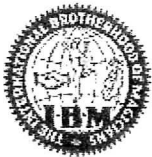


Ring 76 Chartered by the International Brotherhood of Magicians in 1948



MagiCurrents

San Diego, California



Recipient of the IBM's Quality Ring Award

Honest Sid Gerhart
Ring 76

Honest Sid Gerhart Ring 76

Website
www.ring76.com

Volume XVIII 3 March 2004

Two Magic Lectures Planned for March

Ron London has been a full-time entertainer since 1971, specializing in banquet, hospitality and trade shows. He brings his practical experience as a performer to Ring 76 and local magicians in his latest lecture tour, March 15th at 7 pm, at Jack's Magic Place, 4275 University Avenue, in East San Diego. Admission to this special magic lecture is \$10 at the door.



Ron London

Ron's lecture is essentially themed, "New Things You Can Do with Equipment You Already Have." Every magician has tricks and props that are great, but how can you make better use of them? Ron has an idea and routine for everything.

For the close-up worker, Ron presents an effect called the "King of Hearts." A card is selected, or actually it is shot at the spectator through a clever arrangement of the deck and a rubber band. If you are a working magician or would like to be, then this magic lecture will have a lot of good material for you.

You will add something new from this lecture to your current act. Ron London has been active at IBM conventions for years and continues to produce the pre-convention hospital shows in each city that hosts an IBM convention. He is a clever guy and presents a great lecture. Plan to attend, pay at the March meeting and get a reserved seat in the front row. Pay at the door and it's first come, first served.

On March 31st at 7 pm., at Jack's Magic Place, Mark Strivings, Mentalist, Magical Entertainer, will lecture

Continued on page 5

Ring 76 enters IBM Web site contest

For several years Ring 76 has been experimenting with a Web site. It has evolved in an exciting and well-kept site that features events of the Ring, as well as our monthly newsletter. Many have had a great deal of input into the development and style and look of the site itself. The power behind this effort has been past Ring President Don Soul. Don has become our Webmaster for this site.

Recently Mike Durant, who writes the Internet magic column in the Linking Ring magazine, announced that all Rings worldwide are being invited to take part in a contest. Durant is look for Rings which keep their sites, up to date and include information about their Ring and activities. Don Soul has kept our site in good shape and is entering our efforts in the competition.

The International Brotherhood of Magicians in conjunction with the I.B.M. Endowment & Development Foundation is sponsoring the Web site contest. There will be a cash prize for the winning sites.



Don Soul
Webmaster

Don Soul tells MagiCurrents that our Web site is well read each month and Don welcomes stories, photographs and other magic related material from the Ring 76 membership. Alfonso Vasquez, a U.S. Marine in Iran, during the war just a year ago, and now back at home and out of the Marine Corps, tells us he kept up-to-date on activities at Ring 76 via our Web site and MagiCurrents online during his time in the war zone.

If you have not visited our Web site recently, you might want to do so; it is located at www.ring76.com. We wish Don Soul good luck in the competition with our site.

Ring 76 Annual Close-up Contest Highlights our February Meeting

The February Ring meeting is always much anticipated because it features the close-up magic of our members. Sixty-four members and guests turned out for the meeting. We were especially happy to welcome Vi Freeland, a longtime member of the IBM and Ring 76. Vi has been active in the Real Estate business in San Diego for many years. Her business activities sometimes keep her from taking part in Ring activities, so it is always a special evening when she is in attendance for one of our meetings.



Vi Freeland

There was a very brief business meeting prior to the beginning of our close-up contest. Ring President Diane Lane called the meeting to order and made some brief announcements. Diane introduced our newly elected Lifetime Achievement recipient, Jack Evans who in turn introduced his guest for the evening, Julie Marshall from Escondido; it turns out she is the granddaughter of the late Percy Abbott, the founder of Abbott's Magic Manufacturing Company of Colon, Michigan. Julie is very aware of her grandfather's place in magic history and has created a presentation complete with photographs of the early days of Abbott's Magic Company. Julie looked with interest at some of the older Abbott's magic props in Jack White's collection and commented on several of the items. There was a time when every magician in this country had a copy of the Abbott's Magic catalog and did business with the company that had its headquarters in the Magic Capital of the World, Colon, Michigan.

Julie Marshall
Abbotts Grand Daughter

Following the introduction of Julie, Diane Lane reminded the members of two coming magic lecturers coming in March. See the article about coming magic lecturers elsewhere in this newsletter.

Diane then outlined the rules for the close-up contest. Four round tables were set up and about 15 spectators surrounded each table as the 8 performers moved from

table to table. Each performer was given 10 minutes to present his or her act. Our first Vice President Bob Ingalls was unable to attend this meeting; Jack White, Don Soul, Diane Lane and Phil Tuttle acted as moderators at each of the tables.

Contestant number one, Loch David Crane, was dressed in a medieval costume and presented a variety of effects using a number of unusual props that included a wooden whistle. Each performer had to do their act four times.



Loch Crane & Phil Tuttle looking on

Contestant number two, Michael E. Johnson, did a series of coin and card effects. Michael did his act in black tie and tux and gave a very professional look to his act by adding a lot of his personality. Michael is breaking into the trade show industry. He spent the last week of February in Florida, as part of a trade show program.

Michael E. Johnson
& Mary Brown

Contestant number three, Armando Torres, whose close up work is as nice as his very clever stand up performance. The finale to this very clever routine was a two cups and ball routine that brought a big round of applause. To open his set of effects, Armando did some nice coin magic.



Armando Torres & Andrew Sebat

Kenny Shelton was contestant number four, and



Ken Shelton & tack in chin

sent a surprise scream through his audience as he had a selected bulletin board pin thrust through his chin. Kenny did some card magic that was funny and mystifying to round out his close-up magic act.

Gary Dismukes said he decided at the last minute to take part in this year's contest. He had been working on several offbeat card effects but was not sure if they were ready for a contest environment. On the way to the meeting his wife urged him to take part, so he did. He said by the fourth performance he was getting pretty good with his routine of what can only be termed clean card magic. Gary joined Ring 76 when he was just a teenager and has always been an asset to the Ring and to magic.



Gary Dismukes

Contestant six was Ted Dunning, who opened his act with cards and then moved into a coin routine with a Boston Box that makes for nice coin magic. Ted



Ted Dunning & Mary Brown

received a spontaneous round of applause with his very nice coin magic. Dunning is a person who loves magic and is encouraged by his wife to perform. He has taken a number of effects and put them into a close-up act that is both entertaining and fun to watch.

Neal Reed, who loves close-up magic, was contestant seven. His routine with a red and blue backed deck brought a lot of laughs and applause. Neal worked standing up at the table, as did several others. But Neal's reason



Neal Reed



Neal Reed, and large audience look on during the close-up contest.

for standing is because he really puts himself into his magic and with grace and high energy uses his body language for misdirection and

emphasis on the effects he is performing.

Our final contestant was Raul Rivera, better known as "Mago Ruly," who in January entertained the club with a very professional stand up routine from his party show that he presents across the border in Tijuana. For this contest Ruly proved he was an all-round performer by presenting a series of very clever close-up effects with cards and small props. Ruly has a barrier that the other performers did not have to contend with. He has English as a second language.



Raul Rivera "Mago Ruly"

Dressed in a stylish white jacket, he acted out his patter so that his magic made perfect sense to the audience. A true performer.



Judging by the looks on the faces of the many members who watched this contest, it was a fun evening filled with good close-up magic and entertaining performances. The audience is asked to vote for one performer. Bob Ingalls will tabulate those ballots and the three top performers will be announced in July, at our annual installation banquet.

Coming up in March, President Lane will ask that a nominating committee be formed to select a slate of officers to lead Ring 76 in the year ahead. If you would like to be a member of the board of directors, you should talk with the nominating committee and ask that your name be considered for nomination. Elections will take place in June.

Our annual teach-in is scheduled for March. Terry Godfrey will be teaching a thimble routine; Terry Luncford will be on hand with a clever routine and some surprises. If you want to learn some new magic, be sure to attend the March 8th meeting. Our annual teach-in sessions are considered the most exciting meetings of the year.

The Ring Swap Meet is coming in April; get your unwanted magic together and trade for new.

The Misadventures of a working Magician

By Michael E. Johnson



SHOES FIT FOR A WIZARD

As a working magician, I spend a lot of time driving from gig to gig. To stay comfortable, I often wear bedroom slipper sin the car, then change into tuxedo shoes before a show.

One day I was hired to do a family party in the Rancho Penasquitos area. As usual, I arrived a little early to prepare. That's when I noticed my tuxedo shoes were missing.

With the show just minutes away, I tried to imagine the consequences. Great magic, fancy tuxedo, ugly beat-up slippers. It just didn't fit. Unfortunately, there was no time to go home for better shoes. To make matters worse, this was an agency gig, where your entire future depends on each single performance and how you look.

I had to improvise. Luckily, I always carry a wizard costume with me in the trunk of my car. It might be plausible for a wizard to wear slippers. I quickly changed and went to the door, ready to perform.

As the host greeted me, I noticed a pile of children's shoes near the front door. I casually slipped off my slippers as I walked past the pile of shoes and proceeded straight to the riot of kids waiting for the magician. Now dressed in socks, like everyone else, my slipper imbroglio was invisible. Nobody ever noticed what was afoot. In fact I call this my sleight-of-foot adventure.

FLASH PAPER FIASCOS:

The more I learn about flash paper, the less I use it. Don't get me wrong—I love the stuff. Flash paper is the closest visual there is to actual magic. Plus it's a true pyromaniac's dream. But more than once, I've been burned by flash paper.

Early in my career, I was doing a magic show for a preschool audience. While lighting a dove pan, I tossed a bit of flash paper upwards, for dramatic effect. Sadly, the temporary fireball triggered a fire alarm.

Immediately the bells went off, and rooms had to be evacuated. Rather than reveling in applause, I stood mutely outside with everyone, as the teaching staff glared and the children yelled and screamed. By the time we reconvened for the rest of the show, the magic spell was broken and so was my trust in flash paper.

Many years later, I did a magic show in Vista for a best friend's family. Since this was a free show, I decided to try some new material. After all, they couldn't fire me! Throwing caution to the wind, I chose a flashy new card trick, complete with knife and some flash paper.

The trick required a volunteer to select a card, put it back into the deck, and wrap the deck up in tissue. Then my job was to stab the packet with a knife, light the tissue, and in the ensuing fireball, everything falls, except for the chosen card, which sticks to the knife blade.

Everything went well while rehearsing the trick, in the safety of my patio with fire extinguisher nearby. But when it came time to perform, a slight change in conditions really changed the trick. The flashpaper burned slower indoors, and much to my horror, a ball of flame started dropping on to the fancy new carpet.

Life Skills Magic

Youth enrichment and after-school programs, teaching the skills of life through the art of magic, always with a positive message.

Michael E. Johnson, Founder
1657 Palomar Dr.
San Marcos, CA 92069
(760) 747-4627



Strategic partnerships welcome!

Magician
Terry Luncford
supports
The IBM & Ring 76

I slowed the decent with my hand and eventually the flame consumed itself before hitting the carpet and lighting the house on fire.

Everyone was thoroughly amazed. The trick looked flawless. Nobody noticed I had burnt off all the hair on my hand. However, I did hear a few comments about the acrid stench of burnt hair, which permeated the remainder of the birthday party.

If you have a magical misadventure you would like to share with our readers contact Michael E. Johnson at 760-747-4627. He would like to hear your story.

Magic Lecturers Cont. from page one

to local performers. Mark is a full-time professional performer, doing over 500 performances per year. Working all types of venues from daycares to colleges, fairs to corporate functions, Mark performs for literally thousands of people each year.



Mark Strivings

Specializing in mentalism and kids and family magic, he will teach some new and clever magic that has a commercial twist. The large

amount of workable material presented in this lecture makes Mark is one of the best magic lecturers on the road today. Admission to this lecture is \$15 at the door or contact Phil Tuttle at 760 781-1046 for advanced seating and about the special Mark Strivings Master Class that will be held just before the regular lecture.

**Ring 76 Teach-In
Monday March 8th
at 7 pm.**



**The
Gathering**

Bar & Grill Since 1986

BREAKFAST • LUNCH • DINNER

Free Magic Shows Weekend Evenings

902 W. Washington St. • San Diego, CA 92103 • (619) 260-0400

April Swap Meet with no auction this year!

April brings an opportunity to all Ring 76 members to trade their unused or unwanted magic in on new effects. The annual Ring Swap Meet begins at 7 pm on April 12th.

Last year all tables were sold out. This year we will be setting up two extra tables because there will be no auction, just a swap meet. Sellers are invited to set up their tables as early as 5:30 pm. The doors will open shortly after 6:30 pm.

A seller's table is \$10, a half table is \$5, which means you can share a table with someone else if you only have a few items to sell. All members are invited to stay around through the evening and experiment with any new items they might purchase.

"MagiToon"

by Jim Whiting & Ellen Friedman



"Sorry. Miser's Dream doesn't fit our standard requirements for collateral."

A BETTER DEAL

Discount Designer Tuxedos & Accessories

Sales • Rentals
Same Day Service

369 Bird Rock Ave. (at La Jolla Blvd.)
(858) 551-6044 J. Klein
(858) 551-7542 Fax
www.abdtuxedo.com



View from the Cheap Seats



By Jon A. Hand

Micro Cups & Balls, Phases 2 - 4

At the conclusion of last month's article, the three sauce tub cups were laid in a line from the performer's left to right, each with a sponge ball in front of it. The extra fourth ball is hidden beneath cup 2.

Phases 2 and 3 are an expansion of ideas found in the Mark Wilson routine in *Complete Course in Magic*. Phase 2 features a gathering of all three balls under a single cup.

Lift the front edge of cup 1 with the left hand, and pretend to scoop the ball under it with the right fingertips, catching the ball between the thumb and the second joint of the middle two fingers of the right hand. Rake the front edge of the cup over the ends of the right fingers, and set the cup down. For cup 2, insert the stolen ball from cup 1 and the visible ball using the same raking move, taking care that the fingers also conceal the hidden ball already under the cup. For cup three, duplicate the move for cup 1.

Status check: nothing under cup 1, three balls under cup 2, nothing under cup 3, and a palmed ball in the right fingers and thumb. The audience thinks that there is a ball under each of the cups. Convert the right hand to a 3/4 fingerpalm.

Tap the tops of cups 1 and 3 with the respective right and left hand index fingers, in a sort of inverted Ramsay subtlety with the right hand. To pick up a cup, place the forefinger to the front, thumb to the rear, and second joint of the second finger on the side in a triangular grip. Lift cups 1 and 3 with the respective hands. The balls have vanished from cups 1 and 3! Replace cups 1 and 3 onto the table, retaining the palmed ball. Use the right hand to lift cup 2 with the same triangular grip, and the three balls have gathered beneath the center cup!

Phase 3 gives the spectators "any cup requested" as the magical receptacle. Replace the cup on the table behind the three balls. Place a ball in front of each cup. Lift the front edge of cup 1 with the left hand, and really scoop the ball under it with the right fingertips. Add the palmed ball by raking the front edge of the cup over the ends of the right fingers, and set the cup down. Lift the front edge of cup 2 with the left hand, and pretend to scoop the ball under it with the right fingertips. Using the same cup raking motion, steal this ball between the thumb and middle fingers, and set the cup down. For cup 3, repeat the moves for cup 1.

Status Check: two balls under cup 1, nothing under cup 2, two balls under cup 3, and both hands clean. The audience thinks that there is a ball replaced under each cup.

Ask a spectator to point to a cup. If the center cup is chosen, declare that its ball will travel to one of the other cups, and have another cup chosen. If either end cup is chosen, declare that the ball will leave the center cup and join the ball under the chosen end cup. Snap the fingers, or make your magical gesture, and lift the center cup to show that a ball has vanished. Lift the chosen end cup to show that the ball has arrived! State that it mattered not which cup was chosen, as the ball could have "flown invisibly" to any of them. Pick up one of the visible balls, vanish it with any standard pass, and lift the final cup to reveal two balls under it! Status Check: Replace all three cups mouth down, and place a ball in front of each. There is a fingerpalmed ball in one of the hands.

Phase 4 uses a move from the late Laurie Ireland's *Original Cup & Balls Routines*. Ireland's idea was adapted from an ancient standard "three shells and a pea" move, and it works best on a close-up pad, carpet remnant mat, or tablecloth. Rake a ball into either end cup, depending upon which hand is holding the palmed ball, and load that extra ball in the process. Leave the other end ball standing in front of its cup. Lift the middle cup and deliberately cover the ball with it, rather than raking the ball under it.

Holding the cup with the triangular grip described earlier (forefinger to the front, thumb to the rear, and second joint of the second finger on the side), push the cup along the close-up pad toward a spectator. During the slide, the ball will compress and "ooze" out of the cup like the pea in a three shell game,

ending between the tips of the 2nd and 3rd fingers. The move is angle-proof if done correctly, but you can make a comment to draw eyes to your face, and the slide of the cup will be totally forgotten as insignificant, or even missed completely. Press the ball to the palm with the tips of the fingers, place the forefinger on top of the cup, and raise the palm off the table, ending with the hand pointing directly down at the cup.

Request that the spectator hold the cup in place as you are demonstrating, using one of his forefingers. Pick up the loose ball with the hand holding the palmed ball, and use a sponge ball mash to place the two balls as one into the hand of another spectator. Close his hand tightly, and turn it over, as in all sponge ball routines. Caution both spectators to keep their hands in position so that you cannot use your magic to steal a ball from either of them.

Recap: make your magical gesture, and have the spectator remove his finger and lift his cup. His ball has vanished while held under his hand! Have the other spectator open her hand, and the vanished ball has appeared in her hand! Have the two balls placed upon the table, and the spectator's cup replaced. Vanish one ball with your favorite sponge ball retention pass, gesture toward the cup that has been "out of play," and lift it to find two balls under it!

Status Check: one ball in front of each cup, and a fingerpalmed ball in one hand.

Copyright 2004, Jon A. Hand — All Rights Reserved

Next month: Further phases of the routine for the *Micro Cups and Balls*.

Loch David Crane
Says:
Thank You
*for your support during his
recent illness and troubled
times.*

Close-up magicians needed for April show

This year IBM International President David Sandy has urged Rings to become more involved in charity programs in their local communities. Last October, Ring 76 helped the San Diego Blood Bank by performing at the county's five blood centers. Now there is a new call for help. Saint Clare's Home, a shelter for homeless women and children, is asking Ring 76 members to donate a couple of hours of strolling magic at their annual fund raiser on April 17th at the California Performing Arts Center in Escondido.

The event will include a silent auction, cocktails and social hour, as well as a dinner and program. Susan Hall, who is producing the program for Saint Clare's Home, would like Ring 76 to supply five close-up workers to entertain the crowd during the social hour from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Hall is a professional party planner and is well-acquainted with the talents of Ring 76 members. She told MagiCurrents; "Everyone loves magic, especially when it is performed close-up. I can't think of a more popular way to get the evening off to an exciting start than by having a group of magicians working the crowd."

The event itself will be held in the ballroom next to the performing arts theater. While the performance is on a volunteer basis, all performers are being invited to stay for dinner.

Saint Clare's Home has been in the business of helping women for more than a dozen years and has been recognized with many honors from local, state, and national groups. Because of tight budgets at the state level, the home is now being forced to develop its own fund raising events. This is the first such event.

Saint Clare's Home is located at 2091 East Valley Parkway in Escondido. If you have a couple of hours to spare for this worthwhile cause on April 17th and can work out of your pockets, let Jack White know so he can put your name on the list of volunteers. We need five close-up performers, but if more sign up, we can use the help.

Jack White can be reached by e-mail at prestooone@cox.net or by phone at 619-299-9037.

Magic Notes from Jack White**My Best Friends Are IBM Ring Members**

I just returned from a winter skiing vacation in Park City, Utah, where it snowed for four days straight. It was truly a skier's paradise. There was a time when visitors to this winter wonderland could find a magician at almost all of the better bars and dinner houses. I searched high and low, but no one was working any of the establishments I frequented.

One evening after a dinner with friends, I pulled a few things out of my pockets and began doing some very simple tricks for those gathered around the table in the bar. When I finished, some people at another table asked the waitress if the magician could come over to their table and work? The waitress, half laughing, relayed the request, and I went over and told them I was a hobbyist and not an employee of the restaurant, but would do a couple of tricks. After a few minutes there were 12 or 14 people watching me work.

When I finished my act I was offered any number of drinks from my enthusiastic audience. One man in his 40s told me he was interested in magic and was a member of an organization called the International Brotherhood of Magicians. I told him I was a member as well and asked what Ring he belonged to. He replied he had never joined a Ring, he didn't know why, he guessed he just had not investigated what was available to him. He has been a member of the IBM for 12 years, never been to a convention, and never joined a Ring.

Robbie Willmarth, the membership chair for the IBM, tells me this is not unusual, that almost half of the membership of the world's largest magic organization are not members of a local Ring. I was thinking about what all those IBM members are missing. Just think about the many varied programs and events our Ring 76 presents each year for our members. That opportunity, in addition to becoming better acquainted with our local magic aficionados, is worth the price of membership in Ring 76 each year. We know there are a number of IBM members in San Diego that do not belong to Ring 76 or 292 in the North County.

If you should run across any of those folks I hope you will do what I did in Park City, tell that person what he or she is missing by not being a part of a local Ring. Invite them to a Ring 76 meeting. Tell them about our activities and opportunities to become more involved in magic and become

acquainted with some of the nicest people they will ever meet, the members of a local Ring. Our Ring now has just over 80 members, and I think they are some of the best friends I have ever had, and I look forward to being with and interacting with each of them every month. Let's all try to make our membership larger by bringing a prospective new member to a meeting.

Picture from the past:

On another front I found a photograph from the past that involves magic and the circus.

The picture was taken in 1946, on the old Cole Bros. Circus; the truck in the photograph was the home and transportation for a family of Filipino midgets who appeared on the Cole Bros.



**Filipino magic act
on Cole Bros.,
Circus 1946**

sideshow as the world's smallest people. This group of entertainers sang, played musical instruments, juggled, and did a magic act.

Cole Bros. Circus in 1946, was the second largest railroad show in America. The heavy equipment, animals, and big show acts all traveled on a 48-car train. But some of the specialty acts like the Filipino Midgets traveled in their own home on wheels. Life in show business was never easy, and this is a vivid reminder of how difficult life on the road could be for showmen of the past.

In 1946, a ticket to the Cole Bros. sideshow was 25 cents. Popcorn, peanuts, snow cone, cotton candy or a balloon on the midway was a dime.

HOCUS POCUS
**THE MAGIC
SHOP**

**Magic ★ Games
Gags**

in Seaport Village
(619) 236-1556

www.magic-gags.com

**10% OFF
PURCHASE
WITH
IBM CARD**



Magic Video Review

By Dr. Joel Moskowitz



A big fish in Spearfish, South Dakota. Kirk Kokinos is a predominantly self-taught creator of clever coin and card effects. In his DVD/VHS (\$24.99 postpaid in US), Kirk displays utilitarian moves that, once learned, could make the student of magic a "convincing" prestidigitation artist.

With the potential of an audience of four former presidents, Kirk Kokinos is the force behind The Black Hills Magic Club. The latter is mostly a hope. There are only six magicians in the territory, and an attempt to create an IBM Ring by that name failed. A minimum membership of ten is obligatory. Only 40 miles from Mount Rushmore, (where he could perform before (four former presidents,) Kirk is building successful comedy magical entertainment in a retirement community of only 10,000.

With the catchy name of Spearfish, South Dakota, the picturesque area attracted Kirk's attention when he was part of a welding operation. Eleven years ago, the Kokinoses impulsively decided to move to Spearfish. He and his wife, JoBeth, and daughter Nicole, age 7, perform large stage shows for groups and corporate venues. Kirk's motto is "The spectator is the star." Previously from Southern California, specifically San Diego, he didn't join Ring 76. For a time, he was a

member of national IBM, and praises what he learned from the Linking Ring. His magic learning has been self-generated. While his disinclination to affiliate may have been a loss to the conjuring community at large, his effects, precisely because they are developed in relative isolation, have an unconventional twist. His "collection of coin miracles" entitled Bare Handed (available in both VHS and DVD format from Kirk's Magic

Works, 1329 5th Street, Spearfish, S.D. 57783) is evidence of his unique thinking. Purchases are direct: 1-605-642-3205 or by e-mail: magic@mato.com. Kirk's teaching media promises that the seven coin miracles revealed therein can be performed "even in a T-shirt." In fact, you don't have to dismiss your tailor. Even his

"CTP" (unnecessarily mysterious use of initials) is a useful coin-to-pocket maneuver. At first blush, the promise that the student will be able to cause coins to appear and disappear "before their very eyes visual, visual," may be dismissed as the usual dealer deception, the viewer will not be disappointed. "You will have super powers, mind bender reputation maker" are superlatives which might alert the potential buyer that the adage "too good to be true" pertains. This reviewer urges magicians to forgive the hype and buy this tape/DVD for practical coin magic. The viewer will especially learn two coin moves and one card move that are not beyond the ability of most magicians. Gimmicks, which can be self-constructed, are employed. The coin appears to go through the table at a point selected by the spectator. The coin unbelievably falls into the spectator's waiting hands. Utilizing the seven effects Kirk teaches in his DVD/Video, a magician, with practice, will be able to present him/herself as a wizard with coins.

Without intending to diminish the value of Bare Handed, Kirk might consider the following in future videos. Although he has been devoted to magic since the age of eight when he was given and became proficient with a stripper deck, Kirk appears new to producing video. Also, some of the concepts are not entirely new (I have a vintage manuscript from Rick Johnson "Practical Impossibilities" which describes similar elements. "Bare Handed," in my opinion, deserves praise.

APPRAISALS
Single Items ♦ Collections
Estates

'JP' JACKSON
Conjuring Antiquarian

SPECIALIZING IN MAGIC:
Books ♦ Tricks ♦ Sets ♦ Toys.
Royal Bayreuth Figurals

PH: (858) 569-0096
5746 Tortuga Road
San Diego, CA 92124



Brad Burt
Owner

4204 Convoy Street
San Diego, CA 92111

Information (858) 571-4749
FAX (858) 571-7943
Web Site: www.magicshop.com
E-mail: bburt@magicshop.com

Message From the President



Dear Ring 76'ers,

I can't believe that it's already time to be getting out those egg bags and other 'egg' related magic effects for the Spring/Easter season! Time passes so quickly!

It's been two weeks since our 'Close up' contest. I've heard nice comments from many people about the format change being successful! This will set the precedent for years to come.

Our next meeting is the "teach-in." Bring some standard equipment for this night. A deck of cards, rope, sponge balls, rubber bands. The teachers will try to provide equipment, too. It will be a fun night with lots of 'hands on' magic! Don't miss it!

Note: our "swap meet" is in April. Start digging out those props that you don't use and turn them into cash! (Of course so you can buy more magic!)

There is a calling for volunteer magicians to work a Benefit for homeless women!

A group called St. Clare's Home for homeless women in Escondido is putting on a big fund raiser at the California Performing Arts Center in Escondido, April 17th; they need five strolling magicians to work the crowd from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. They will give the performers dinner.

I think this would be a great event for our Ring to support. Sign up with Jack White at the March or April meeting.

The IBM has started a contest for Rings with Web sites. A prize will be given for the best Website. Don Soul Past-President and webmaster, is spending the time to spruce up and submit our site for the contest. Thanks, Don!

Diane Lane
President Ring 76

Looking for out of print books?

If Brad doesn't have it and you can't find it on-line, call J.P. Jackson for used, old, scarce, rare, antiquarian; out-of-print, and/or hard-to-find magic book titles.

Right now J.P. is long on inventory and short on space to store a large new collection he just purchased.

Call anytime (858) 569-0096 and discuss the titles you are looking for. If he does not have what you are looking for, he will know where you can find it.



♣ Resident Magician &
Goodwill Ambassador at
the Corvette Diner
1987 - 2002

♦ Member of Hollywood's
Prestigious "Magic
Castle"
Since 1981

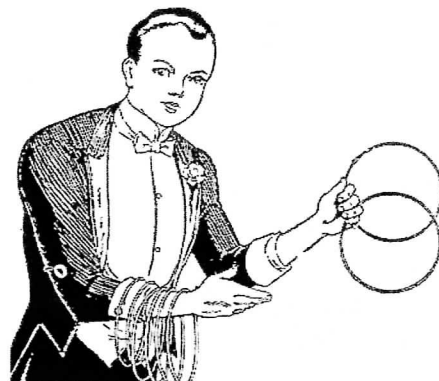
♥ Member of
International Brotherhood
of Magicians
Since 1976

♠ Member of
Society of American
Magicians
Since 1974

"Magic"
Mike Stilwell
(619) 660-9662

P.O. Box 1166
Rancho San Diego, CA 91979
email: magicmikeofsd@aol.com

Ring 76



Board of Directors

Diane Lane
President
858-278-1669
dvlane@san.rr.com

Bob Ingalls
1st Vice President
858-571-3340
bailysgp@san.rr.com

Joel Moskowitz
2nd Vice President
858-587-8951
jamoskowitzmd@pot.net

Jack White
Secretary
619-299-9037
prestoone@cox.net

Richard Ustick
Treasurer
619-463-2407
rustick@flash.net

Sherry Luft
Sgt. at Arms
619-543-0354

J.P. Jackson
Member at Large
858-569-0096

Don Soul
Immediate Past President
858-484-3492
dsoul@san.rr.com

News

Ring 76 Treasurer **Richard Ustick** has just become a member of the "Order of Merlin." That honor is given to IBM members who have served for 25 years. Richard has had an interest in magic since he was a boy and for many years has been an active member and officer in Ring 76. Richard is best known for his singing magic acts, often times appearing with his talented children.

Craig Stone will be the guest lecturer April 1st at the North County Ring 292 meeting. That meeting and lecture is open to all interested magi. Members are free-non-members are \$15; at the door. The meeting begins at 7:30 pm at the Bakers Square Restaurant at the Rancho Santa Fe off-ramp of Highway 15; the restaurant is at 1630 Descanso Ave.

Syd Segal has produced a new magic DVD/Booklet set that will be on the market by mid-March. It's titled "Gift Card Magic" and will be released by the magic twins Dan & Dave. Check out their Web site for more information, www.dananddave.com.

Ring 76 Honorary Lifetime member **Al Knox** checked in from his home in North Carolina. Al was presented with a Past Ring 76 Presidents medal and wanted to thank his San Diego friends for remembering him. Knox continues to do magic shows; he says the closest Ring to his home is 150 miles away in Raleigh, North Carolina, and at 82 it's not that easy for him to attend meetings on a regular basis, especially during the winter



months when ice forms on the highways during the nighttime hours. Al continues to do shows in his hometown of Scotland Neck, North Carolina.

North County magic enthusiast **Marty Brener** is in the process of selling his Encinitas home and moving with his wife to Reno, Nevada. Marty is beginning to clean out his magic room and will have many of the items he plans to sell at the April Ring 76 Magic Swap Meet. There will be some nice buys in this grouping. If you want to reserve a table for the swap meet, see **Richard Ustick**. Don't wait or they may be gone.

Another Ring 76 Honorary Lifetime member **Pat Hannum** has been in the hospital with a blood clot in her lung. She was released in late February and says she is doing well. A card of well wishes would be great for one of the founding members of Ring 76. Her address is: 5103 E. Falls View Drive, San Diego, CA 92174-0978.

Terry Godfrey will work the Del Mar Fair, June 11th to July 5th. This will be the first time in many years that Terry has worked a fair on his home turf. It is one of the longest fairs in the nation, running 22 days. They are closed on three Mondays during the run. He has also been booked for the Sonoma County Fair in Santa

Briefs

Rosa, an hour north of San Francisco, from July 27 to August 9th, this fair has a magic theme and Terry will be one of the featured attractions. Terry is also working shows at 15 schools in San Diego County through May of this year, as well as appearing at Seaport Village with his street act. Terry says Ring 76 member **Greg Wauson** helped him get the school gig.

Rumor has it that **J.C. Wagner** has been making appearances Saturdays from 10 to 4 pm at The Little Club, 132 Orange Avenue in Coronado. Two out of town magi, **Christopher Hart** and **Scott Cervine**, alternate as featured performers in the comedy hit "Triple Espresso" at the Horton Grand Theater, 444 Fourth Avenue, downtown San Diego.

The President Elect of the International Brotherhood of Magicians, **Tony Wilson** from New Zealand, will visit San Diego and Ring 76 in June on his way to the IBM Convention in Cleveland, Ohio, June 30th to July 3rd. Tony is looking forward to spending time in San Diego and some quality time with fellow magicians. Plan to take some time to meet with Tony during his stay locally.

Former Ring 76 member and San Diego Junior Magician, **Steve Wheeler** continues his Magic On Ice Show at the Sheraton Walker Hill Hotel in Seoul, Korea, through April, then moves the show to the Sandcastle Theater in Guam for a yearlong engagement. Steve learned how to ice skate and worked out the details of his ice arena show at the ice rink at the LaJolla Village Shopping Center in the 1980s.

Coming Attractions

March 8th meeting at Jack's Magic Place, 4275 University Avenue, 7 pm. Plan to attend our annual Magic Teach-in. Come and learn a new trick, routine, or sleight. We will have five instructors teaching magic.

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.

May 10th is the Ring 76 Stand-up contest. First place \$50. Start putting your act together for this always exciting contest. Open to all members. May is also time for nominations for Ring officers. If you would like to be a member of the Ring 76 executive committee have a member place your name in nomination.

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