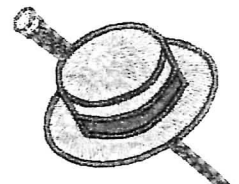


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Dean of American Magicians, Jay Marshall dies

Jay Marshall, the Dean of American Magicians whose accomplishments – from appearing 14 times on “The Ed Sullivan Show” to playing New York’s Palace and London’s Palladium – died Tuesday evening May 10th; he was 85. The cause of death, according to one of his two sons, was a heart attack.



Jay Marshall & Lefty
in 1992

Elected the Dean of American Magicians in 1992, he will keep the title until his wand is broken at his gravesite in a magicians’ ritual.

He was only the

eighth dean in the 102-year history of the Society of American Magicians.

Jay Marshall was an enduring hit from vaudeville to Broadway to Las Vegas, where he opened for Frank Sinatra in one of his early appearances there. He was also a writer, editor, and collector of all things magic, as well as the owner of Magic Inc., a popular Chicago supply house for magicians.

In 1957, as part of the last variety bill to play vaudeville’s legendary Palace Theater, he occupied the most prestigious place on the bill: the spot next to the closing act. During World War II, Jay served in the Army in the South Pacific and developed his first

puppet when he found it was impossible to take along a ventriloquist’s dummy. He made the puppet from an Army sock and the ears from its mate.

His first wife was Naomi Baker, whose father was magician Al Baker. Marshall met Naomi at a magic convention. That marriage ended in divorce, and in the 1950s he married Francis Ireland, whose first husband owned Ireland’s Magic Shop in Chicago. Frances, widely respected as a magic writer, merchant, and performer, died in 2002, after 48 years of marriage.

Jay Marshall was a regular fixture at magic conventions throughout the country and took the time to talk with everyone. Many Ring 76 members had a strong friendship and bond with Mr. Marshall. Bob Ingalls would often times at Las Vegas magic gatherings sneak off from the convention to play “Let it Ride,” a card game in the casino. Sometimes the two of them would travel to several casinos before they found a table they thought was right.



Jack White, Jay Marshall, Billy McComb
and Bob Ingalls at a Desert Magic Seminar
in 2001.

Ingalls remembers it was he who introduced Marshall to the game of “Let it Ride.” Bob says one afternoon several years ago in Las Vegas, he was at

(Continued on page 7)

58 members and guests turn out for the May stage competition at Ring 76

Our May 9th meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. sharp by President Diane Lane, who made a series of brief announcements and introduced Donna Greenbaum, who heads up this year's election committee. Donna then read the list of candidates seeking office in Ring 76 for the coming year: President, Bob Ingalls; 1st Vice President, Terry Lunceford; 2nd Vice President, Kenny Shelton; Secretary, Jack White; Treasurer, Richard Ustick; Sgt at Arms/Librarian, Sal Barajas. Diane Lane will become the immediate past president and member at large. A floor nomination put Jacques Lord on the list of candidates as a member at large. The nominations were approved by the membership and the election committee will place them before the membership for a final vote at the June 9th meeting.

There were several guests attending the May



Tom Owen-Towle
and his wife

meeting, and they were introduced. Tom Owen-Towle, has rekindled his interest in magic and brought his wife to the meeting. He is considering becoming a member. Jeff Marcus, our Territorial Vice President, has a friend and IBM

member from Minnesota visiting. We had a number of exciting raffle prizes, so the raffle was conducted with much flair and fanfare. One of the winners was past Ring 76 President Don Soul. We thank everyone for taking part in our monthly raffle; the money helps to defray costs of keeping the Ring operating smoothly.



"It's my number!"

Don Soul and winning ticket. Donna Soul looks on

Our first vice president in charge of entertainment, Bob Ingalls, then took over the meeting. Bob had all of the people who wanted to take part in the

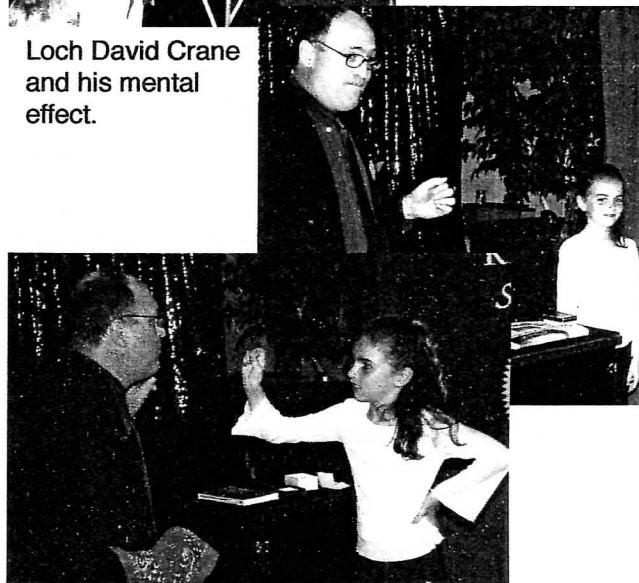
contest preregister so he could make up a show order. Bob was very careful in introducing each member just by his or her name so that each person was treated the same. Ballots were handed out to members only at the door when they arrived for the meeting. Each member had the opportunity to vote for the performer of his or her choice.

The winners of both the close-up contest held last February and the stand-up contest will be announced at our Installation and Awards Banquet to be held on Sunday, July 10th, at Dave and Busters in Mission Valley. There is a story on the banquet elsewhere in this newsletter.

Each performer did a great job with his or her act, and we saw some very different magic from several of our regular members. Rather than describe each act we will let the photographs of the various performers tell the story of our May, stand-up contest.



Loch David Crane
and his mental effect.



Jacques Lord and his daughter Phoebe made her debut as his assistant doing the needles from the mouth effect.



Diane Lane and a flashy ending to her act



John London with a sensational interlude with a magic rope



The ever popular Mago Ruly and a very funny magic routine



Top magician Joe Mystic and one of the most entertaining Pom Pom stick routines anywhere



Bob Wilkinson from St. Paul, Minn., was the guest of Jeff Marcus.



A wild and wacky new look and routine for Michael E. Johnson

Ring 76 Stand-up Competition 2005



Phoebe Lord making her first public appearance as dad's assistant in a magic act.



All of our contestants: Joe Mystic, Mago Ruly, Diane Lane, Michael E. Johnson, Jacques Lord & daughter Phoebe, John London, and, kneeling, Loch David Crane

Magic notes from:



Two stories about magic and dedication

If you attend the San Diego Symphony concerts, you know that Lyn Dillies, a perky, attractive, lady magician, appeared on Mother's Day with her program titled "Magic at the Symphony." Lyn is from New Bedford, Massachusetts and brought a truckload of illusions, lighting effects, and sound system to Symphony Hall. Lyn is one of a handful of magicians who perform regularly with various symphonies around the country.

She started out like most of us doing birthday party shows and built her act and company into the major operation it is today. Her hour-long program featuring seven major illusions and a dozen smaller effects filled all of the 2200 seats at Symphony Hall for the one time only performance.

This lady magician has a staff of four that move and help



Singing Star Patti Page was in the audience and posed with Lyn after the show back stage at Symphony Hall.

with the show. She studied violin as a child before she became interested in magic, and that accounts for her interest in music. She has had more than a dozen pieces of concert orchestra music arranged for her program that has toured some of the nation's top symphony venues.

Performing with a full symphony orchestra is not as easy as it sounds. The area on the stage is less than 14 feet wide and getting the illusions on and off the stage gracefully is a trick all by itself. But Lyn and her staff have worked out the details and have a very lively program.

The program opened a drum roll and with Lyn actually producing the orchestra conductor from an empty cabinet. Throughout the program there was a lot of interaction between the magician and the conductor, making for a very lighthearted afternoon of music and magic.

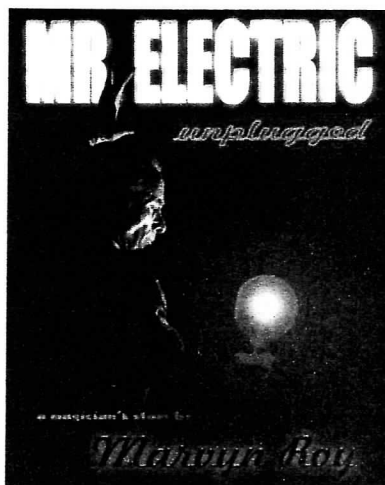


Lyn Dillies with assistant Marc LeBlanc at the conclusion of their illusion show.

"Magic at the Symphony" was such a success that San Diego

Symphony officials are already talking about bringing Lyn Dillies and her magic back to this city for the Summer Pops Concerts in 2006. If the dates work out, we should make it a Ring 76 Night at the Summer Pops.

Lyn Dillies is successful because she is dedicated to good magic and good music and was able to combine the two arts. That brings me to another person who is dedicated to magic, "Mr. Electric" Marvyn Roy. His new book, "Mr. Electric Unplugged," has just been released by Mike Caveney's Magic Words publishing company, and it is one of those books you can't put down.



The cover of Marvyn Roy's new book about his life in magic.

You are not going to learn any tricks by reading this book, but you will learn how a dedicated Youngman, who wanted to be a magician, found his way to the top of his profession and stayed there for 35 years. There were the days when he was a boy growing up in Los Angeles, and his mentor, Ray Muse, helped him put together his first act with silks.

There are all the stories about his act on ice skates, how he met one of the best assistants in magic, his wife Carol, then the Mr. Electric act and his round the world

bookings. His appearances on television, including the Ed Sullivan Show, are there, along with the act with the Diamonds and all of the exciting stories about his days working in Las Vegas when it was a wide-open town.

With the hundreds of stories in the book, there are photographs to complement the words. Marv must have kept very complete notes or he has a photographic memory, because he seems to have covered all of the



Marvyn & Carol Roy
in performance 1960s

little details and the names of people he met and worked with along the way. This book is a piece of show business history, and is a very fast read. In fact, it went too fast, I wanted more when I finished the last page.

I have read about and watched Marvyn Roy & Carol work their various acts for years at shows and magic conventions. But now that I have read about some of what they had to go through to make it in show business, I hold them in even higher esteem. This is a must-read book for anyone wanting to know about magic as a business and for those who just enjoy a backstage look at a showman's life. Be sure to plug this book into your summer reading schedule.

The IBM Convention:

If you have been reading your Linking Ring Magazine during the past several months you know that, as the IBM Public Relations Officer, I have been writing a lot about the annual convention coming up later this month in Reno, Nevada. Bob Ingalls, Don Soul, and I are all convention committee members this year, and we have been able to watch this event come together. I believe I can say without a doubt this is going to be a true highwater mark for magic conventions.

Almost everything is located in the beautiful Reno Hilton Hotel & Casino. The dealer's room is going to be gigantic, and it will feature an area with tables and chairs, so you can sit down and talk with friends or purchase a sandwich or a drink and share the moment with others at the convention. The lecture halls will have graduated seating so you can see what is going on at all times, and there will be big-screen TV to give you a truly close-up look at the material presented.

The giant showroom at the Hilton Casino is being turned over to the IBM for the entire run of the convention and some of the best International performers, as well as some of the top names in magic from this country, will be showing off their talents at this convention during the evening shows on one of the largest stages in the country.

A special event for this convention will be a bus tour of Reno itself and a stop at Mark & Jinger Kalin's new Underground Magic Theater. You will be able to tour their museum and see the show. All of this is part of the convention and will not cost you any additional fees. That is something you do not find at other magic conventions these days.

Mel Kientz, the IBM Convention Chairman, has built some exciting surprises into this year's convention that will add to truly making this the "Greatest Magic Convention on Earth." The dates are June 28 through July 2nd. There are already reports that rooms at the hotel are unavailable if you call the hotel itself. Mel is now suggesting that you go to the IBM Web site magician.com and book your room through the site. That seems to be working for now. This year's convention has been limited to just 1200 people, and it is filling up fast.

If you have not registered yet and would like to contact Roger Wicks, at ibmreno2005@yahoo.com, or you can phone him directly at 937-826-1133 but don't wait too long! I will have a full report with pictures in the July edition of MagiCurrents.

Magician
Terry Lunceford
supports
The IBM & Ring 76

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

Ring 76 Library Report by Sal Barajas

David Stone Coin Magic Volumes 1-2

Here is an excellent video series on coin magic by french magician David Stone. I highly recommend these tapes to anybody serious about improving their skill with coins. I believe that even the seasoned coinjurer can learn a thing or two from Mr. Stone. Included are coin routines with pens, glasses, cards, and even spectators. Most are original and old effects have been refreshed and performed in a new way. The highlight from this collection, at least for me, is not so much the routines themselves, but rather the execution of his sleights (ie, he has the best Bobo switch that I have seen to date). Besides teaching the basics of coin magic, he also shows transfers and subtleties which are not found in the more popular video series on this subject matter.

Here are the contents of the video series:

Volume 1: The Wallet Pen, A Little Trick, Bridal Journey, Guarded Hunt, The H.P.C Travel, Copper Silvered, Star Travel, The End Of The World, Never 2 Without 4

Volume 2: One Way, The Glove, I Want You, Cash Money, Fire, Dr. Card And Miss Money, Cocktail Matrix, Smile Land.



Our Ring library is always open immediately following Ring meetings. Sal Barajas was very busy following the May meeting checking books and video tapes out to members.

We also have other titles in our Video/DVD library and I highly recommend that our Ring members take full advantage of this service.

Our Ring library has many volumes on a variety of subjects ranging from mental magic, comedy, stage illusions, silk magic-you name it, we have a book to cover your needs.

We also have an excellent collection of videotapes covering just about every phase of magic you can think of or want to know more about.

Members do need an active library card to check out books and videotapes. To get an active card requires nothing more than filling out a form. See me at the next meeting for any help you might need in getting signed up or in locating a book or video tape that you might need.

I should also mention that Ring 76 does accept donations of used books, videos and DVDs for our ever-growing library. If you have something you no longer want, please consider a donation to the Ring library.

Salomon A. Barajas
Ring 76 Librarian

"MagiToon"

by Jim Whiting & Ellen Friedman



"What type of cups do you prefer, tall, grande or vente?"

Jay Marshall Tribute Continued

the table playing what was then a new game, Bob, felt someone watching over his shoulder it was Jay Marshall, and he wanted to know how to play the game. After a few pointers, Bob told him to sit down, put up a hundred dollars, and get his feet wet. Jay became very adept at losing, but he loved to play "Let it Ride." That was the start of a very close relationship which Bob will always cherish among his magical memories.

Bob spoke to Jay by phone just two days before he went into the hospital and Jay was excited about the IBM Convention in Reno because they could take an afternoon or two to play "Let it Ride."

At a Desert Magic Seminar in 1999, Jay Marshall accepted Jack White's invitation to join a group of Ring 76 members for breakfast and regaled the group with stories about magic and magicians of the past. Jay's presence at the breakfast table attracted the attention of his friend and veteran magician, John Calvert, who joined the group and added to the many stories that were flying about the table.



Diane Lane &
Jay Marshall
2004

Diane Lane, was also a good friend, and the two would often times spend

time talking at various magic events. When asked how he became the Dean of American Magicians he said he asked: "What do the dean do?" The president of the SAM said: "As far as I know the dean don't do nothin'." Jay Marshall quickly responded: "Then's the job for me!"



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Paul Daniel's "The Magic of Max Malini"

by Greg Wauson

I saw in the Magic Castle newsletter that on April 24th, Paul Daniels would be performing the magic of Max Malini, a show he had recently performed in London. I'd never seen Paul Daniels and wasn't familiar with the magic of Max Malini but I'd heard good things about both of them so decided to pony up the \$40 ticket price and see for myself.

Rich Robertson and I made the trek up to Hollywood for the 3:00 show in the Parlor Theater. First was a brief and impressive introduction to Paul's popularity as the most famous magician in Great Britain due to his many years on TV and performing in theaters. Then Paul came out wearing a sharp all-black suit, tie, and fedora and carrying a clear glass tube containing a red silk. The silk visibly and instantly



Paul Daniel's as
Max Malini

vanished. He explained this was the effect Max Malini typically opened with. He then shared some historical remarks about Max, i.e., he was born in the early 1880s, was a swindler and a street performer who somehow came to circulate among high society. He died in 1943. Paul studied a foot-tall stack of documents about Max to present him as accurately as he could.

Paul was very friendly and personable. He explained that the "how" of the tricks would not be shared, but for each effect he would look and sound as much like Max Malini as possible. He took on a strong accent and the mannerisms of how Max probably appeared. He came out of character between the tricks and gave an introduction of each.

Malini primarily did basic material which would be familiar to most magicians. What seems to have set him apart from other magicians and allowed him to achieve a high level of popularity was his chutzpah. In today's parlance, Max went for it and this opened the door for him to perform in upscale venues. Other Malini tricks Paul presented were:

1. Water and Whiskey: A shotglass was filled with water, another one was filled with whiskey. A playing card was placed on one, then turned upside down

on the other. He put a paper screen marked with "water" and "whiskey" to show the order of the liquids, in front of them. He then removed the paper and showed the liquids had changed places.

2. All for one: Many people each selected a card, seen only by them, and returned it to the deck. Each of them stood up when Paul named a card, showing each had "coincidentally" selected the same card.

3. Vanishing glass: He wrapped a full sheet of newspaper around a glass and put a coin under it. The glass then vanished. This is usually done today with just a napkin but Paul's use of a full newspaper sheet somehow made the trick play bigger and was more effective.

4. Egg bag: Paul prefaced this one with a tip. Many illusionists perform the first illusion in their act and get lots of applause, next is another illusion and again, lots of applause. The third effect is also a large illusion, and he gets a little less applause, another illusion and still less applause. The point is it is wise to vary the performance and have a slower, more thoughtful effect in the middle of the show to add depth to the show. With that, he began a convincing, and purposely slow, performance of the egg bag. A Malini one, of course.

5. Block of ice from hat under the guise of seeing if a coin on the table under the hat is heads or tails up.

Overall, this was a very educational and enjoyable show which is probably the closest we can get to seeing the actual Max Malini.

After the show we had dinner and then wandered downstairs to the W.C. Fields bar area. We were there by ourselves until who other than Paul Daniels joined us. Just the three of us talked for about ten minutes. Or should I say that Rich and I just listened. We were amazed to hear that Paul has performed for as many as 12,000 people at one event and insisted on not using a video camera and a large screen. The reason? He thinks it's too much like the audience is watching TV and therefore they will not respond with applause. Meeting with this great gentleman of magic was a real privilege.

Rich and I also had the pleasure of talking with Nani Darnell for about ten minutes. She had some fascinating stories about "The Magic Land of Alakazam." For instance, some of the illusions still had wet paint when they were being used. Sometimes there



Back row: Greg Wauson, Rich Robertson,
front row: Paul Daniels, Debbie Daniels
Nani Wilson and Mark Wilson

was no time for rehearsals; they just did them and they usually came off looking very good. I had brought a digital camera since there could be an off-chance I'd be able to take a picture of Paul Daniels. After the show I saw someone was taking a picture of him and I asked him if I could also. He was very gracious in bending the Magic Castle rules in letting us take pictures. In fact, Mark Wilson and Nani Darnell were also very kind to join a group picture with Paul and his wife Debbie and Rich and me. Nani said she would like a copy of the pictures I took and everyone traded email addresses. Today I received a thank you email from Paul Daniels. This man is a class act.

These experiences at the Magic Castle made for a good investment of forty bucks.

(Editors note: MagiCurrents wants to thank Greg Wauson for taking the time to share the above experience with our Ring 76 membership. We invite all members to submit articles to this publication.)

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June meeting brings Ring 76 auction & election

We will have a full agenda for our June meeting. Dues, which are \$25 dollars per year, are due and payable at the June meeting. For those not paying at the meeting, the Ring 76 Treasurer Richard Ustick will bill you later in the month.

It is also time to elect new officers and President. There will be one last opportunity for nominations from the floor for any of the offices. The new officers will be installed July 10th at the Installation and Awards Banquet to be held at Dave & Buster's in Mission Valley. There is more on the installation banquet elsewhere in this newsletter.

With the business out of the way, we will begin our annual Ring 76 auction. This year a nice supply of magic has been donated to the club to be auctioned off, with all the proceeds going to the Ring treasury. We recently received a large magic videotape library, a portion of which will be auctioned off in small lots at very low prices. Here is an opportunity to get those tapes you have always wanted to own at a fraction of their retail price.

We are also encouraging members to bring items to be auctioned off at this event. The Ring will take a flat 10 percent of the "hammer" price for an item. We do ask that if you do bring items to be auctioned that you include a description of the item, if it is complete, with or without instructions and a starting bid. Jack White will once again be our auctioneer, and if you have ever attended one of his auctions, you know he goes very quickly and does not haggle over prices. If Jack thinks you are through he sells the item.

Richard Ustick will keep a running tab of the sales so to help him out in this thankless task, we ask that everyone who has items to sell gives Richard a list of what you are offering. We also ask that people who are bidding on items hold up their number so that Richard can record who made the purchase. We will again be accepting credit cards as a form of payment for items purchased. We will also accept cash and personal checks.

You may find just the items you have been looking for in this auction, so be sure you plan to attend this exciting evening.

View from the Cheap Seats



By Jon A. Hand

Hello, again! I hope this finds you having enjoyed a great Memorial Day weekend as we move toward summer. Last month I mentioned briefly several online magic discussion boards which are available on the Internet. This month I will begin a thumbnail sketch of each of several of the better-known magic bulletin boards in hopes of getting you interested in magic discussions.

When first entering a magic bulletin board, take the time to read its rules. Some boards require a free membership (registration) that includes a self-written profile so that others can know something about your skill level and magical background. Other boards have no such restrictions. Virtually all serious boards have rules forbidding profanity, restricting off-topic postings (such as political or religious discussions), and preventing complete revelation of secrets. Administrators and moderators can edit or remove offending posts, but such events happen relatively rarely. While complete secrets cannot be bandied about freely, discussion among those who know secrets can be productive in tips, handlings, patter suggestions, bibliographic references, and much more.

Magic bulletin boards generally come in one of two types. We will examine type differences and then discuss "type one" boards this month.

Type one is an open board where all relatively recent messages are viewable by their titles. Such boards are easy to use, as messages can be read and answered quickly, rather than your having to enter a general topic heading and then read messages. This quality gives the board immediacy, and people often respond within moments to one's messages. Discussions tend to involve more people because their headings are not hidden within menus and submenus. One downside is that such boards often have only 300 - 500 messages active at one time, and newer messages cause the oldest ones to drop off the end of the board into cyber oblivion. Another downside is that it is harder to find a discussion in which you wish to

join without reading many messages. Two of the oldest magic bulletin boards still active on the Internet, **Conjuror Conversation Corner** and **MagicTalk**, both use this format.

Type two is a board divided into headings and subheadings that must be navigated to find the messages. Use of the board is a bit slower, but specific subjects can be found easily. Messages tend to remain in place for a much longer time in this type of board, but some of the immediacy is removed. Fewer people join individual discussions because they tend to frequent their favorite headings rather than read everything on the bulletin board. Boards using this newer format include **Genii Forum**, **Magic Café**, **MagicBunny UK Forum**, and **Kevin James Magic Board**, to name only a few.

Conjuror Conversation Corner is part of a much larger site called **Conjuror**. My first experience in online magic discussion was here back in 1997, and it remains a friendly board. At one time, CCC was a very active board, but the proliferation of other magic bulletin boards has slowed its activity considerably. Host of the site is New York professional performer Neil Alexander, but his full performing schedule has led to his turning over some of the administrative duties of the board to others. As a long-time participant in CCC, I have been granted Co-Administrator status at CCC, and so I often act as host or first responder to a post by someone else. No membership is necessary to post at CCC, and its relatively slow activity means that serious discussions can go on here without much interference from ill-informed or haughty posters. In recent years, a good many beginners have posted questions at CCC. Neil and I try to answer with patience, putting such beginners on the path to learning magic the correct way. However, CCC was, and can be again, much more than a site for beginners. Come give it a try, and let's talk magic. To get there, type into your Web browser: <http://www.conjuror.com/>. When you arrive, find the link for *Magic Discussion Forum*. In the CCC forum, click upon any message that looks interesting, and you will be able to read it. Messages are threaded downward in reverse order from their posting, so you will be able to follow a thread, or topic idea, by moving down the Web page in indented order, seeing responses. You can add a response at any point in the discussion. You also have the option of being notified by email if someone responds to your posting so that you can come back to read it in the future. From the full **Conjuror** site there are sections on Neil's magic, free tricks for beginners, an FAQ for Beginners on what books to choose and how to practice, four old rare magic manuscripts to

read, a magic store aimed at pros rather than beginners, and a Classified Ad section for buying and selling used magic.

MagicTalk, formed 1998, has been a very active magic bulletin board. Over the years, a good many working pros have frequented this board, responding to questions, offering tips, and making suggestions. MT has a required registration and profile, but these are quick and easy. I have had very little spam generated from my participation in **Conjuror Conversation Corner** and **MagicTalk**, so I feel very comfortable in recommending these sites to you. Host of the site is professional performer Bryan Dean, and he often takes an active role in discussions. MT can be a bit "catty" as some of the younger posters irritate the older, more experienced performers, or vice versa. Some of the respected pros don't come to MT anymore because the environment has become more hostile than it used to be, probably due to overconfidence from some of the new participants. Still, at its best, MT has some productive and worthwhile discussions. For example, I made friends with Dick Ustick of Ring 76 through MT discussions, and I began writing this column in 1999 at his behest. The full MT site includes a bookstore, Beginner Magic information, a live-in-real-time "chat room" to type instant conversations, and a large *MT Reviews* area that gives user and participant reviews of magic books, videos, props, and effects. To get there, type into your web browser: <http://www.magictalk.com/>. After clicking through three pages of rules (do read them), you arrive at the main site. There are two frames, an upper frame showing the messages in order by title and poster, and a lower frame showing the text of any message you choose in the upper frame. This double frame system makes navigating MT a bit easier than CCC, but only marginally so. Blue links will take you to customizable viewing options, profile reading (and posting one for yourself), and the aforementioned chat room and review sections.

Conjuror and **MagicTalk** are great ways to get yourself involved in magic discussions online. Do come join us at either site, and throw in your two cents worth of opinion, suggestion, or constructive criticism. Next month, we examine the "type two" bulletin board with its subject headings and subheadings.

Jon A. Hand invites you to discuss magic with him at Conjuror Conversation Corner and MagicTalk, or just to email him to talk magic anytime:
jonahand@hotmail.com.

Plan to attend the July Installation & Awards Banquet at Dave & Busters

The final planning is being put into place for our July 10th Installation and Awards Banquet that will be held at Dave & Busters in Mission Valley. Richard Ustick and Greg Wauson, with the help of others, have worked hard to overcome some of the problems we had last year at this same restaurant and club.

For starters, we will be served a sit-down dinner instead of a buffet. The waitstaff will begin serving salad at 5:15 with social hour beginning at 4:45 p.m. The cost is \$20. per person and will include salad, grilled chicken with mixed vegetables and potato or rice. Dessert will include raspberry chocolate parfait. Beverages are included, coffee, ice tea, or soft drinks. We have arranged for an extra waitperson to make sure that everyone is taken care of in proper fashion. Dave and Buster's will make a vegetarian plate available when requested.

It is important that we begin to have an idea of how many people will attend. One of our problems last years was that more people showed up than we had been told to plan for. So please let Richard Ustick know that you are planning on attending. We will have more on that in the July newsletter.

For entertainment we have booked Randy Pryor whose award winning comedy magic act is well respected at the Magic Castle, in Hollywood, and in Las Vegas. This high energy, fast paced, stage show will be the icing on the cake for this special evening for Ring 76 members. We also remind you that Randy will be presenting his close-up lecture the evening following the banquet at Jack's Magic Place at 7 p.m., Monday, July 11th. That lecture is "free" to all Ring members.

Our new Ring President Bob Ingalls and the new board of directors will be installed, followed by the handing out of awards for close-up performer, stand-up performer, performer of the year and member of the year. We will also honor two longtime Ring 76 members Bob Pozner and Vi Freeland as Lifetime Members of Achievement. You can also look forward to a few surprises along the way during this special evening.

Plan to bring your significant other or a guest because this is our one big event of the year, and we promise an exciting evening of fun and magic.

Message from the President



Hello Ring 76'ers,

Well guys, my term as President is coming to an end soon. I will miss the position a lot and will look forward to running for president, again in the future.

Some of the highlights of my term were receiving the award of "Magician of the Year" from the "Fellowship of Honorable Magicians."

Not only did I receive the honor from my fellow magicians, I received proclamations from Congress, Senators, the Mayor, the "Magic Castle," SAM, IBM, and more. The award itself was mind-blowing to me and lead to the wonderful honor of being featured on the cover of IBM's monthly magazine "The Linking Ring" in the January 2004 issue.

I had a few goals in office. One of them was more hands-on magic instruction. We worked to create a platform for monthly teach-ins by having our members lead the "teach-ins" from 6:30-6:55pm in the club. We have had great instruction giving all the members a chance for one-on-one help. This has turned out to be popular and well-received. Another goal of mine was to see more volunteer work in the community. It is still a work in progress and will be something that I will give more time to when I move to the "Past President" position. It was great seeing "Magic Mike" and Dan Thomas at the "Cancer kids" walk in the Embarcadero this last weekend.

The board has worked hard to keep the dues at the same amount that we've charged for the last 5 years at \$25.00 per year. We have had a few postage increases without raising the dues! We still have our two free lectures a year, again without any increases in the dues.

We will have a wonderful sit down dinner for our Installation Banquet in July at "Dave and Busters." We have great entertainment lined up for a fun evening. Make your reservations now with Richard Ustick, our treasurer.

The board is also working on a summer picnic for our members and families. We are thinking of inviting the members of the Rings in So. Ca to our picnic as well. We'll keep you posted.

Thank you for your support these last two years.

Diane Lane
President, Ring 76



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

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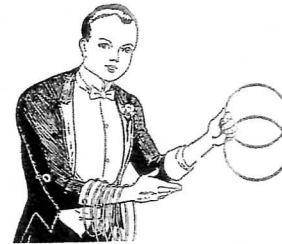
Member of Society of American Magicians Since 1974

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News

In the bad news department, **Gary Salisbury** slipped and fell into his Jacuzzi and broke his right leg. He has been hopping around on one leg and trying to live with the pain for about three weeks. Doctors were forced to put several steel pins in his leg to hold everything together. There will be a second operation in June to remove some of the pins. In the meantime, Gary is trying to catch up on some of his magic reading and DVD watching. If you want to drop him a note, his email is: gds@san.rr.com.

Jeff Marcus won the 1st place award in the Magic Guild of the North County's "Brown Bag Night." A number of offbeat tricks are put in brown bags; guests select one and are then given a few minutes to come up with a routine. Jeff's clever mind came up with the most entertaining of the evening.

The always-busy **Michael E. Johnson** will be appearing on June 12th at the California Center for the Performing Arts in Escondido at a show that is open to the public. He is appearing on behalf of the "Family Day" program. Michael will be at the center between 1 and 3 p.m. Michael also has a full schedule of magic classes this summer for a special YMCA program in the North County. For times and more information go to Michael's Web site, sandiegomagicnews.com.

Mike Stilwell and **Dan Thomas** from the Gathering Restaurant, along with **Diane Lane**, volunteered their time to



entertain at the "Cancer Kids" event at Seaport Village in late May. Each did strolling magic and helped to raise funds and awareness in the battle against cancer in children.

J.P. Jackson has been going through his garage looking for surplus magic to put in the Ring 76 auction coming up in June. J.P., who has been collecting magic all of his adult life, says he found a lot of things he forgot he had and is putting some great items in the auction.

Many Ring 76 members made the trek to Orange County and the Ring 313 Spring Picnic at **Todd Rise's** Puzzle Palace. Todd and his wife have collected puzzles of all kinds for years, and they are all on display at their home in Garden Grove. In addition to members of Ring 76, there were a number of Los Angeles IBM members attending this annual event.

The Art of Deception is a new exhibit that just opened at the Stephen Burch Aquarium and will run throughout the summer. The exhibit was produced by **Mike Stilwell** and will also feature him on some evenings doing magic. The art of deception deals with animals and sea life and how they can camouflage and hide from predators. Magic Mike adds another dimension to the

Briefs

deception portion of the program. Mike is also busy putting together the talent for the various shows for this summer's "Zoo Nights" programs. Sadly, magic is not a part of this summer's Zoo Nights Program.

Congratulations to **John Morehing**, the editor of Magic Magazine, who is leaving that publication to become the new editor of MUM for the Society of American Magicians monthly publication. In addition to being the editor of Magic Magazine, John has also been writing a new book about **Marshall Brodien** of TV magic set fame. Marshall has a very colorful history and was at one time a barker for a sideshow, in addition to his many other talents as a magician. It should be a fun book to read. We say good luck in your new venture, John.

The people who operated the server that sends our Ring 76 Web site out to anyone who wanted to tune it in, has gone out of business and that has caused the Web site to go dark.

Howard Harris and **Ken DeWoody** are trying to get registered with a more reliable outfit and get the site back up as soon as possible. We will have more information just as soon as the situation is straightened out again. This is only a temporary blackout of the site. We remind members to send pictures and material to **Howard Harris** for publication on the Ring 76 Web site.

Coming Attractions


June 13, Ring elections, dues are payable, and the famous Ring 76 auction. Mark your calendars for this exciting evening. Dues are \$25; if you cannot attend the meeting, send your check to 4288 Arguello St. San Diego, CA 92103. All checks should be made out to "Ring 76." Several new collections of magic and video tapes have arrived for our auction, making it a very special event.

July 10th, which is a Sunday, our Installation and Awards Banquet will be again held at Dave & Buster's Restaurant in their showroom. The evening will include a sitdown dinner, (everyone will be served at their table, avoiding last year's problem of running out of food) installation of new officers, awards presentation, and special entertainment. Details are coming.

August meeting will be something new. A Sunday afternoon meeting and picnic for members and their families at Mission Bay Park. Ring 76 will supply the food and soft drinks. Members will supply the show with a few surprises. Mark your calendar for Sunday, August 14th. More details coming.

Next Board of Directors meeting Monday, June 20, a week earlier than usual to accommodate those attending the IBM Convention in Reno, Nevada. The meeting will be at Jack's Magic Place at 7 p.m. sharp. These business meetings are open to all members interested in attending.

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