

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 6 June 2004

June meeting includes dues renewal & magic auction

It is dues time again at Ring 76. The annual fee to be a member of Ring 76 is \$25. and is payable at the next meeting. If you are unable to pay at the June 14th meeting, the membership committee will bill you in July. For the calendar year 2003-04 we had just over 80 members in the Ring.

Ring dues help to pay for the various activities and programs carried out by the club each year. Dues generate the most money annually for the club treasury. Since the IBM Convention held in San Diego in 2002, our treasury has grown and with prudent management on the part of the Ring presidents and board of directors, we have a modest bank account.

Still our dues supply the revenue that continues to allow the club to grow and offer greater opportunities to its members. Your membership in Ring 76 is important so please renew for the coming year.

June will also present our annual Ring Magic Auction. In years past the auction was part of the swap meet. Last year many members who were sellers at the swap meet complained that the auction took away from their sales. In an attempt to make sure that swap meet sales were compromised in any way, we have moved the auction to June as a stand-alone event.

Jack White, the Ring auctioneer, says he has received several lots of small magic and at least two illusions to auction off. A very nice John Dames roll on nightclub style table will be an auction item. There will also be at least one lot of very valuable magic memorabilia that will be put on the block. If you have an item or group of items you want to sell,



Some of the auction items for the
June 14th magic auction

bring them to the meeting, put a minimum bid that you will take, and the Ring will auction them off. The Ring receives a 10 percent fee for auctioning your item or items; you keep the rest.

In years past, books and videotapes have been the hottest items on the auction block. A large sword cabinet last year sold for \$100. It was a nice illusion and a great buy for the winning bidder. This year, as in years past, there will be some surprises and some special items, so don't miss this meeting.

A reminder our Installation and Awards Banquet and show will take place Sunday, July 11th at Dave & Bustlers in Mission Valley. Cost is \$20. per person that includes dinner, awards ceremony, show and installation of officers. This will be our regular July meeting and a very exciting one with lots of surprises. Mark your calendars now. More details in next months newsletter.

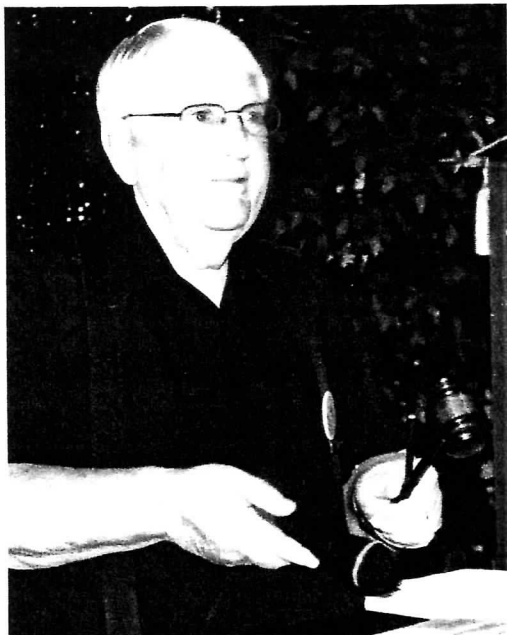
Six performers take part in May stand-up contest at Ring 76 meeting

Those arriving for the May meeting were treated to something new.: A pre-meeting magic teach-in, conducted by Phil Tuttle. Each month a new instructor will be on hand to teach members a new trick or how to better handle a deck of cards, coins-you name it. Phil had a half dozen effects for those who wanted to take the time to learn something new. He offered a clever packet card trick, a dice trick and a clever routine with the old "snapper gag." There were several other bits of business that gathered a good crowd.



Phil Tuttle

Ring 76 President Diane Lane had been hospitalized for treatment of an infection and was unable to



Bob Ingalls
calls meeting to order

attend the meeting. 1st Vice President Bob Ingalls called the meeting to order and introduced our visitors and made the announcements. He told the members and their guests that Julie

Abbott Marshall would be circulating a survey about what local magicians wanted in a magic shop for San Diego. She asked that those attending take the

time to fill out the survey and leave it with her when they leave at the end of the evening. Julie is looking to open a magic shop in the location that was once Brad Burt's Magic Shop.

Ingalls then introduced Neal Reed one of the members of the nominating committee who read the proposed list of nominees for President and board of directors for the coming year: Diane Lane, president; Bob Ingalls, 1st vice president; Sherry Luft, 2nd vice president; Jack White, secretary; Richard Ustick, treasurer; Kenny Shelton, sgt. at arms; J.P. Jackson and Terry Lunceford members at large. By voice vote the slate of officers was accepted. It was moved by Jeff Marcus, Territorial Vice President for the IBM that the slate be accepted by acclamation of the membership. The membership so voted, eliminating the need for an election in June.

Kenny Shelton sold raffle tickets with proceeds going

to the Ring treasury while Ralph Mauzy volunteered to operate the spotlight and music for the stage competition. Bob Ingalls was a contestant, so he turned the master of ceremonies job over to Jack White, who introduced the various acts. Ring 76 members were all given pencils and ballots and told to vote for only one act.



Ralph Mauzy
on spotlight

The first contestant was Armando Torres, who presented a new and very skilled manipulation act to music. The entire act was very well planned and executed with lots of style and showmanship. His work with the multiplying golf balls is especially pretty. The opening spot on any program is the most difficult and Armando rose to the occasion by presenting a truly polished act.



Armando Torres

Our second contestant was Ted Dunning who presented a brief interlude with coins. His was more of a parlor act than a stand-up performance. Ted has truly polished his skills with coins and is excellent. This was more of a close-up act and could be seen best by the first couple of rows of spectators.



Ted Dunning

Next came the energetic Michael E. Johnson, who was on and off the stage handing out cards and other props that were to be used in his act. Michael



Michael E. Johnson

has several mind reading experiments that are quite clever and very impressive to his audience. For one of his effects he has the audience select one of several phone books; the selected book is then torn by Michael into quarters. A number is selected from one of the quarter sections of the book. The book tearing is very impressive. Michael is one of

those folks who never stops smiling during his act. He keeps things moving and is always catching the audience off guard.

Richard Ustick created another of his very original musical numbers with a magic theme. In fact, for this contest, Ustick used three different songs and a variety of magic effects. I can only imagine that he was staying awake nights coming up with the words to go with popular show tunes that are magic related. This was perhaps his most involved musical program and judging from the reaction of the audience one of his funniest. The music was supplied by the Ring's new sound system while the microphone Richard used was connected to another set of speakers that gave good clear sound. These musical vignettes are always different and exciting for the audience.



Richard Ustick

Next came Bob Ingalls, attired in a dark colored suit and a great big ribbon and medal around his neck. Bob presented a trick that was given to him earlier this year by Bob Sheets. In the end, the spectator who comes on stage to help Bob walks off with his medal and ribbon. Ingalls had worked out his comedy act well in advance and presented some good material and some clever magic that played big and moved quickly. The audience applauded his efforts.



Bob Ingalls

Closing the show was Kenny Shelton, who gave new meaning to the "pause that refreshes." Using a Coke can and a red silk hank, he did the old silk in egg routine but this time with a Coke can and you guessed it wound up by pouring a real Coke from the can after the business with the silk. It was a clever routine.



Kenny Shelton

An impressive show with a wide variety of magic from each of the performers. The Ring members were then asked to write the name of one performer on their ballot and turn them in. The winner will be announced at the July 11th Awards and Installation

Banquet. The winner will receive \$50 in prize money. Second place winner, \$25, and third place, \$10.

We were happy to have Belinda Kaesler from Ring 313 in Orange County with us. Belinda is a member of both Rings 76 and 313. She announced that Ring 313 would be holding their auction May 25th and we were all welcome.

Many members gathered at the bar or at tables to show off some of the things they had been working on during the last month. This is always a good time to try out new tricks and exchange ideas.

June is membership renewal time,;dues continue to be \$25 per year. We will also have our auction and it is Flag Day, so if you want to do a trick or routine featuring the flag, feel free to do so.

The Misadventures of a Working Magician

By Michael E. Johnson

Being Kind To The Boss's Wife:



One corporate client liked my promotional materials so much, he immediately hired me for two events: a company party in early December and his New Year's Eve party a few weeks later.

Everything went great during the first show. The setting was an elegant steak house in downtown San Diego. The room was too narrow for a stage show or for strolling magic, so I concentrated on parlor-style stand-up for the next two hours.

Early in the evening, I nearly tripped doing my signature routine for the card under the shoe. Out of the 20 people in the room, and 40 legs, I managed to pick the only leg in the audience that was artificial.

Instead of sending the signed card to the inside of his shoe, I improvised and had it appear in his wife's purse. (It probably would have been too difficult to pry the shoe off his prosthetic limb, although I could have done it if requested.)

As the evening wore on, the crowd grew more intoxicated. Because the close-up magic was so well-received, the client asked me to stay an extra hour. By now, the small crowd was getting rowdy, and I was digging deep into my repertoire.

Plus, fatigue was taking its toll on me. This was my third show of the day. I skipped dinner to work, and now I had to stand aside and watch plate after plate of steaks, chops, and fish pass me by. This was especially excruciating, because I'm a vegetarian.

Near the end of the evening, one lady was busting my chops big-time, hell-bent on exposing my tricks and destroying the art of magic. Rolling with the moment, I squared off against her, and said, "You're kind of bossy, aren't you! I don't know if I like you." The crowd roared its approval, so I launched into my book test and phone book tear prediction.

After everything was over, I found out that the heckler I destroyed was the boss's wife. I figured I was doomed for New Year's Eve.

when I arrived at the New Year's Eve party, the boss's wife greeted me warmly, so I wasn't in big trouble after all. Midway through that show, some guests took me aside and said, "We heard all about you! We heard you called the boss's wife a 'bitch,' and you said you hated her. We think that's wonderful!"

That evening went pretty well too, and I got paid. Sometimes, you never know what works in a magic show, but I still wouldn't recommend biting the hand that feeds you.

A Footnote On Dress Codes:

The most important date I ever had at the Magic Castle was the night I proposed to my wife. As a late-bloomer to matrimony, I was especially nervous about this evening. I wanted everything to go perfectly.

When we arrived at the Magic Castle, my future bride discovered the absence of her dress shoes. She had an elegant gown, but only a pair of old, ragged sneakers. Thinking quickly, we drove around Hollywood Boulevard looking for a shoe store.

The only shoe options we could find were unwearable. Apparently, not every woman's foot can fit into a leather funnel and balance on a stiletto. With quiet confidence, my beloved said she would simply wear her sneakers. She wasn't going to buy an expensive pair of shoes that she couldn't walk in.

Holding our breath, we walked into the Magic Castle, with its impeccable dress code. The hostess ushered us in, without inspecting our feet. We made it! I felt like anything was possible that night. But still, we weren't home free.

While we walked up the staircase to our dinner reservation, a woman was staring at my future wife's sneakers. Then she commented to her group. I saw

Magician
Terry Lunceford
supports
The IBM & Ring 76

Misadventures Continued:

my future wife lean over and whisper something to the woman. The woman nodded.

During a romantic dinner, I popped the question. She said "Yes," and the rest was history. But there was a footnote. I asked my wife what she said to the woman at the staircase.

My new fiance said that she told the woman, "Don't worry. The shoes are Versace."

Before the night was over, I don't think any of our feet were touching the ground.

Roy Horn Appears in Video

A healthy Roy Horn took a crowd of 6,300 by surprise Monday, May 31st, at New York's Radio City Music Hall. Joking and looking dynamic, Horn appeared in a 44-second video clip with Siegfried Fischbacher when the National Broadcasting Company unveiled its fall lineup of programing to its advertisers.

The appearance was the first time Horn had been seen by the outside world since he nearly died from a tiger bite on October 3, 2003, in Las Vegas. The clip was filmed at Siegfried & Roy's Jungle Palace late in April.

Siegfried & Roy introduced "Father of the Pride," the new computer-animated NBC series starring their lions. The show will air at 9 pm on Tuesdays.

Roy is currently working on a special program with Maria Shriver that will for the first time make public exactly what happened when his white tiger suddenly grabbed him by the throat and dragged him off stage during a show. That program is scheduled to air in November during ratings month.

Special MagiToon this Month

Jim Whiting submitted a MagiToon this month that was the idea of veteran magician, and Lifetime Member of Ring 76, Jim Swoger. Ellen Friedman and her husband, Ring 76 member Ted Dunning, are spending the summer in Europe on a working vacation. But Ellen has left several ideas for Jim Whiting to draw during her absence, so we will continue to have cartoons during the summer months. Jim and Ellen have had some of their MagiToons transferred to coffee mugs and they will be available in the fall for sale. The mugs will make a great gift for fellow magicians. We will have more on the mugs when they are available for sale.

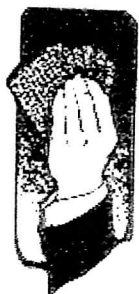


"MagiToon"

by Jim Whiting & Jim Swoger



"Oh, I do MAGIC too."



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

A BETTER DEAL

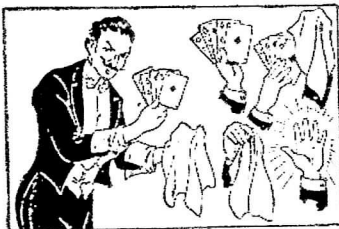
Discount Designer Tuxedos & Accessories

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, Alternate Ending Ideas

At the conclusion of April's article, the full routine for the Micro Cups & Balls, including final loads, was presented. This month's article is some suggestions for alternate endings. Even if you don't use any of these ideas, perhaps one of them will spark your imagination to create your own original ending. In Part One of the routine (February, 2004), I included some props that were not used in the routine. These props were for the optional endings to be discussed here.

Ending One: 5' length of rope

The 5' length of rope was the most basic of the ideas. Core a 3/8" diameter magician's rope, and wrap a small loop at one end into a flat 1" pancake coil. Then, holding the coil, turn the rope perpendicular and begin wrapping as though the rope were a ball of kite string. Lift a loop and tuck in the end, squeezing the ball to a roughly round shape. The finished rope ball will be about 1.5" in diameter, which is a perfect size for a final load in the micro cups & balls.

What might you do with this rope? With one such rope ball, you could reveal it as the last of the surprise loads, grasp the tucked-in portion where it enters the loop, and shake to snap out the rope into its full length. You are now ready to do your favorite knot routine, or cut-and-restored rope, with the rope ball serving as a simple linking liaison into your next effect.

What about three rope balls as the final loads? Each could be the correct length for Professor's Nightmare, and you could reveal them in successive sizes, not shaking them out into ropes until all three balls were revealed.

How about using three different colors for the rope balls? Dye cut segments of rope into your chosen colors, or buy one of those red/white/blue basketball nets and unravel the components to get three colored ropes, and cut to length. Proceed with Rainbow Ropes (three colored ropes magically join into one multicolored length) or Linking Ropes (tie each rope into a circle). These are readily available dealer items if you are unfamiliar with them.

Ending Two: Borrowed dollar bill

Borrow a dollar bill from a spectator, and have

him sign it. Crumple it into a ball, and vanish it with lapping or your favorite method ("Sure, money talks, but all it ever says is Good-bye."). Write him an IOU for the dollar, and go into the Micro Cups & Balls. Load the dollar into the final cup. Take back the IOU, vanish it, reveal two sponge ball final loads, and then have the spectator lift the final cup. His signed dollar bill has returned.

Or, begin using the balled dollar as your only ball in the Micro Cups and Balls. Fake a scoop load, and lap the bill while revealing a first sponge ball appearance under another cup. Retrieve the bill in the final load stage and reload under a cup.

Or, use a shuttle pass to retain the borrowed (crumpled) bill as you hand a substitute bill to another spectator for safekeeping. The substitute could be play money, or stage money, or even real foreign currency, as long as it is instantly recognizable as different when opened later. Of course, the missing bill is the end of the final loads.

Ending Three: combine endings one and two

Take a fairly new dollar, memorize the serial number, and crumple it into a ball. Form a rope ball around it using a 4' rope rather than a 5' one. In performance, borrow a dollar that matches the appearance of yours, and boldly "read off" the serial number to be written down, actually using the memorized number. Do your favorite bill switch, show the spectator his new \$100 bill (or \$50, or \$20), and then vanish it before he becomes too excited. Load the rope/bill into the final cup, reveal the rope ball, and slowly unravel to reveal the missing dollar, whose serial number matches the one that the spectator copied down.

You are only limited by your imagination in finding something which will fit into the Micro Cups as a final load. Choose a small walnut, open carefully with a thin-bladed knife, scoop out the meat of the nut, and insert your balled dollar with the memorized serial number. Glue halves of the nut with a thin layer of white glue, which dries clear. Produce the nut as a final load, and crack open to find the spectator's bill inside.

Or, carefully open a sugar/sweetener packet, empty its contents, and place the folded or crumpled bill (with the memorized serial number) inside. Reseal with a thin coat of rubber cement. When thoroughly dry, crumple into a ball and use as a final load. Tear open the packet to reveal the missing dollar, whose serial number matches.

The above ideas are merely my thinking in real time as I type. What different ideas can you concoct? Play with your final loads to make Micro Cups & Balls a routine that is all your own. Drop me a line to share your ideas, as I would really like to hear from you.

Write: Jon A. Hand, PO Box 1300, Pulaski, TN

38478

Email: jonahand@hotmail.com

Paul Gertner Visits San Diego in May

Trade show performer and close-up worker extraordinaire Paul Gertner visited San Diego the last week in May. He called his friend Don Soul and said he had a few hours open one evening would Don like to get together with him for dinner. Don and his wife Donna suggested they meet at the Gathering in Mission Hills and invited Bob Ingalls, J.P. Jackson, and Jack White to join them.

They met for dinner and some conversation about magic. Gertner is particularly noted for his Cups & Balls routine, in which the balls are actually steel ball bearings. He is also noted as the inventor of the reverse matrix effect.



Don & Donna Soul, Paul Gertner and Bob Ingalls at the Gathering for dinner

Bob Ingalls impressed the close-up specialist and the rest of the folks at the table with his very nice quarter through glass routine. Paul had been appearing at the Microsoft booth of a trade show at the San Diego Convention Center. He flew home to Pennsylvania for the Memorial Day weekend with his wife; then, he flew back to Las Vegas the following week for a trade show there. You never know whom you might find at a table at the Gathering Restaurant.

Paul Gertner will appear at the IBM Convention and Magic Live later in the summer.

Loch David Crane

Says:

Thank You

for your support during his recent illness and troubled times.

Important Information needed by Ring 76

Please help us and fill out the questions below. This information will not be made public it is for the Ring 76 internal roster of members. Please bring this to the next meeting or send it to Jack White, 4288 Arguello St. San Diego, CA 92103

Please Print:

Name:

Address:

City & Zip

Phone #

E-mail

Much of the current information we have on our members is 4 and 5 years old so please help us update our current files. Again this information is for our own in house use and will not be made public.

Please besure to return the above information. Thank you from the membership committee and the newsletter editor.

Magic Notes from Jack White**The latest on a new magic shop for San Diego and more**

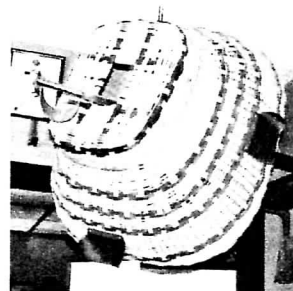
With the demise of Brad Burt's Magic Shop the big question on the minds of magicians in San Diego these days is what is the status of a new magic shop in this community? Here is the latest: Julie Abbott Marshall is planning on opening a new full-service shop for magicians, clowns, and jugglers in San Diego by late summer or early fall. In addition to a line of beginner and professional magic, the shop will carry make-up, comedy props, balloons, and juggling supplies.

At this writing, it is not clear where the new shop will be located, but it will not be in the space that has been occupied by Brad Burt's Magic Shop on Convoy Street. Julie Marshall is exploring several new locations in San Diego. A big concern is parking and an easy to-get-to location. The new shop will be called "Abbottcadabra." Julie and her husband are working with real estate people and a wholesaler of magic supplies to make this happen. Her advice to the magicians of San Diego County is to be patient.

A month ago I wrote that magic shops as we know them are fast disappearing as more and more people turn to the Internet to purchase books, videos and tricks. But that is not the case everywhere. How would you like to live in a community that has no less than a dozen magic shops? Then move to Las Vegas, where there are 8 Houdini Magic Shops, and several small independent shops like the one in the lobby of the Rivera Hotel and Casino. Of course we must mention Earl Chaney's Planet Mirth Magic and just across the street is Denny and Lee's Magic Shop. All of them doing good business and appearing to get along with each other.

The big shop where the pros hang out during the daytime hours is Denny & Lee's, owned by Denny Haney, who began operating a large retail magic shop in Baltimore, Maryland, in the 1980s, and it has grown into a major operation with a second store in Las Vegas. The Denny & Lee shop is stocked with more upscale professional props. Hanging from the

ceiling is an Owen Bros. Sword Basket with a \$22-hundred dollar price tag. There are several new illusions scattered around the store, as well as a huge book department and a very large selection of DVDs all on magic.



Denny & Lee's shop is in a small industrial complex directly behind the Excalibur Hotel and Casino. In the same industrial complex just across the driveway from Denny & Lee's is a second large magic shop operated by former Ringling Bros. Barnum &



Bailey clown, Earl Chaney. Earl operates a well-stocked store with magic aimed at the beginner. He carries a full line of Mak Magic, as well

as a complete line of clown make-up and even clown costumes and shoes. The day I visited the store, Earl was in Malaysia on tour with a circus there. I was told he would be gone 6 weeks. Chaney also has a backroom full of used illusions that he sells to interested magicians. Earl Chaney is a respected name among circus clowns and often times works as a teacher of mirth techniques, and he conducts clown classes for youngsters at the store at various times of the year.

What is so interesting to me is that all of these magic shops are able to coexist, and they are all making money. Many of the people who work at one of the mainstream shops during the day will show up as demonstrators at one of the many Houdini magic



HOCUS POCUS THE MAGIC SHOP

**Magic & Games
Gags**

in Seaport Village
(619) 236-1556

www.magic-gags.com

**10% OFF
PURCHASE
WITH
IBM CARD**



shops along the Vegas strip at night. It is the perfect atmosphere for the "magic nut." That is the man or woman who just can't seem to get enough magic, so, when they are not out doing a show, they work at one or more magic shops.

Over at Denny & Lee's there is a small space just off of the showroom, where you will find a big cat curled up on a couch. Sometimes the cat will allow a magician or two to sit down and watch the latest magic video on a big screen television set also in the room. The cat will leave you alone if you pet it; if you don't, it will rub up against your leg and meow at you until you show it some attention. Sounds like a magician, doesn't it? But enough catty remarks.



If you are looking for a magic prop or trick, old or new, you can probably find it at one of the many magic shops in Las Vegas. You will also meet some interesting people just hanging around the shops as



Denny & Lee's Magic Shop
Las Vegas

APPRAISALS
Single Items ♦ Collections
Estates

'JP' JACKSON
Conjuring Antiquarian

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

PH: (858) 569-0090
5746 Tortuga Road
San Diego, CA 92124

well. The shops in Las Vegas seem to enjoy having magic enthusiasts hang around and talk. That is something you don't find in most shops. The magic shop manager wants to make a sale and hustle you on your way.

My Favorite Magic Shop

If there were any one magic shop I would like to spend time in again it would be Joe Berg's old shop on the second floor of an old stucco building just above Hollywood Blvd. You had to climb a steep flight of wooden stairs to get up to the shop but it was worth it just to see the treasures scattered all around the room that had once been an Arthur Murray Dance Studio.

I had some time to kill one afternoon and dropped by Joe's shop to see what was new. The shop seemed empty, and Joe was not in his usual talkative mood. He was busy with his famous card cutter. He told me he couldn't talk; he had a rush job for a customer. I stood with my hands in my pockets and said I would look around.

After looking at some very nice older props in showcases, I asked Joe who had made a very fancy Okito Coin Box that had caught my eye. Before Joe could answer this deep voice boomed at me from the shadows in a darkened corner of the shop. The voice announced: "It's not an Okito Box, it's a Boston Box." I looked to see where the voice was coming from and to whom it belonged. Suddenly this big hulking figure, big enough to match the deep voice rose to his feet and began moving toward me. With a half laugh, this enigma said: "It caught my eye, too. It has a nice look to it." The image and the voice belonged to Orson Wells.

Wells was in the shop having some special cards cut for a show he was going to tape at the Merv Griffin Theater just a few blocks from Joe Berg's Magic Shop. Wells politely removed the coin box from the showcase and showed me a move with it. That was quite a day-just me, Orson, and Joe Berg, talking a little magic. That was also one great magic shop. One I will never forget.

Don't miss the Ring 76 Auction
Monday June 14th, 7 pm
Jack's Magic Place
4275 University Ave.

Message from the President



I hope you all noticed and took advantage of the special teach-in program last month that was presented by Phil Tuttle prior to the start of our regular meeting. Phil is one of those special people who so willingly give of his time and talent whenever he is called upon. I have already received some very kind comments on his efforts. We are hoping to continue this feature each month before our regular meetings begin. We will try to announce who will be presenting the various teach-in sessions each month in the newsletter.

Of course, if you would like to volunteer to teach a move or trick or just answer questions from our members, we will work you into our schedule of instructors. All of this is an effort to teach members how to be better magicians. We can all learn something new. So take the time to attend or be part of these teaching sessions. They begin about 6:30 and end shortly before the meeting starts at 7 pm. Drop me an email or call and let me know if you can volunteer for this worthwhile effort.

As many of you know, the month of May was a very difficult one for me health-wise and because of several days in the hospital several times during the month and a serious infection, I have not been able to attend some meetings. I am taking some new medication and am feeling better. In fact I have decided to fly to Alaska and attend a family reunion during Memorial Day. I will be back home and ready for business on June 7th, so feel free to call me after that date. I just

want to say "thank you" for all the concern and well wishes. Your kindness has not gone unnoticed.

Bob Ingalls and Jack White are working hard to put together our installation banquet, which will be held Sunday July 11th, at Dave & Busters nightclub under the 805 bridges in Mission Valley off Highway 8. We will have a map in next month's newsletter for those of you planning on attending. Bob & Jack are lining up a great show and will present the Ring awards for 2004. We will also be honoring our two new lifetime members, Jack Evans and Joe Bertuzzi. The new board of directors for the coming year will be installed on that evening as well. There will be several surprises so make plans to attend. The installation banquet will serve as our regularly scheduled meeting for the month of July and will begin at 5 pm. Dinner will be served at 5:30 pm.

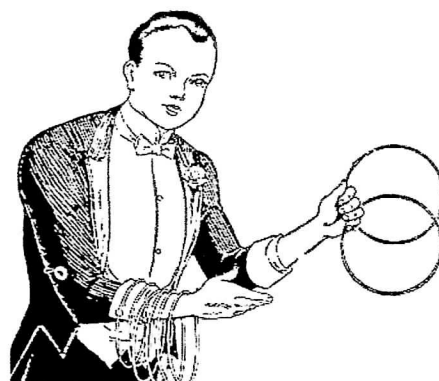
I want to thank our entire membership for putting their trust in me and re-electing me to a second term as President of Ring 76. For me this is a great honor, and I hope to help the Ring grow in many new ways in the year ahead. With that said, I also want to thank the members of the executive committee, as well as the general membership, who have done so much in the year just past to continue to make ours one of the best Rings in the International Brotherhood of Magicians. I am indebted to all of you for your many efforts.

I will be attending the **IBM Convention** in Cleveland, Ohio June 29th to July 3rd.

In the meantime keep the magic that is Ring 76 in your hearts.

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
prestooone@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

A big congratulations to **Dr. Joel Moskowitz**, who has once again added another writing award to his collection of honors. This time he received the 2004 award for writing from the San Diego Society of Professional Journalists. We are happy to report that Joel will continue to write for MagiCurrents even though he is vacating his position on the Ring board of directors.

Terry Godfrey is including the **San Diego County Fair** at Del Mar in his list of fair shows this year. Terry will be performing at three different locations at the fair. In the morning at 11:30 he will appear at the Sneetches Stage, at 1:30 & 2:30 pm., he will be at the Whoville Stage, and at 3:30 pm., he will be on the stage sponsored by Ralph's Grocery stores in the infield of the racetrack. His comedy magic presentation is always worth taking time out to watch. He reminds us that because the fair has such a long run, it is closed on Mondays to give the performers and exhibitors a rest. The fair runs June 11th to July 5th.

Magician **Joel Ward** received the Junior Achievement Award for Excellence for 2003 from the **Academy of Magical Arts, Inc.** The award was presented at the Henry Fonda Music Box Theater on Hollywood Blvd., in Hollywood. Joel began doing magic when he was 14. He currently is attending Mira Costa College and will receive his AA Degree in general studies in June. Joel lives in the North County community of Cardiff.

Another former Ring 76 Junior Magician has made it to the big time. **Steve Wheeler's** "Magic



on Ice" opened May 14th at the Sand Castle in Tamon, Guam. Steve has added two tigers to his new show. He is booked at the Sand Castle through January 2005.

It seems as though there are so many magic related journals to read each month that many good articles go unread because we don't have the time to digest them all. With that said, I urge you to get a hold of the June issue of Smithsonian magazine. There is an excellent story about the "Wizard of Odd" **Ricky Jay**. There are several hints in this three-page article that Ricky may be considering retiring from performing. If you are a magician it's almost imperative that you can say, "Yes, I saw Ricky Jay's one man show!" It appears from the article that that opportunity may be fleeting.

We are sorry to report that **Mark Hendrickson**, who for many years was the master of ceremonies at Magic Island in Newport Beach and a longtime magician on cruise ships, died in May; he was 53. Many will best remember Mark as the man who played five-different aliens in the TV series "Babylon Fire." He had just recently sold a script to a major Hollywood studio. Hendrickson died of a stroke at his father's home in Orange County.

Briefs

The Orange County Fair in Costa Mesa will sponsor a **Junior Magicians Contest** at the Youth Building Stage, Saturday, July 17th at 5 pm. The contest is open to young magicians ages 7 through 18. You must register by phone (714) 708-1681 before July 9th. Judging and awards ceremony will be immediately following each age group. This contest is open to San Diego area magicians. We are told performers may use an assistant, background music, and up to three illusions.

Ring member **Neal Reed** announced he has taken a new research job in Louisiana and will leave San Diego in July or August. He hopes his work in scientific research will in the future bring him back to Southern California. He says he will not be riding his motorcycle to Louisiana. We all wish Neal the best and let him know he is always welcome at Ring 76.

J.P. Jackson and **Marcus Day** attended the "Magic Collectors Weekend" in Kansas City, Missouri, in early May. J.P. says the weather was hot and humid and included a lot of thunder, lightning, and rain. In spite of the weather, J.P. came home with some new older magic treasures. Ask him about them at our next meeting.

Michael E. Johnson, is presenting a magic show and magic class for beginners on July 4th beginning at 3 pm at Grape Day Park in Escondido. Show and class are open to everyone.

Sumit Dua, is taking the summer off from medical school and is in India studying medical practices in that country. He will also be visiting magic shops there.

Coming Attractions

June 14th meeting at Jack's Magic Place, 4275 University Avenue, 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. Pre meeting at 6:30 with Phil Tuttle again leading the teach-in. Meeting at 7 pm.

June 29th 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, June 21, a week earlier than usual. 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