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# MagiCurrents

San Diego, California

Recipient of the IBM's Quality Ring Award



**Honest Sid Gerhart Ring 76** 

Website www.ring76.com

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# Brad Burt to Close San Diego Magic Shop!

In case you are one of the few that has not heard the news, Brad Burt, who has worked in the magic business for 32 years and has operated a magic shop in San Diego for more than 20 years, is closing down his retail store on Convoy Street in the Kearny Mesa area of the city and opening an online shop that will be operated out of his home.

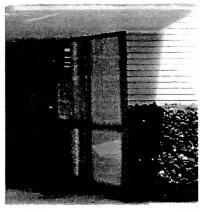
In a telephone interview with MagiCurrents in mid-

April, Brad told us his last day of operation would be Saturday, May 1st. He is selling everything at discounted prices of 25 to 60 percent off the regular retail price tag. "When the shelves are empty and the back room stock is to a point where I can easily pack things up, we will close the doors." said Brad Burt.

His reasons for closing down are the many emerging online magic discount houses

like Penguin and Hocus Pocus Magic. They don't have the overhead of maintaining a retail store and do their business from a Web site. Brad said "that is the future of magic sales. I already have my Web site in place, it's just a matter of getting the word out to local customers and people around the country that they can now buy from me, via e-mail and at





discount prices." Brad Burt's Web site is www.magicshop.com.

Magic sales are apparently heavily driven by discount pricing these days. Brad says many people would come into the store, look over a certain prop or trick, and then immediately go home and order it from a discount house at a reduced price. That practice by local magic enthusiasts has taken its toll on magic shops across the country, not just at Brad Burt's shop.

Brad told MagiCurrents there were at least two interested parties in purchasing the store but that both of those deals disappointingly fell through. However, as MagiCurrents goes to press there is a report that a third party is making an offer to purchase the store. Exact details are unclear, but an

announcement about a new store in Brad's current location may be forthcoming.

Brad and his wife Barbara have two children, Nick, who is going on 10, and Maggie, who just turned 8, Brad says he enjoys spending as much



Brad's Magic Shop

time as he can with them. He added, by operating an online/mail order shop out of his home, he will be there when they get home from school each day and be a full-time dad to his family. That is the upside of closing the shop.

Continued on page 5

# Annual Ring 76 Swap Meet Takes Center Stage for April

The people selling used magic, books, and videotapes began arriving about 4 pm and setting up their tables on April 13th. Some took a half a table; others spread out their goods over two or three tables. A large sign was put on the door announcing the doors would not open until 6:30 to buyers. By 6 pm., a small group of members eager to get the best bargains were lined up on the sidewalk in front of Jack's Magic Place, waiting for the doors to open.

Operating dealers tables were: Salomon Barajus, Channee Sumphurn, Michael BeHraro, Mike Stilwell, Roy & Betty Armstrong, J.P. Jackson, Marcus Day, Bob Ingalls, Ken DeWoodie, Marty Brenner, Brady Ramsey and Loch David Crane. Those selling magic offered a wide variety of merchandise, much of it in new and unused condition.

In years past a magic auction was also part of the annual swap meet evening. But this year the board of directors decided that the auction had taken away from the sales by the various dealers in the past and that the auction would be held during the June meeting instead of being part of the swap meet in April.



Channee Sumphurn 8
Michael BeHraro

Loch David Crane, who does many school shows during the year, was offering some of the props from his popular Bafflin' Bill Cody Show. Loch would dress in buckskins, carry a gun, and wear a wide brim hat depicting a character out of the old west. But this year he changed the format of his show at the request of the San Diego City Schools administration. They told Loch his Bafflin' Bill Cody character was too violent for the students. Loch also used an Abbotts "Dagger Chest" in his act, and administrators said no more effects with knives, daggers, or guns. Much of Loch's act was on his table for sale and very nice props they are too. Crane has now changed the character he portrays in

his magic shows at local schools to a medieval Knight out of Merlin's Court.

Ed Green, who enjoys building illusions out of old cardboard boxes, found six used books that he had been looking for and was quick to point out several new effects he wanted to build. Ed is currently working on a Robert Harbin illusion that he hopes to show the membership in the near future.

North County members
Jack Evans and Phil Tuttle
were busy looking for items
they could purchase for
raffle prizes for Ring 292
meetings. Both men said
they were somewhat
successful in their quest.



Ed Green

Julie Abbott Marshall, the granddaughter of Percy Abbott was most happy with her purchase of an older set of Abbotts "Topsy



Hugh Frisbie & Julie Abbott Marshall

Turvy" bottles she purchased from veteran performer Roy Armstrong. Julie also was able to meet and talk with a boyhood friend of her father's from Colon, Michigan, Hugh Frisbie who appears in San Diego as Ronald McDonald. Hugh was attending our meeting for the

first time; he had heard about Ring 76 but had not been able to work it into his schedule until this time. A very accomplished clown, magician, and juggler Hugh continues to keep busy as a professional clown with McDonalds restaurants.

Tom McCarthy kept busy going from table to table, looking at the various items for sale. After making several purchases he commented: "If you look hard

enough ,you will find a gem or two you have been looking for on one of the tables. Tonight was an especially lucky evening for your editor; "I found several things I needed for my collection."



Roy & Betty Armstrong

At last year's IBM
Convention in
Kansas City,
Missouri, Diane
Lane purchased a
set of Joe Moger's
famous color
changing knives
and promptly lost
them. She found a
new set at the swap
meet and quickly
put them in a safe
place. Diane was
also very happy

with a "Ring Flight" effect she inherited from Magic Mike Stilwell. Mike says he used the trick in his walk-around act for years and decided it was time to give it to someone else, and Diane was the lucky person. I am sure we will be seeing it in Diane's walk-around act.

Brady Ramsey from the North County invented and is marketing a new packet card trick called "Over The Top." He had the special cards needed for the effect printed up and was demonstrating the trick and selling them. Brady is a young guy who is learning the road to being a performer and magic entrepreneur. His card effect is very nicely routined and is a fun trick to do. Next time you see him demonstrating the trick, take the time to watch.

Neal Reed saw a trick called "Color Monte" when he was just a boy. It came with no instructions, and he ruined the cards that came with the trick trying to learn how to present it. At the Ring 76 swap meet he found a new set of cards and the instructions for "Color Monte" and said it was like



Terry Lunceford & Mike Stilwell

finding an old friend. He could now learn and present a card trick he had fond memories of since his childhood.

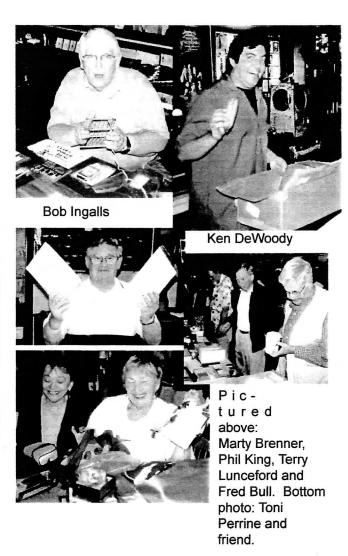
That may be part of the attraction of attending a

magic swap meet, finding something you remember from the past and finally being able to add it to your collection. About 65 members and guests showed up for the swap meet and the sellers are saying it was a profitable evening for them. Many of those who purchased items were still at the hall talking and showing



Marcus Day & J.P. Jackson

off their purchases at 10 pm. I guess you would call that a successful magic swap meet.



# The Misadventures of a Working Magician



#### Appearing Cane A Pocket Trick:

Early in my magic career, I learned the difference between pocket tricks and stage tricks. For example, the Appearing Cane is not a pocket trick. I found out one painful day in high school.

I remember bringing a newly purchased Appearing Cane to show off to my friends. Back then I was a lot more confident with new equipment. Reading directions or rehearsal considerations didn't bother me.

The stainless steel device was stuffed into my jacket pocket, coiled and ready to spring at a moment's notice. I thought it was safe, but I was wrong.

During English class, I must have wiggled too much. The cane sprung open and extended the full length of my coat. I jumped up at least three feet into the air, during an otherwise droll lecture on Elizabethan literature. The teacher was not amused, but the class had a good laugh.

My injuries were minimal. I did take a few stitches to the jacket liner, but luckily, nothing worse. I'm just glad I wasn't carrying it in my pants pocket.

#### Flash Paper Showdown At A KISS Concert:

As a magician in high school, I used flash paper far more than I used common sense. It was fun throwing around balls of fire. What teenager could resist. I was a hit at most parties.

Once I did get in a bit of trouble at a KISS Concert in the mid-1970s. That bank had a high level of pyrotechnics, so I decided to enhance the show from my seat in the upper balcony nosebleed section.

With my friends cheering me on, I flung large fireballs up over the heads of the audience. I felt quite enthusiastic, until I saw a team of security people moving quickly up the aisles to surround me.

At this point, I told the officers I was a trained professional magician. Then I showed them my business card to prove it. With the concert raging on, the officers agreed to let me stay if I agreed to stop throwing balls of fire. Since that day, I've avoided doing unauthorized pyrotechniques inside the San Diego Sports Arena.

#### Tarred and Feathered On Stage:

Several years ago, I performed at a comedy club on the UCSD campus. I decided to open my show with visual comedy and a rubber dove.

Here's the routine: Fake bird goes into a bag. Bag gets smashed, feathers everywhere. Whoops. Fake bird sorta disappears. It's a fun icebreaker. I could say this is a comedy classic, but in reality, I probably stole the idea from someone else whose name I cannot remember.

When I first practiced the rubber dove routine, I created a nice puff of feathers using a small quantity of loose stuffing from a down pillow. For showtime, I decided to massively increase the quantity of feathers. That way, I felt my comedy would be even more visual, and proportionately funnier.

When I performed the stunt before a live audience, the comedy was a hit, but not according to plan. The burst of feathers was so large it temporarily blinded me. When I came to my senses, I was covered head-to-toe in feathers. The fluffy down material stuck to my face and my black tuxedo.

I was tarred and feathered! The audience didn't mind. They were howling with laughter, so I dusted myself off and continued on with the show. No one was more surprised than I, at my feathered introduction.

Magician

# **Terry Lunceford**

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**Brad Burt Continued from page 1** 

What local magic enthusiasts will loose when the shop closes down is a place to hang out and get the local magic gossip as well as peruse the latest books, videotapes, and DVDs to hit the magic market place. Most of us interested in magic and its allied arts have been wandering in and out of magic shops all over the country for most of our lives.

Those shops become sort of a safe haven from the

rest of the world.
When a magic shop
disappears from the
business scene, it is
kind of like loosing an
old friend who was
always there when
you needed a little
cheering up.

There is a second retail outlet for magic in San Diego, the Seaport Village Magic Shop, which will continue to offer



Brad Burt Magic Shop owner

a line of magic and will no doubt stock many new items that are in demand by local magicians and clowns

Brad says the success of his shop has always been the result of items he has manufactured or produced himself. In recent years he has also marketed many of the original ideas, routines, and tricks by store manager David Eldridge. Brad says he will continue to produce his own line of videotapes and DVDs as well as stock magic you can not find anywhere else but Brad's on his new Web site.

David Eldridge, shop manager, is one of three employee casualties of the store's closing. Eldridge says he has several employment opportunities which he is now considering. J.P. Jackson, who operated

the store on Sundays and filled in during rush periods and holidays, will continue to operate his used magic department out of his home. John Bahu, who worked the shop on Tuesdays is an aerial photographer and close-up magician. He says he now has his Tuesdays open for bookings.

In a one-page flier Brad sent out to his customers announcing the closing of the shop, he says: "I feel like I should say good bye, but I'm really not going anywhere." All of us at Ring 76 are happy you will still be around and wish you good luck with your new online magic venture!

Brad's is not the only magic shop to close this past month. Al's Magic Shop in Washington D.C., also closed its doors on April 12th. Al Cohn operated the shop from 1936 until two years ago when Bill Brown purchased the business. Brown says he will also go to an Internet operation with the possibility of opening a small retail store outside the beltway in Virginia.

# "MagiToon"

by Jim Whiting & Ellen Friedman



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# View from the Cheap Seats



By Jon A. Hand

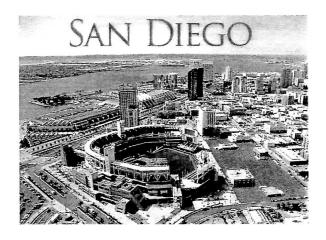
We are very sorry to report that Jon Hand and his entire family are suffering with a variety of health challenges this month, and his column will not appear. We are hopeful he will be able to return next month with his welcome words of magic wisdom.

Our best wishes to the Hand Family!

## Magician & Photographer

On his last day of work at Brad's Magic Shop, John Bahu was handing out a look at his work other than magic. He presented friends with a new color post card featuring an aerial view of the new downtown ball park and the bay. Bahu snapped the picture a few weeks earlier from a helicopter.

While we present John's work in black and white ,it is in beautiful color; we thought you might like to see it. Enjoy!

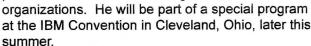


You can see this and other photo's in this issue of MagiCurrents in color by going to the Ring's Website at www.ring76.com.

# FISM winner Henry Evans from Argentina presents a special free Ring lecture May 3rd.

The FISM winner in close-up magic for the year 2000 will give a lecture for Ring 76 on Monday evening, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at Jack's Magic Place, 4275 University Avenue at 7 pm. The lecture is free to all members of the Ring, a charge of \$15 to all others.

Henry Evans is from Argentina and comes to San Diego following a week of performances at the Magic Castle in Hollywood. The evening following his appearance in San Diego, he will be in Las Vegas for a lecture. Evans is in much demand as a performer and lecturer for magic



His home is in Buenos Aires, Argentina and speaks mostly Spanish. He works through an interpreter whose name is Pablo and who presents a beautiful classic slieght of hand act himself. Pablo accompanies Evans on all of his trips and helps with the explanation of the various tricks and routines that Henry Evans teaches.

The lecture will present a number of effects that require a deck of cards and coins. Most require basic sleight of hand to achieve, and he will teach those moves during his lecture. Many of his effects employ some older basic principles of magic that are not often seen today.

This lecture is one of two free lecturers presented each year for members of Ring 76.

A reminder; dues for Ring 76 membership are once again due at our June meeting. Annual dues remain at \$25 per year. That fee was set in 2000 and will remain the same for the coming year, 2005.

Those not paying at the June meeting will be billed during the month.

# Magic Book Review

Don't miss out on being part of the annual Ring 76 Stand-up contest Monday, May 10th.

We will have our stage set up, and we will use our spotlight, as well as our new sound system, for acts using music or special effects.

Sign up to be part of this fun event with Bob Ingalls. His email address is bailysgp@sd.rr.com

Loch David Crane
Says:

**Thank You** 

for your support during his recent illness and troubled times.

### By Dr. Joel Moskowitz



For youth bitten by the conjuring obsession, the public library is being replaced by the low cost magic book. If one interviews vintage magicians, many will compliment 792.3 ,the Dewey decimal location, as the loadstone of secrets. Although the items were usually sparse and ancient, if one was determined, checked the catalogue, frequented several branches, a dedicated driven devotee could find enough. Those old enough to recall this nostalgic quest will warm to the memories. These days, the Internet and palatial book-chains make the search easy. Where in earlier times, at best one might renew a book on tricks, owning one was costly. Not anymore. Many aficionados are familiar with the Dover imprint, which has brought us Bobo's Coin Magic, The Expert at the Card Table, and the Karl Fulves series, reminiscent, but more mature than Severin's paperbacks on subjects from mentalism to paper magic. Sterling Publishing Co, New York is the Gutenberg of inexpensive valuable collections on the magical arts.

"Easy Hand Trick." by Bob Longe, 127 pp, \$5.95 is one of his latest. He has written on money, math, and mental magic. Also on card tricks and magic (the difference being?) His titles describe the contents as "best, world,s greatest, amazing, easy, clever." Reminiscent of the inherently contradictory "jumbo shrimp" we are offered "little giant" books (and encyclopedias) about coin and cards. These oxymorons are contrasted with a "jumbo" book, which is another publication. Booktitles notwithstanding, the contents are worthy of being read.

In this collection, Mr. Longe has assembled stunts with fingers, hands, and heads. A discerning reader will find the technique for what appears to be the anatomically impossible ability to rotate your hand 360 degrees. Students may find that the author's preference for using names of individuals (e.g. have Danielle try to imitate this maneuver) rather than the anonymous "spectator" distracting. Who are all these people that Mr. Longe gets to be foils for his deceptions? This reviewer doesn,t know all these people and would prefer the generic "spectator."

Of dubious value is to combine the index with an attempt to classify the effects as "easy, harder, and ad-

Continued on page 9

## Magic Notes from Jack White

# "Real magic is helping other people."

It's not often that we can make a difference in today's society, so when I was asked to do some strolling magic and bring some fellow magicians with me, I jumped at the chance. Susan Hall, the director of fund raising for Saint Clare's Home for battered women, was the person asking for help. Saint Clare's Home has been in operation in Escondido for 21 years, helping women and children in need. Now they needed a little help in entertaining about 250 guests that would be attending their annual fund raising banquet that was held at the California Center for the Arts in Escondido.

I ran a story in MagiCurrents a couple of months ago asking for volunteer close up performers for the event on Saturday evening April 17th. I had a huge outpouring of Ring members who wanted to take part in the program but are professional magicians and Saturday evening is a worknight for them and they had to bow out. But there were five others beside myself who were able to take part.

Ed Estrin was the first to volunteer shortly after the story ran in the newsletter. He said it would be a tight schedule for him because he and his wife were working a clown gig in the Los Angeles area earlier in the day. But he was at the center at the appointed time of 5:45 pm. Phil



Ed Estrin & friends

Tuttle and Lou Heck both volunteered at the March Ring meeting. Greg Wauson asked that his name be added to the list of performers and our past Ring President Don Soul said he would, like the others, give up his Saturday evening to help out; with me that made six close up workers to entertain.



Don Soul & Greg Wauson rehearsing

The first group of people Greg Wauson approached for a little magic quickly announced to Greg they were relatives of J.C. Wagner. That put Greg on the spot immediately; he knew he had to be good because these people had seen and knew one of the best in the business. Yes, they were impressed with Greg's skills.

Lou Heck did an original effect with postcards that

seemed to get good reaction from the audience he worked for. Phil Tuttle has a contagious smile that seemed to draw people to him like a magnet. Don Soul did a minor miracle with cards; if you attended the Mark Stallings lecture recently you saw Mark do his version of



Lou Heck & a member of the audience

"Premonition." Don presented that effect and rather well,

I might add. A lot of people Don performed for were still talking about the effect when I caught up with them. Ed Estrin is an old hand at entertaining under these conditions and worked with sponge balls and a variety of other props that came out of his pockets and



Ed Estrin & Phil Tuttle take a break and compair notes.

kept everyone excited about the event and entertained them.

We all agreed it was a fun evening for us, but most of all it was an opportunity for us to hone our skills as performers with a very willing lay audience. When we walked away from that event, we all had the feeling of having given back to our community. We were able to reach out and give to someone else something of our selves. I guess that is what magic is all about.



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#### Book Review Cont form page 7

vanced." This would assume that Mr. Longe could intuit what the basic skill of his reader may be. Many of his stunts are simply silly (and would appeal to four year olds who might have trouble reading the text). Others are more ingenious (the hand rotation referred to above). For a grandpa or uncle or aunt who wants to entertain their grandchild, niece, or nephew, "Easy Hand Tricks" (which also has a section on feet and heads) is a good resource.

#### "Giant Book of Card Tricks" by Bob Longe,255 pp \$12.95

What a promise? "You will leave audiences dazzled every time," exclaims the jacket. Referring to such luminaries as Martin Gardner, Bert Allerton, Lin Searles, Curry's Out of this World, renamed "Get Out of this World" author Longe represents some well-honed card effects. He has extracted this compilation from three of his earlier books: Great World's Best World's Greatest (Card Tricks). The first 47 pages lucidly present basic sleights. His assembly of force techniques are classic.

There is a personal style to Mr. Longe's conversation with the reader. In his description of a trick he entitles "Four Times Four," he admits that he was bewildered by the explanation of an effect he had read in a magic magazine (who has not experienced that). He was obliged to either believe that the write up was defective or he was dense. Preferring the latter explanation, he liked the principle (four spectators each think of a card and the magician discovers all he chosen cards), which impelled him to work out his own method. His solution involves a series of mathematical exclusions, which may seem tedious. However, the concept that one can consider ways to make a provocative plot work is friendly and valuable.

Also to be admired is Mr. Longe's admission to an aversion to tricks with a lot of dealing. In his "The Process

APPRAISALS

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PH: (858) 569-0096 \$746 Tortuga Road San Diego, CA 92124 of Elimination," p 136, he makes the process worthwhile. Once again, the necessity of giving a name to the spectator raises a perplexing question. On page 108, he writes, "Since spectator Evan likes card games, say to him. "Nowhere else in the description does he refer to either "spectator," or "Evan.". Thankfully, this volume is not populated with multiple strangers. Rather as in "One in Four," p 66, Mr. Longe humbly describes how Roy Walton combined tricks by Al Baker and Dai Vernon to which Mr. Longe's only contribution was to add a slightly different handling. Those who are not familiar with these venerated magicians are offered no biography and their names do not even appear in the index. It is laudable that Mr. Longe wants to give credit where it is due but his references are incomplete.Mr. Longe wants to be helpful.

His "yellow page referral" (my phrase for directing someone of the mental sophistication of an idiot to consult a phone book) does not do justice to his competence in introducing eager readers to the wonders of magic. He suggests that interested amateurs consult their phone book for a local magic shop that in turn might refer them to associations of others interested in conjuring. Has he not heard of the International Brotherhood of Magicians or The Society of American Magicians? Or was he reluctant to offer these organizations free publicity. The Internet, not the phone book, is the ultimate resource, which was also unmentioned.

Despite these oversights, Mr. Longe is to be complimented for preparing a readable, useful basic book which, even if it is not on the shelves in your local library, won't tax your finances so severely that you couldn't buyit from your local bookstore (or through Amazon.com).

Stand up contest Monday, May 10th, to be a contestant see Bob Ingalls.



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



Hello Ring 76ers,

Well here we are getting ready for another hot summer!! Get out your cooler clothes and drink lots of water! (This was written during a heat wave!)

Beware of the jobs that are in the East County, booked in parking lots (hot asphalt is a killer) or in a park with little shade. Heat strokes affect everyone, good health or not. Be careful!

I am so sorry to say that Brad Burt's Magic Shop is closing. After many years serving the San Diego community, Brad is closing the doors and going strictly online for sales. This gives Brad even more time at home with his family. We are sorry to see you go, Brad, but we understand economics..Brad will be making a generous donation to Ring 76s raffle: thank you Brad!

We have the Henry Evans lecture coming up Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm .At Jack's place. This is a club function that is free to members and \$15.00 to guests. Make sure you sign up to attend with Jack White or Bob Ingalls.

Some of the board members and I are planning on attending the IBM Convention in Cleveland, Ohio. It will be a big event with lots of great magic shows and lectures. Try to attend this convention; you wouldn't want to miss it!

Our annual "Stand up" contest will be held at our May 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. If you are entering the contest, see Bob Ingalls.

Arrive at 6:30 and bring a deck of cards, coins, and ropes. We will be having an informal 'teach-in' before every meeting. If you would like to lead a 'teach-in' please see me.

I'd like to thank all of you for your wonderful support this past year serving as your President.
I look forward to serving you again for another year if I'm elected president

Diane Lane President Ring 76



# 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

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Sherry Luft Sgt. at Arms 619-543-0354

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

#### News

Lynn and Terry Lunceford are featured in a new public service television spot for the San Diego Blood Bank. The Luncefords are both blood donors and are shown playing tennis in the 30-second spot. Jack White does the voice over for the public service announcement, making it a Ring 76 production. The spot will air during May and early June on Channel 39.

Belinda Kaesler and the members of Ring 313 in Orange County are inviting the members of Ring 76 to their annual Magic Picnic on Sunday, June 13th. Members of Ring 96 in Long Beach will also be attending the one-day outing. The picnic will be held in the backyard of Ring 313 President Todd Reis's house in Garden Grove. The picnic starts at 3 pm. and will continue until 7 pm. This is a potluck/snack food type party. A dish of some kind is your ticket to the party. There will be plenty of entertainment. We do need to get a list of who will be attending to Belinda by June 1st. Let Jack White know if you plan on attending. His email address is: prestoone@cox.net. We may want to set up a car pool for this event. This will be a great opportunity to meet fellow magicians in Southern California.

Mary Ellen Brown has been an advisor and mentor to her magic students at Francis Parker School for many years. Now Mary is being forced into performing for the parents of her students. In the past she would have her students do the show; this time it is Mary that has to come up with the act. She has been rehearsing with various members of Ring 76 in an effort to present something special.



Many Ring 76 members made the trip to Hollywood and the Magic Castle for the Spring Magic Swap Meet Saturday April 17th.

Bob Ingalls, Neal Reed, Syd Segal, J.P. Jackson, Jack White, Rubin Pedilla, Jeff Marcus, J.C. Wagner, Belinda Kaesler, and Kenny Shelton.

Alice in Circus Land is the theme for this years Fern Street Circus that will set up on the grass in Balboa Par,k beginning May 21 to May 30. This is the 14th year for this show featuring outstanding performers with circus skills and the illusion of a backyard circus that has grown up. Youngsters work all year long putting this program together and give a very professional show in a side walled area in the Park. Many local clowns also take part in this show featuring magic and walk-around comedy.

Mary Coley who operates the Seaport Village Magic Shop, as well as a member of Ring 76, has had some health challenges in recent weeks and is recovering at home from surgery. We are told she is on the mend, and we all look forward to seeing her back at the store in the near future. Mary, you have our best wishes from Ring 76.

One of the highlights of this summer's **IBM Convention** in Cleveland, Ohio, June 30 to July 3, will be an attempt to get into

#### **Briefs**

the Guinness Book of World Records by staging the largest number of linking ring routines ever at one time. Any IBM member interested will do his or her linking ring routine all at the same time with the end of the routine having everyone assembling their linking rings together into one long strand. If you are planning on attending the convention bring a set of linking rings with you so you can take part in this record setting event.

Richard Ustick has purchased a new sound system that plays, CDs or a tape cassette. More and more of our monthly performers bring music for their acts, now we are better able to play what they bring. Bob Ingalls, Jeff Marcus and Richard Ustick have worked to set the system up in time to be used at the May Stand-up Contest.

Phil Tuttle will be holding a teachin session prior to our regular meeting Monday, May 10th. The session begins at 6:30 and runs to about 7 pm. Each month a different instructor will be teaching a move or trick. Plan to get to the meeting early and take part in the teach-in.

Terry Lunceford was forced to call off his appearance at the Magic Castle in May because of illness. He apparently picked up an airborn illness that has taken its toll on him.

Terry Godfrey has moved into his new office at his home. The office has also become the library for his extensive magic book collection. Terry wants to get things up and running before he hits the road for his many fair dates this summer and fall.

# Coming Attractions

May 10th at Jack's Magic Place, 4275 University Avenue, 7 pm., the Ring 76 Stand-up contest. First place prize \$50. Present your magic act at 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.

June 14th meeting is our annual magic auction, election of new officers, and dues are payable for the next 12 months. This is Flag Day, anyone wanting to do a trick with flags is welcome to perform.

June 30 to July 3rd the IBM Convention in Cleveland, Ohio.

Sunday, July 11th our annual installation banquet to be held in the banquet room of Dave & Buster's in Mission Valley. Dinner, show, awards, and installation of new officers.

Next Board of Directors meeting Monday, May 24th. At Jack's Magic Place at 7 pm., sharp. These meetings are open to all members interested in attending.

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