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# MagiCurrents

San Diego, California



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## Ring 76 President on cover of Linking Ring Magazine

In case you have not had a chance to read your "Linking Ring" magazine the official journal of the International Brotherhood of Magicians, our own Diane Lane is on the cover of the January issue. Diane attended the World Magic Seminar in Las Vegas, January 11<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> where she was given a preview look at the magazine. But that preview presentation did not happen without some delays in Diane's arrival.

Diane was told to contact Bob Ingalls as soon as she arrived in Vegas. A large group of Ring 76 members was standing by along with IBM President David Sandy and the Linking Ring Executive Editor Phil Willmarth with copy number one hot off the press. Willmarth would present copy number one to Diane upon her arrival at the Riviera Hotel & Casino, site of the magic seminar.

Diane's plane was late in taking off from San Diego, so the original arrival time of 5 pm was pushed back to 6 pm. When the plane finally did arrive at the Las Vegas Airport, there was a delay in finding Diane's luggage. Then the bus that transported Diane and Sherry Luft to the hotel had to stop at several other



hotels before finally arriving at the Riviera. By then it was a few minutes before 7 when it was reported that Diane and Sherry were on their way into the hotel.

Diane was quickly pulled aside and ushered over to an area near the seminar registration desk where Phil Willmarth was standing by with a big smile on his face and two copies of the Linking Ring magazine. With Diane in an almost state of shock, Willmarth flashed the cover of the magazine in her direction, and she let out a gasp! There was Diane on the cover of Linking Ring with two large fans of cards in her hands.

IBM President David Sandy then stepped forward and congratulated Diane. Then 10 members from Ring 76, who were all in Las Vegas to attend  
Cont on page 4



Linking Ring Executive Editor Phil Willmarth presenting magazine to a shocked Diane Lane

# January meeting attracts many guests and installs new international member to Ring 76

Our January meeting was held a week later than normal to allow many of our members to attend the "World Magic Seminar" in Las Vegas. Elsewhere in this issue of MagiCurrents Jack White reports on the seminar itself. Many members arrived at Jack's Magic Place early and performed close up magic for each other.

Ismael Sanchez, brought in another of his wonderful paintings and let the membership have a look at it. The latest is of Houdini and was finished just the day before the Ring meeting. We are hoping that Ismael will do a series of famous magicians of the past. His work as an artist is being revived in his retirement. If you would like to have an oil painting of yourself, contact Ismael Sanchez at 619-440-4823. His work is excellent, as you can see from the photo we have included of his latest efforts.



Ismael Sanchez and Harry Houdini

One of the guests attending this month included



Jennifer Adams

Jennifer Adams who moved to San Diego about two years ago. She had been active as a writer and performer for many years but put magic on the back burner a few years ago. Now, interest has been rekindled and she heard about our meetings and decided to attend. You are always welcome at Ring 76, Jennifer.

Another guest at our January meeting

was 12-year-old Erika Goodall, who was bitten by the magic bug after seeing a magic show put on by Jeff Marcus for her 12<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Erika was a



Erika Goodall

guest of Diane Lane, who has been working at teaching this young lady some sleight of hand moves. Erika was called upon to help out a number of magicians doing tricks at our meeting.

Another yung guest, Jonathan Kilmer, is interested in magic and brought his father along to our meeting. He was also asked to help out in doing a number of magic routines by various performers. We want all of our visitors to know they are welcome at our future meetings.



Jonathan & Mark Kilmer

Diane Lane called the meeting to order at 7 pm and made several announcements about the coming close-up contest to be held in February. Each contestant will circulate around the room, presenting his or her act either seated or standing to a group of people gathered around various tables. Members of Ring 76 will vote for each performer at the end of the evening. First prize will be a check for \$50; second prize \$25; and third place will receive a \$15 cash prize. It was announced that Bob Ingalls was accepting names for the contest. If you would like to take part in the close-up contest and have not signed up yet, Bob Ingalls phone number is 619-990-6822 ;let him know you want to take part.

Loch David Crane made an appeal in the January issue of MagiCurrents for any books or used magic tricks for a teenager who had lost all of her magic in the fires of last October.

Michael E. Johnson showed up with a huge magic set from Lance Burton, and Diane Lane donated a magic book. They were presented to Loch who is seeing that the youngster in question gets the magic.



Michael E. Johnson, Loch Crane & Diane Lane

It was time to install our new members. Raul Rivera Melo Madera better known as Mago Ruly from Tijuana, Mexico, set up his table and speaker

system and presented a very professional 8-minute magic act to music. During his presentation, Ruly never missed a single music cue. His act was very visual, clean, and filled with clever magic.

Following the act Ruly was accompanied by his wife Liye, who acted as translator for the oath he was taking to become a member of Ring 76. We feel very honored to have both Raul Rivera Melo Madera and Armando Torres both residents of Mexico, as members of our Ring, making us a truly international magic club. A big welcome to Raul Rivera Melo Madera.



New member Mago Ruly and Ring Pres. Diane Lane



Bob Ingalls & assistant

Bob Ingalls, our entertainment chairman, took over the meeting and presented a very funny lesson in tearing and restoring a paper with a guest from the audience. Jack White gave a quick demonstration of one of the popular tricks on sale at the World Magic Seminar. A

colorful feather was balanced on a playing card and caused to rise and fall on command. Jeff Marcus presented a card effect, followed by Kenny G from the North County, who did a very nice Frank Garcia card routine. Then Kenny Shelton did a card trick where the selected card wound up on his underwear. Michael E. Johnson closed our little impromptu program with a selected card from a shoe.

Then, a new video, produced by Jack White, Bob Ingalls, and Joe Bertuzzi of the stage competition at last summers IBM Convention in Kansas City, Missouri, was presented. The video was projected on a large screen and ran an hour and 15 minutes. A number of different magic acts was presented in the program giving local magicians a look at the quality and style of magic being presented elsewhere around the country.

Following the video, many took advantage of time to do a little more close-up magic for friends and learn a new move or two. Meeting was adjourned at 9:15.



Ted Dunning showing an effect of Erika Goodall

## Siegfried & Roy receive special I. B. M. honor

During the final show at the Splash Theater at the Rivera Hotel in Las Vegas at the World Magic Seminar, January 14<sup>th</sup>, David Sandy, International President of the International Brotherhood of Magicians, presented a first-time-ever I.B.M. Lifetime Achievement Award to the Super Stars of Magic, Siegfried & Roy.

Siegfried & Roy have entertained millions of people during their 40-year career. They have presented 5,750 shows in Las Vegas alone. Their show was closed at the Mirage Hotel & Casino on the famous Las Vegas strip following an accident during a performance October 3, 2003, when Roy suffered a stroke and was dragged off stage by a 700-pound white tiger. Roy Horn was not present for the presentation. He is recovering from the effects of multiple strokes and being caught in the jaws of the huge white tiger.

The magic-duo pioneered integrating wild animals into their spectacular magic act. They turned a featured 12-minute act into a full evening production featuring music, dance, illusion and the beauty of the graceful white tigers, white lions, and other animals, which included cheetahs, panthers, a snake, and an elephant.

For their performing efforts, David Sandy and the IBM presented the magic-team with a one-of-a-kind crystal art work designed by master craftsman and IBM member Victor Trabucco of Buffalo, New York.



Siegfried Fischbacher & David Sandy, I.B.M. President

In making the presentation to Siegfried & Roy, President Sandy noted: "Their contributions to our art and inspiration to magicians worldwide are unmatched. Throughout every single performance, these two gentlemen truly loved creating an unparalleled sense of wonder in the hearts and minds of countless visitors to Las Vegas. Even though the show is over, Siegfried & Roy continue to inspire, motivate and share the magic with magicians and fans all over the world. Known as the Masters of the Impossible, they teach us that seemingly impossible things CAN be possible in a way that is much more magical than anything we will ever witness on a Las Vegas stage."

## Ring 76 President Cover Story Continued

the World Magic Seminar, gathered around Diane for pictures and warm wishes.



(left to right) Sherry Luft, Tom LaChance, Gary Schwartzwald, Bob Ingells, behind Bob, Ralph Mauzy, Diane Lane, David Sandy, Phil Willmarth, Dick Dale, (back row) Jack White, Joe Mystic, Julie Dale, Jim Spellman.

The article in the Linking Ring tells Diane's story and her interest in magic. It also notes that she will accept a second term as President of Ring 76, extending her office leading our Ring through summer 2005. She explains there are still many things she wants to help put in place for the future of Ring 76.

Diane Lane is a lady who has overcome many of life's challenges to take her place as a leader in San Diego's magic community.

Diane's comment after being presented the copy of Linking Ring magazine, was simply; "What a way to start a magic convention."

This event was a high-water mark for this magic event that was just getting underway. It will be hard to ever top this type of honor and beginning to a week of magic. We thank Phil Willmarth and David Sandy, who himself in an honorary member of Ring 76, for taking part in this presentation.

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## The Miss-Adventures of a working Magician

By Michael E. Johnson



*(Editor's note) Michael E. Johnson is joining the pages of MagiCurrents with what I believe is a unique and funny monthly column. He will be talking about the misadventures of performing. While the first few columns will be devoted to things that have happened to Michael, he would like to hear from you about some of the misadventures you have encountered with your magic shows. I think you will probably be able to identify with some of the things he will be writing about.*

Magic might be the art of surprise, but sometimes, no one is more surprised than the magician. Things happen during a live performance that can't be explained by Einstein or Tarbell. Accidents occur. Mistakes are made. Miracles even manifest themselves. Here is an example.

One evening at the Del Mar Hilton, I performed close-up magic for a company party. After warming up a table of four adults, I asked everyone to imagine a single playing card. This was my way of distracting the audience from attempting to examine a trick deck of cards.

Choosing one volunteer, I set the unopened pack of cards in her hand. I asked her to focus on one card, mentally, and I asked the others to think of their cards as well. "Wouldn't it be amazing if everyone was thinking of the same card?" I joked.

When the volunteer finally named her card, two people at the table gasped in shock. They, too, thought of the same card, randomly. The result was

Magician  
**Terry Luncford**  
supports  
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## Miss-Adventures continued:

too overwhelming for coincidence. It had to be magic!

Sensing the miracle, I took back the unopened deck of cards from the woman's hand. There was no need to perform the Invisible Deck at that point.

### "Forgetting my pants"

When it comes to magic shows, I usually remember everything I need. There are times I forget a prop or two, like a thumb tip, a Sharpie or fresh piece of rope. But only once did I forget my pants.

It happened when I worked for a radio station based in San Diego. Two or three times a month, they hired me to perform around the county at listener appreciation events. One day, I arrived at my destination in National City ready to rock and roll. I had my magic suitcase, my tuxedo coat, and even a fresh-pressed shirt.

Unfortunately, I had forgotten my tuxedo pants and shoes. All I had were beat-up jeans and tennis shoes. With no time to spare, I dressed up half-and-half, and walked into the medical office ready to perform.

Nobody seemed to notice the contrast. The performance went great. Everyone just assumed I was "California Casual."

## Ringling Circus adds magic act to 2004 show

The new 134th Edition of Ringling Bros. Barnum & Bailey Circus opened in January in Tampa, Florida, and is now headed up the eastern seaboard to New York City for a month's run at Madison Square Garden during the Easter break. The show will then make its way across the United States, arriving in San Diego at the Sports Arena the second week in August.



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This year's show is special for lovers of magic because the Prince of Laughter David Larible unveils three rings of illusions, including a disappearing act, a swing-in-half routine and an escape-from-shackles. Larible says he has always wanted to do a magic act, and this year the producers have granted him his wish. The world-famous clown has had magic as a hobby for many years and has always enjoyed the work of the great illusionists.

David Larible explains: "My idea is to do real magic and find the comedy in it before and after. But I still want the audience to say, 'how did he do that? How did he make that disappear? How did he escape?' Working in a huge arena with 20,000 people all around him looking on makes doing magic a difficult task. But according to early reviews, Larible's magic act is a showstopper of mystery and comedy.

## "MagiToon"

by Jim Whiting & Ellen Friedman



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## View from the Cheap Seats



**By Jon A. Hand**

### Micro Cups & Balls

In the December 2003 column I mentioned *Micro Cups & Balls* that I had placed into the *Tiny Magic Bag*. I have had great fun with these props, and I hope that you will, too. Recently I was looking around in one of those stores in which every item costs \$1. In the cooking section, I discovered individual Stainless Steel Sauce Dipping Tubs, in packages of four for \$1! I greedily grabbed a package and went home to experiment with them as miniature cups & balls. These cups are approximately 2" across the mouth and 1.5" interior depth, with a flat base of 1.5". They have no recess, but they are otherwise very usable, and I have dubbed them *Micro Cups & Balls*. Because they have no recess, some one-ahead prior set up is impossible, but this minor drawback is offset by the tight nesting and light weight of the cups. A set of the three cups and all of the props shown in the list below will easily fit into one's jacket or pants pockets.

The first thing that you will need to do is make or secure some basic balls for the effect. Since the cups have no recess, you will need to make sure that your balls will not roll away during parts of the routine. I present two options below for the basic balls.

#### Option #1: Hand-cut Sponge Balls

Buy a set of regular (not supersoft) 1.5" sponge balls at your favorite dealer. Keep three of them as final loads for the micro cups. Take the fourth one and cut it into quarters with a sharp pair of scissors. Then keep trimming off corners until the four pieces are very roughly round, making no attempt whatsoever to make them smooth. The resultant multiple flat-ish sides will keep the balls from rolling away. Your four finished balls should be approximately .5" each, and should look as much alike as possible.

#### Option #2 — Small Sponge Balls (round)

As I was writing this article, I discovered that Al Goshman Sponge Magic makes .5" sponge balls in polybags of 10 for approximately \$2.50 per bag. The balls look neat, and are certainly worth a try if you like your gear to look crisp and professional. The downside is that they will tend to roll off the cups with the slightest breeze.

For the record, I chose to make the rough-cut sponge balls, and the handling of them is a snap. However, I did purchase the round Goshman balls, and they do work fine with a bit of care, so you might have a different point-of-view. *Vive la difference!*

The routine as I have devised it requires sponge balls. If you omit some of the moves to come in parts 2 and 3, then you can use cork balls, cotton pom-poms, or other small balls of your choice.

The small size of this trick definitely makes it a "close-up and personal" effect for one to four spectators. However, it will have the same strong impact as one of the pocket chop cups that are so popular now, or perhaps even more impact due to the added possibilities of three cups.

#### **Routine: Version 1.0 for *Micro Cups & Balls***

Props: Four basic balls, as above

Three 1.5" sponge balls for final loads, perhaps in differing colors

5' length of rope rolled into a tight ball, ends tucked in

Option #1: dollar bill with memorized serial number, rolled into ball

Option #2: shorten rope to 4' and wrap around balled dollar

#### Routine Phase One:

Lay out the three cups in a line in front of you. Cup 1 is on your left, and cup 3 is on your right as the performer. Place a basic ball in front of each cup, keeping the 4th one in the right hand 3/4 fingerpalm.

Lift each cup with the left hand and slide/rake a ball under each as you patter, moving from cup one to three in sequence. Using a Ramsay subtlety to call attention, hold up the right hand pointing upward and say, "Watch." Pick up cup 1 with your left hand, and transfer to the right hand, inserting the finger palmed ball. Keeping your eyes on the newly

**Magic Notes from Jack White****Happenings at the World Magic Seminar 2004**

For the past 27 years magic dealer Joe Stevens and, in the last five years, Rich Block along with Glenn Farrington have been holding a big magic get together in Las Vegas. Over the years Siegfried & Roy and then Lance Burton have added their names to this event, which now attracts just over 800 people to its dealers room, magic shows, and lecturers each year.

In the beginning it was called the "Desert Magic Seminar," but, in the last five years has become known as the "World Magic Seminar." In its more than a quarter of a century this first magic gathering of the New Year has been held in a variety of Las Vegas hotels. This was its third year at the Riviera Hotel on the Vegas Strip.



Many prominent names were brought in to lecture this year, Tommy Wonder talked about parlor magic. Nathan Kranzo and Chris Korn gave us a look at commercial close-up magic. Losander, the king of floating tables, playing cards and just about anything else that can hover in midair, gave a lecture on effective stage work. Quentin Reynolds, from Ireland, gave his listeners a lesson in how to be a successful kids show performer, while Eugene Burger did 60 minutes on Eugene Burger and was one of the best lecturers of the seminar. As an added attraction at an added fee, Bill Malone hosted a close-up session.

This magic seminar has always been a big drawing card for Southern California magicians. Many Ring

76 members were visible especially in the dealer's room that this year featured a large area with tables where people could sit down and show off their latest purchase. Len Cardoza would check in

with Bob Ingalls often and compare notes on the various things they liked. This year's dealer's room had more independent manufacturers and distributors of magic than ever before.

Ice McDonald, who was on one of the afternoon shows, helped out at Denny & Lee's table. Gary Schwartzwald and Tom LaChance made the rounds

of the various dealers tables as did Belinda Kaesler and her husband. Everyone seemed to have a good time. This is a fun convention to attend. Here are some pictures.



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## Magic Book Review

By Dr. Joel Moskowitz



"The most beautiful experience we can have is the mysterious. It is the fundamental emotion, which stands at the cradle of true art and true science. Whoever does not know it and can no longer wonder, no longer marvel is as good as dead and his eyes are dimmed."

Thus begins the Overture to a well-orchestrated fictional concert of Carter the Great. Illuminated internally by collector copies of posters depicting masters of magic: Keller, Nelson Downs, and Chung Ling Soo, this novel is encased in the dust jacket, an embossed high color poster entitled "Carter Beats the Devil" which also happens to be the title of his seductive literature. (Hyperion Books, pp 496)

Glen David Gold, not himself a conjurer, casts a spell of words; in this, his first novel, Maestro Gold welcomes us to his stage with a reproduction of a poster inviting the public to the Curran Theater in San Francisco, where on August 2, 1923, Act III is only described as "Carter Beats the Devil." Because of its intense nature, the management asks that no patron reveal the nature of what occurs!



Aficionados of trickery, magicians in training, prestidigitating hobbyists will be misdirected by this text which is without diagrams of moves, gadgets, gimmicks, and devices. Many likely will not perceive its worth. For the layperson, this book is entertainment: fantastical, pseudohistorical, and voyeuristic. Audiences who see magicians perform want to peak under the curtain. The layperson will receive less than he/

she seeks. The magic devotee will be offered more. Neither will be short changed.

Gold does not reveal the secrets. He is an illusionist with words. The story of the evolution of a magician encountering an evil competitor is salted with themes of high murder (President Harding dies mysteriously), detection (Keystone Kops reminiscent of present day CIA blunderers). Carter is himself more like Watson, than Sherlock Holmes. The hybrid theme calls to mind "Nevermore," another novel, where real persons are staged to interact on the page with fictional identities, e.g., Sherlock Holmes and Houdini. In the movies we can think of Woody Allen's "Zelig." Mike Caveney, himself a pro's pro magician and intellect of magical history and the author of a real biography of Carter the Great, acknowledges the research of writer Gold.

"Beat the Devil" is an adventure in three acts similar to Carter's performance. The time is the Roaring 20s and before the Great Depression. The scandal in the background is the Teapot Dome fiasco. President Warren G. Harding's apparent guilt is eclipsed when shortly after participating in one of Carter's stunts, he dies. The Chief Executive had presumably confided in and trusted Carter. Carter, therefore, becomes a person of interest. The plot has the vector of a marble in a pinball machine. The casual reader, as contrasted with those of us who are obsessed with prestidigitation, will enjoy the ride and the connections. You will force a mental smile. The members of the magical fraternity who tread through the 500 pages will have the opportunity to extract valuable insights about the evolution of a master of magic. Reading this story, magicians can experience the satisfaction of living, through what was once the Golden Age of Vaudevilian Magic, and they can take silent pleasure at knowing how it is done.

Gold's scholarship enlightens, educates, and entertains. Oh yes, the quotation, which began this review, is alleged to be the words of Albert Einstein. Surprised?

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## Message From the President



Hello Ring 76'ers,

I hope everyone has settled into a happy and productive 2004.

Some of us started off the year with a great convention in Las Vegas. The 'World Magic Seminar' was a lot of fun. It started off with a bang for me by being presented the 'Linking Ring' magazine with me on the cover by Phil Willmarth, the Executive Editor of that publication and the International President of the IBM David Sandy and many members of Ring 76 that were in Las Vegas to attend the magic seminar. Thank you all for your kind support!

This year's close-up competition February 9<sup>th</sup>, should be a great evening of magic so please plan to attend that meeting. We have a number of top contenders practicing for the big night. We will be trying out the new format this year. Splitting the room into four close-up stages and having the performers rotate to the audiences. It should be a real show! Don't miss it!

We need to set up a 'housekeeping system' for the clubhouse. Jack does everything for us to be able to meet in his building. It would be great for us to help with the cleanup after each meeting. Not only cleaning up after meetings but someone that could come in and clean the bathroom and vacuum from time to time. We need volunteers for this. Please let me know if you can help out for a couple of

months. We will rotate the "duty" between various volunteers.

We send a big congratulations to Phil Tuttle on becoming the new President of Ring 292 in the North County. They have a great club, and we urge everyone in the North County to support that Ring. They meet the first Thursday of each month at the Baker's Square restaurant, San Marcos.

See you at the next meeting,

*Diane Lane*  
*President Ring 76*

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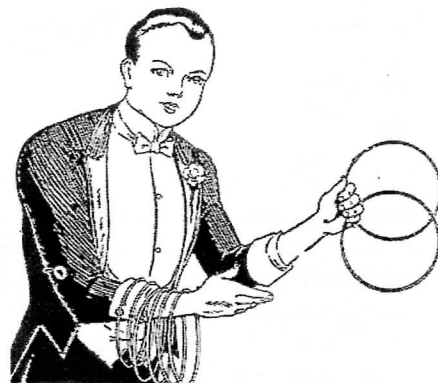
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## News

The **Loads of Fun Magic and Joke Shop** in Palm Springs, owned by longtime San Diego magician and businessman **Gary Vess**, has been sold. Gary sold the shop last June; however, he continues to book magic shows for private parties and trade shows in the desert area. The shop is being operated under new management and the new owners have cut down on the magic inventory. Vess is the fellow who started the first magic shop in Seaport Village when that shopping attraction opened for business in the 1970s.

Magic **Mike Stilwell** was a big hit at an Escondido private party January 3rd. For six years Stilwell has been doing strolling magic at **Nick and Kathy Monroe's** "Delighting Party," an event that officially ends the holiday frenzy by turning off the 27-thousand-plus holiday lights that surround their home. Nearly 200 people attend the party each year and help the Monroes turn off the lights. You can always find Mike in this crowd; all you have to do is listen for the gasps of disbelief from his audience watching him work. Nick Monroe says this was his last "Delighting Party," but he has plans for something new that will be held during the summer when it is warmer outdoors and of course Stilwell will be part of the new party event. What do the Monroes do for a living, you ask? They are professional party planners, of course.

The folks who run the **International Clown Hall of Fame** announced in late January that **Earl Chaney** is one of four



artists to be added to the roster of inductees into their hall of fame. Chaney is a 1972 graduate of **Ringling Bros. Barnum & Bailey Clown College**, who settled in Las Vegas some years ago and opened a magic, costume, clown shop, and school in an industrial park behind the Luxor Hotel & Casino. Over the years Chaney helped many San Diego magicians acquire large props and illusions. Earl Chaney has over two decades of performing as full-time circus clown. Others being inducted this year include French/Italian clown **Giovanni Zoppe**; **Pinto Colvig**, the first Bozo the Clown, and **W.D. "Curly" Robbins**; an American Circus Clown an veteran of the **Clyde Beatty Cole Bros.** Show.

At 92 years of age, **Magician John Calvert** is still going strong. He flies to London in February to receive an award from England's famed **Magic Circle**. He is planning a new lecture tour in the spring in the United States and will appear for a week doing his act at the **Magic Castle** in Hollywood in late May. Another veteran of magic, **Carl Ballentine**, has signed on to play a "magicians ghost" in a new television sitcom titled; "**Magic Pearls**." At this writing it's not clear which network will pick up the new show set for a September 2004 start date.

## Briefs

On January 26<sup>th</sup>, **James Swoger** celebrated his 86<sup>th</sup> Birthday. He received a giant birthday greeting card from Ring 76 members through the courtesy of **Neal Reed**. Though he has slowed down a little in his daily activities. Jim says he is still creating magic props, tricks, and routines. He is like the "Eveready Bunny"—he keeps on going.

Ring 76 member **Ed Green** is designing another new illusion he plans to present at a future meeting. He is also making some alterations to his miniature haunted house that stands well over 6-feet tall. Ed makes all of his illusions out of cardboard boxes and light plywood, painted or covered with various materials. If you are interested in building an illusion for your show, talk to Ed; he has a wealth of knowledge.

**Magic Castle** member **Bob Ingalls** has been keeping his fingers on the pulse of the alleged "hostile take over of the Castle" by a group of unhappy members. Bob has been spending a lot of time in Hollywood and can address the situation. For more information on what is happening with the Magic Castle and its future, talk with Bob.

North County magician **Joel Ward** is getting ready to take his stage act to the Columbus-Magi-Fest in Ohio in February. Locally he can be seen doing some sensational close-up magic at Big Jim's Old South Barbecue Restaurant, 190 North Coast Highway 101 in Encinitas, on Saturday nights. Joel is a super entertainer and puts a lot of original spin on his magic.

## Coming Attractions



February 9th meeting is the annual Ring 76 close-up contest. First place is \$50 cash. Bob Ingalls is accepting applications for the Close-up contest now! The format has changed for this year's close-up competition. Four tables will be set up with the audience broken into groups at each table. Contestants will move from table to table, presenting their act four times. This gives the audience a better chance to see each performer close-up, and the performer a better chance to present his or her ability as a true close-up worker. This should be a very exciting meeting. Plan to attend!

March 8th meeting annual Magic Teach-in. Come and learn a new trick, routine, or sleight.

April 12th meeting is the annual Ring 76 swap meet. Please note this swap meet will not include an auction this year. Tables are \$10 each. Sign up early so you are not disappointed. See Richard Ustick to reserve a table.

Return Address:  
IBM Ring 76  
4275 University Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92105

*Happy Valentine's Day*