide the last coin onto the bottom of the box, making a noise as similar to the previous double load as possible. Display the box in the fingers with the coins still under it and show the right hand empty. Rattle the box somewhat and position the two coins in a highly staggered finger palm. Display the box prominently with the right hand and put it in the upper part of your work area. You now have an apparently full coin box, two loaded cards and two coins finger-palmed in your left hand.

Pick up the 2 card and transfer the card and one coin to the right hand for display and placement on the table. Place the card relatively close to the previous two cards so that you will have a reason to adjust it later. You may want to classic palm the last coin before picking it up with the last (3) card so that the final pick can be done with very open fingers. Transfer the last card to the right hand with the last coin and display and place it on the work area.

Point out to the audience that you haven't left space between the cards. Move two of the cards to the right using the right hand, picking up the coins at the same time. You now have four loaded cards and one upside down coin box with a coin on the bottom masquerading as four coins. The cards should be in rectangular array with enough room between them for the coin box, but the box should not yet be between the cards (see figure 3).

Point out the full coin box. Pick up the lid face down in your right hand and move to pick up the coin box. Under the screen from your fingers, press down on the near side of the box to tilt it towards yourself and slide the top onto what was the bottom of the box. Lift the box and display it. Place it between the cards. Moving the box is the excuse for picking it up during the inversion. You now have four loaded cards and an empty coin box with a coin under it between the cards.

Reveal the coin box to be empty by carefully lifting the lid. Wait two beats. Slowly slide all four cards out simultaneously to reveal the coins.

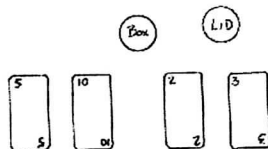


Figure 3

Patter:

The patter centers on a "simulation" of stock public offerings by a variety of companies. The critical goal of the patter is to explain why two coins are loaded in the second step, but only one card is placed on the table. The rationale is that you want to illustrate how you can buy larger as well as smaller lots of stock. Similarly, the insertion of the last coin after which two cards are placed onto the table is rationalized by pointing out that a single coin can be used to pay for multiple lots of stock. What follows from here is a reasonably verbatim script that could be used for the patter with notes that point back to the general sequence of actions.

I have here what is called an Okito coin box with four coins in it (pour out coins). This box is machined from a single piece of brass and is just what it looks like - a solid brass box with a lid (tap box to illustrate solidness, palm coin). Okito boxes have been used for years by magicians to perform astounding magic routines, but tonight, I would like to use the box in a much more metaphorical and *educational* (slight ironic emphasis).

This box, these coins, and these cards will provide us with an entire illustration of how new companies sell their stock and we buy it (arrange coins face up at top of work area). The coin box here will be the bank, these cards can be a stock exchange, and these coins are *our* money. And these coins are *real* money, just like in the *real* world. In the real world, what can happen is that we can put some of our money into the bank (slide coin into box) into the account of one of these companies (turn up card, slide coin behind). This company will then give us a *stock certificate* (display card with right hand) to show that we own part of the company. In this case, the certificate shows that we own five shares that we bought at 10 cents per share (lay down card, mumble about five shares at 10 cents is 50 cents total).

But we don't have to just buy five shares at a time. We could spend a *whole dollar* (display and slide 2 coins to make noise) to buy shares (load coin behind as well as in box). Of course, in return for our dollar, we should get 10 shares (display box to audience retain coin). For simplicity, all of the shares tonight are going to be 10 cents; thus, if we spend another 100 cents (put down box, classic palm coin), we get 10 shares (pick up card, pass card and coin, display to audience, lay down card). We can spend less than 50 cents on each purchase just as well. For instance, if we take our last 50 cent piece (cross over flip and drop coin on bottom of box, display box on left hand), we could buy shares in more than one company. We have to be careful, though, since that is *all* of our remaining money (rattle box to stagger coins in finger palm). Indeed, that is *all* of the money in the entire

world (rattle box again if necessary, and put down box above cards).

For our last 50 cents, we might get two shares in one company (lift, load, and display card). This company is the chain of athletic clubs that you all have heard of (lay down card close to previous cards). We could then buy 3 shares in another company (lift, load and display last card). This company is one that has a new technology for manufacturing diamonds (lay down card).

Oh oops I am going to need more room than this (move last two cards to give more space; this casually demonstrates cards are just cards).

At the end of a hard day of trading, the bank closes (close and flip box, placing it between cards).

We have to remember always that the money in this bank (point to coin box) isn't our money any more. It belongs to the companies that we own stock in (point to cards).

We gave them this money to conduct their business. They can do *anything* they want to with that money, consistent with lawful conduct of their business. They hardly have to tell us *anything* about what they do with the money.

For instance, they didn't tell you what they did just now, did they? They certainly didn't tell me. The fact that they withdrew their money from the bank (open coin box to show it empty) isn't something that they have to tell us. If all goes well, though, we don't lose out because these companies are still valuable, and we retain that value via the stock. (Slowly pull cards out to reveal coins.)

Required Sleights:

You need to be confident with several simple sleights to perform this routine. Each can easily be practiced in isolation. The sleights include:

- a) Moving cleanly from having a coin in a fingertip rest to classic palm with the aid of mild misdirection. This sleight can be made optional, but including it makes the card pickup much cleaner because the fingers can be spread during the pick, and the palm can be shown empty just after the pickup.
- b) Picking up a card with a coin classic palmed and dropping the coin to a fingertip rest behind a card as you pass the card from the left hand to the right so that the coin can be passed along with the card (this sleight can be made optional as mentioned above).
- c) Laying down a card face-up with a coin held to the back of the card with the thumb so that the coin winds up under the card. This is very easy to do well, but it also takes a fair bit of practice to get the look just right and the resulting position of the coin correct for the later adjustment.

- d) Retaining a coin in fingertip rest from the bottom of the coin box as the box is passed to the other hand. This is easy and is quite similar to a shuttle pass in reverse. It very easy to flash, however.
- e) Appearing to place two coins into the box at once, but actually sliding one into the box and one onto the back of the box (David Roth demonstrates this sleight on his tape on Okito Box routines). This has a tendency to hitch in the middle of the move. This hitch can be minimized by picking the coins up head-side to head-side so that they are as smooth as possible. Using a very wide stagger so that the first coin goes into the box long before the second goes under also seems to help me. Doing this in a partially screened hand can make it angle proof; the standard presentation with the box placed head-on to the user is quite sensitive to angles.
- f) Inverting the coin box as you pick it up under the cover of the other hand reaching for a coin that is then placed on the bottom of the box (sometimes known as the cross-over flip).
- g) Stealing two coins from an inverted coin box and leaving the two coins in a staggered stack in finger tip rest. This is very difficult to do silently, so I cover by making a point of making noise. The staggered position is critical to doing the next card transfer silently.
- h) Picking up a card while two coins are in fingertip rest and passing the card and one coin to the other hand. I find it easier to have the coin near my pinky be on top and be the first to be passed. Your mileage may vary. It is enormously tempting to leave this hand unscreened and wide open with an incriminating coin after passing the card. Don't do it.
- i) Inverting the coin box as you pick up the coin box and simultaneously placing the lid on the box. This is made easier if you have a Buddha style box, but is still quite possible with a straight-sided box.

Details and Flourishes

Be left-handed, but pretend to be right-handed. This allows difficult sleights to be done with the left (competent) hand, but justifies all kinds of transfers to the right hand so that you can appear to be just like everybody else. This may take lots of practice on the part of some (i.e., all those right handed people out there). Turn all four coins heads up at the beginning. This provides cover for palming the first coin and demonstrates that both hands are empty.

Head to head coins slide better. This helps the double load enormously. Palm with small motions separated in time. Moving a coin from finger rest to classic palm generally involves some knuckle motion. It should not require any wiggling, though. In any case, if you have to do one or more motions, break the motions down into very atomic, very unidirectional chunks and do each chunk as some other thing happens. This other thing can be anything that trips the motion detectors in your audience's brains.

Using the sequence where you move a coin from finger to classic to finger as you pick up a card seems like a lot of work for such a short span of time, but it allows you to show your fingers clean, and then show your palm clean a few hundred milliseconds later.

This merges into the vision of an empty hand in your spectator's mind. Make sure that you place the cards down in such a way that they have to be moved. Picking up the card and coin together is trivial and very safe and the perception bought by the open coin box that is obviously full of coins next to cards that are obviously empty is enormously valuable.

Move the box to the center of the cards only when the last flip is done. Having the coin box out of place just before the last flip gives an excuse for moving it which in turn makes the motion caused by the tabletop flip to be explained by the spectator rather than you.

Online Agency for Magician

We have found something of interest to all working magicians, clowns, jugglers, and comedians. A new online event planning service called "TheCaterNet." They are currently offering free listings to all entertainers in the Southern California area. The company has its headquarters in Orange County and serves the areas from Los Angeles to San Diego.

The idea is to have entertainers post their resume, credits and a little about themselves, including photographs. Producers and companies planning events, shows, and trade shows can go to this site and see what talent is available for hire.

Candance Dobson, who is the President of TheCaterNet, is putting this service together, and she is hoping this will become the new way to book your act. She is asking

performers to contact her office and arrange to get your material up and on the net as soon as possible because she notes that producers are now booking for late summer and fall events. The phone number for this event planning company is (866) 841-4222 they will be happy to give you more information.

The web site is <http://www.thecaternet.com> You might want to give them a look and see what they have to offer and if it might be something to get you new bookings.

Continued from Page One:

The original Charter for Ring 76 has been found and it will be rededicated during the ceremonies that will follow a sit-down dinner catered by Ranch Catering. Additional awards to be handed out that evening will be Member of the Year, Performer of the Year, Close-up Performer of the Year, and Stand-up Performer of the Year. The close-up and stand-up awards both will include cash prizes as well as a trophy.



Al Bahr Temple
Kearney Mesa

Former Ring 76 member Ice McDonald will do his full evening magic show following dinner and the awards presentation.

This will be a very special evening of ring business in a very special hall. It is an opportunity to dress up and enjoy good food; a no-host bar will be open in the room next to the banquet room. It will also be an opportunity to enjoy good friends and some good magic.

On the heels of the IBM Convention this will be a good way to wind down from an exciting year for Ring 76. Coats and ties for men are in order for this event.

Terry Lunceford
Magician
**Supports the IBM
and
Ring 76**

Magic Notes from Jack White**Welcome IBM to San Diego:**

Ring 76 members have been excited for more than a year about the IBM Convention that is now upon us. We welcome magicians and their families from throughout the world, visiting our city and taking part in the convention. We are listing the locations of restaurants and other entertainment centers where Ring members present magic.

During the convention if you need help with information about the city or how to find your way around, look for one of our Ring volunteers that will be wearing a bright "yellow" tee shirt that says "Volunteer IBM Convention," and they will help you with your question. Ring 76 also has a hospitality table in the dealers room where you can pick up your "free" guide to San Diego, a 330-page book on the points of interest.

The guidebook is courtesy of the Magic Shop at Seaport Village. Seaport Village is along the waterfront of San Diego Harbor. T.J. and Mary Coley operate the magic shop and offer a wide variety of magic, books, videos and gags. David Copperfield always drops by the shop when he is in town.

If you are looking for some restaurant magic, visit **the Gathering Bar & Grill** located at **902 W. Washington Street** in Mission Hills. Dan Thomas is the owner and a good magician himself. He also has Craig Stone, Paul Thomey, and Jeff Smith to keep his patrons mystified.

If you are visiting the North County communities of Oceanside or Escondido, visit **Killer Pizza From Mars** there you will find magician Michael E. Johnson working with such exotic items and a one-thousand dollar bill and rare dinosaur eggs.

In Oceanside, Killer Pizza is at 3915 Mission Avenue; in Escondido at 1040 W. El Norte Parkway.

The Corvette Diner in Hillcrest is a hopping 50s restaurant, and Paul Thomey does magic there on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. This is a fun place. 3946 Fifth Avenue.



Michael E. Johnson

Diane Lane does close-up magic and balloons at **Joe's Crab Shack** Saturday nights. The Crab Shack is in Mission Valley at 7610 Hazard Center Drive.

If you like Barbque then head up the coast to Encinitas, to **Big Jim's Old South Barbque**; on Friday & Saturday evening Joel Ward does his magic there. Big Jim's is located at 190 N. Coast Highway 101.



Joel Ward

Zoo Nights at the San Diego Zoo in Balboa Park presents a variety of shows produced by Mike Stilwell.



San Diego Zoo

At the Treehouse, there is a children's magic show.

Triple Espresso: San Diego's funniest play includes magic with Christopher Hart or Scott Cervine at the Horton Grand

Theater, Wednesday through Sunday. At 444 Fourth Avenue in the Gaslamp District.

The Magic Theater at Lego Land in Carlsbad, offers magic and illusion. The Lego Land Amusement Park can be a daylong experience. If you visit the park, be sure to visit the Magic Theater.

Brad Burts Magic Shop is where local magicians gather and share conversation and magic. 4204 Convoy Street Kearney Mesa.



Terry Godfrey

Terry Godfrey will present his stand up magic show in the Plaza at Seaport Village during the afternoon hours. Terry has been doing his version of the "Misers Dream" since he was just a boy in a circus sideshow. His work is funny and very clever.

San Diego is loaded with venues for magic. We are happy to report that many of the working magicians in this community are members of the IBM and of Ring 76.

Ring 76 Activities in the Past Year:



The year just past brought Ring 76 members a variety of shows, lectures, new meeting venue and an opportunity to show off our skills and magic talents.

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Message from the President

Just a quick message to thank all Ring members for their support and enthusiasm during the past year. The installation banquet promises to be an unforgettable evening, and I hope you all can attend. Don't forget, the attire is somewhat dressy. I reserve wearing a suit and tie only for The Magic Castle, and it takes a lot for me to dress up. The banquet is something special, don't you think? A no-host bar with hors d'oeuvres, dinner served at your table, officers sworn in, awards, cash prizes and entertainment by Ice McDonald should make it one fun night.

And, if you have any ideas regarding a performing theme, improvements within the Ring to be considered by the board or just plain want to get something off your chest -- positively or negatively - I'd like to know about it. Jot your thoughts down on a piece of paper and give it to me at the banquet. Thanks.

Don Soul President Ring 76

MagiCurrents:

MagiCurrents is published monthly by Ring 76 San Diego. Editor is Jack White, editorial offices are at 4275 University Avenue, San Diego, Ca. 92105. All submissions and letters should be sent to the above address or e-mailed to prestoone@cox.net

Dream Comes True for 13-year old Julie Schwartzwald:

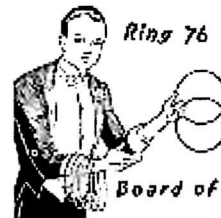
For 13-year-old Julie Schwartzwald's Bat Mitzvah on May 25th, her father gave his daughter a favorite wish-to see Tina Lennart do her entire act. Tina and her husband Mike Cavney came to San Diego and did their show as part of Julie's Bat Mitzvah.

Julie told MagiCurrents she "wanted to see Tina more than anything else." Julie's father is Gary Schwartzwald, Ring 76 Past President. Gary has gone out of his way to introduce his children to many different kinds of entertainment. Julie has become very fond of the pantomime act presented by Tina Lennart, whose act is built around the lonely cleaning lady. The act is filled with pathos, drama, comedy, and a little illusion.



**Don Soul & Tina Lennart
take part in Julie
Schwartzwald's Bat Mitzvah**

Ring 76 President Don Soul was also on hand to do caricatures for those attending the gala party. Mike Cavney did his comedy magic act during the Bat Mitzvah. Cavney and his wife Tina Lennart are in much demand as performers and spend a great deal of time doing shows around the country. They freely admitted they do not do a lot of Bat Mitzvah's but were excited to take part in this one for Julie.



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News

North County Magician and President of Ring 292 **Jack Evans**; will be the star entertainer at the Western Region Clown Convention Banquet at the Riverside Casino and Hotel in Laughlin, Nevada, on November 14th. The Clown Convention is a big event for "funny bones" in the eleven western states. That bash runs November 10th to the 15th. By the way, Jack Evans is now receiving e-mail at jackevans@juno.com

Ring 76'er **Jeff Marcus** did a show for John Mores, owner of the San Diego Padres Baseball Club in May. Jeff did his pickpocket act and was able to lift a watch, glasses, and wallet of a CIA Agent who Jeff thought was part of the audience but actually turned out to be the guest speaker for the event. In the last two years, Jeff has picked the pockets of the San Diego Chief of Police, an FBI Agent and now a CIA Agent. You are "picking" on the big boys, Jeff!

San Diego Magic Shop operator **Brad Burt** will have a table in the dealer's room at the IBM Convention in July. Brad will be running back and fourth between his shop and the convention. He will have his full line of videotapes for sale at his booth. Over the years, Brad has produced 17 of his own instruction tapes. The most popular is "**Basics in Card Technique**" and "**The Zarrow Shuffle**." Brad has also produced nine tapes with other magicians, and those tapes will also be on sale at his booth.

Speaking of *videotape* the latest figures from the video market show that DVD discs are now outselling videotapes four to one. It appears the DVD market is growing rapidly, Though tapes are still selling.

You can also look for **J.P. Jackson** in the dealer's room at the IBM



Convention, with a large variety of used magic and classic old magic books for sale. J.P. is also pulling some of his very rare collectables out of mothballs and will be displaying them in the museum room at the convention. In addition to Jackson's display, **Norm Nielson**, from Las Vegas, is bringing over some of his rare large posters and items from the **Senior Wincos** collection. This is the first time the IBM has had a museum room at a convention in several years.

San Diego Police Officer **Darby Lee Darrow** and **Mike Stilwell** are two local magicians that will join forces with **Ron London** and his visiting magicians touring local hospitals, bringing cheer to patients during the IBM Convention. Doing hospital shows is nothing new for Darby; he works for Children's Hospital often. The hospital shows will take place the day before the convention opens, Tuesday July 2nd from 10 AM to about 1 PM, if you would like to be part of that group contact Jack White at (619) 299-9037 as soon as possible.

Last fall **Rodney Reyes** presented a special program teaching card magic and sleight of hand. The program was called "**Kard Trix**." MagiCurrents has learned there will be a "**Kard Trix II**" late this summer. Reyes is in Florida studying film making; taking over for Rodney as instructor for the intensive course will be **Jay Noblezada**, who polished his skills as a card worker behind the counter at the **Hocus**

Briefs

Pocus Magic Shop at Seaport Village. Jay has not set the dates for his classes but says it will be four nights in late summer. For more information e-mail him at jaybizz52@hotmail.com

Sumit Dua is out of Medical School for the summer and is working in the editing room, putting the finishing touches on his latest magic video tape that will include his popular torn and restored card. **Diane Lane** did the photography in the studio and on location for this video. The tape will feature Sumit's original ideas and routines on a series of mostly card effects. At this writing, the title of the tape is still being determined and the distribution source is still being negotiated.

We send congratulations to **Josh London**, who graduated from Grossmont High School on June 13th and presented his first magic lecture that evening for Ring 76 members. Josh is honing his magic skills and hopes to book his lecture in various cities around the country this summer. Don't forget to read Josh's always-interesting column "A Hat Full of Tricks" in this issue of MagiCurrents.

Ring 76 sends its sympathy to **Belinda Kaesler**, President of Ring 313 in Orange County, following the death of her mother May 25th. You have our sympathy, prayers, and support during this difficult time.

REMINDER: If you plan on attending the Installation dinner and banquet we need to have a head count by July 5th. If you are attending contact Richard Ustick at (619) 463-2407 our cater needs to know how much food to prepare.

Monday July 8th Meeting of Ring 76
Al Bahr Shrine Temple 5334 Kearney Mesa Road
Behind the Hampton Inns Motel

Sit-down dinner, followed by the installation of Ring officers and special awards and stage show by "Ice" McDonald and his magic. This will be a special evening. Banquet tickets are \$20-dollars per-person for dinner and show. Children under 14 pay their age.

A reminder: the Ring 76 Library is open and all members may check out books-many new volumes to choose from for summer reading.

Our August meeting returns to Jack's Magic Place, 4275 University Ave. We have scheduled auditions for all new members wanting to become members of Ring 76. This meeting will be devoted to new members. There will also be a few surprises with members performing.

Reminder: Dues were payable at our June meeting. If you have not paid, it is time to renew. Dues for all members \$25.00.

Return Address:
4275 University Ave
San Diego, CA 92105

In This Issue of MagiCurrents:

Elections:	Page 1
Bev Bergeron Lecture	Page 1
June Meeting Stand-up Competition	Page 2
A Hat Full of Tricks by Josh London	Page 4
Pro-Tips by Brad Burt	Page 5
Special Magic Section: Okito Box	Page 8
Magic Notes From Jack White	Page 10
Ring 76 Picture Page	Page 11
President's Message by Don Soul	Page 12
Ring 76 News Briefs	Page 13
Coming Attractions	Page 14