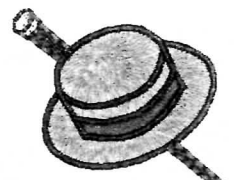


Ring 76 Chartered by the International Brotherhood of Magicians in 1948



MagiCurrents

San Diego, California



Recipient of the IBM's Quality Ring Award

Honest Sid Gerhart
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Honest Sid Gerhart Ring 76

Website
www.ring76.com

Volume XVIII 9 September 2005

Magic Day at the San Diego Blood Bank October 8th

For many years during the month of October, Ring 76 members have rolled up their sleeves and helped the San Diego Blood Bank by doing some strolling magic for the many people who roll up their sleeves and give the gift of life, whole blood.

Again this year Ring 76 is being asked to have its members donate an hour or two at one of the five community blood banks located throughout San Diego County; the date is Saturday, October 8th. you may select any time between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. and you may select the blood bank nearest your home.

There are donor centers in the North County, East County, South Bay and the Hillcrest area of San Diego. Last year 20 members of Ring 76 turned out to do some magic and make the day a special one for the people who donated blood.

This year the San Diego Blood Bank officials have told Ring 76

President Bob Ingalls that donations are barely keeping up with the demand and in real crisis periods the San Diego Blood Bank is being called upon to supply areas outside of their normal distribution area.

It is more important than ever that we heed this call to action and give our services so that the blood bank may

(Con't on page 7)



Bob Ingalls at Magic Day at the San Diego Blood Bank 2004

New Magic Shop opens in Escondido

Magician and businessman, John Paul Seirica has opened a new brick-and-mortar magic shop in Escondido. "The Grand Magic Shop" is located at 1807 South Escondido Blvd., and is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., daily and offers a nice line of magic tricks, videotapes and DVDs, books, joke and novelty items and juggling equipment. In the near future Seirica hopes to offer magic classes for all ages.

For more information on the shop itself you can visit the Grand Magic Shop Website at

www.grandmagicshop.com. John Paul who often goes by the initials "J.P." is quick to point out he is a co-owner in the magic shop enterprise with his wife, who also works behind the counter when her husband is out doing a magic show or taking care of other shop business.

The Seiricas moved to San Diego's North County about a year ago from the Santa Rosa area in Central California where he had worked as a performer and magic



Outside of the new Grand Magic Shop on Escondido Blvd., in Escondido.

(Con't on page 7)

Ring 76 celebrates summer with a special magic picnic in the park

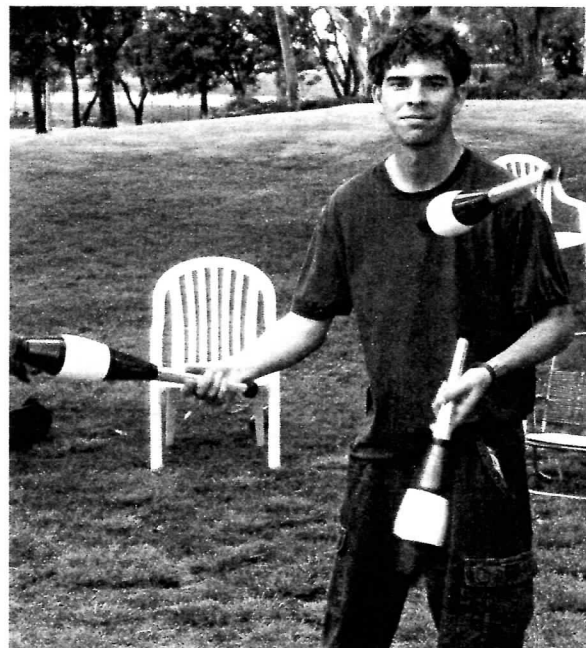
The Ring 76 meeting for August was a picnic with all of the food being furnished and prepared by Ring 76 members. About 56 members and their guests turned out for the Sunday event at Lindbergh Park in the Kearny Mesa area. Members were asked to bring some magic to present. Charlie Gott did his Ring on Rope, J.P. Jackson did a very funny effect he learned at the IBM Convention in Reno, Diane Lane was between shows and did a little strolling magic. Kenny Shelton stole the show with his juggling. He has truly polished his juggling skills and presented a nice act.

A special thanks to Josef Rennleitner, who furnished the Polish Sausage and helped with the cooking and many other catering chores for the picnic. Bob Ingalls and Jack White arrived at the park at 7 in the morning to secure a spot for the picnic and then transported in all of the equipment, including a large barbecue for this special summer meeting.

We thought we would let the photographs on this and the next page tell the story of the August meeting. September is an opportunity for members to perform a favorite trick, and we return to our regular meeting place at 4275 University Avenue.



J.P. Jackson (sitting) fixes magic trick for Toni Perrine, as Armando Torries, Loch Crane, Terry Lunceford and Marcus Day look on.



Kenny Shelton doing a portion of his juggling act that kept every one entertained.



Diane Lane & Cassie
(Diane in black, Cassie
in white.)



Right: Jack White
and Josef
Rennleitner keeping
the grill going with
Polish Sausage,
Hamburgers &
hot dogs.



Charlie Gott treating us to his Ring on Rope routine.



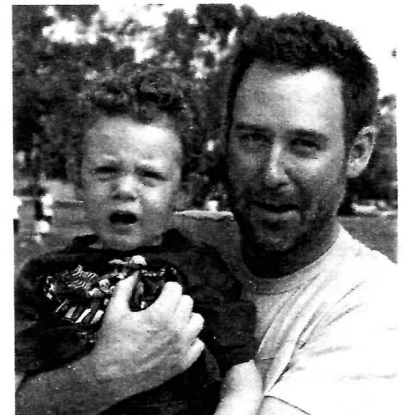
Visiting from Missouri Ring 76 member Phil King



Ready to help any way he could Howard Harris, joining the fun.



The cooking staff, Jack White, Kenny Shelton, Terry Lunceford, Josef Rennleitner, & Bob Ingalls. It took five people to get the food ready for the membership.



Ruben Pedilla and son enjoying a day in the park.



Mrs. Mago Ruly (a Mom & Clown)



Ed Greene shows Loch David Crane his latest close-up table, built out of a cast-off walker.



Charlie Gott, Phil King, Mago Ruly and wife, Armando Torries(standing) J.P. Jackson, Marcus Day, and Arlene Moskowitz at head of table enjoying lunch.

A tribute to a magician who changed my life

By Charlie Gott

I would like to pay tribute to my mentor, Ted Angell. Born in 1905 of show business parents, his Father an actor, musician, and artist, owned a traveling Tent Show called "Angells' Comedians." He moved the show to La Mesa, Calif, in 1910.

Ted was "born in the tray of a trunk in a dressing room" making his first stage appearance at the tender age of six weeks when he was substituted for the usual rag doll used in the act. By the time he was six years old the lights, bows, lusty yells, & of course the applause from the audience had him hooked on show business as a profession.

When the family moved to La Mesa, Ted's father would do magic for the kids as a hobby, so naturally, magic had an appeal to Ted and at an early age he began doing tricks to entertain himself.

At age 16 his mother died and his father took Ted and his sister out of school, and The Tent Show went on "road" again in the eastern part of the country.

Being short in stature, about 5', he grew up playing children's parts taking the character name "Toby" and old men character parts in his father's tent show plays. He was too small for "leading man" parts so fell into the comedy role. Ted also played violin, did comedy magic and sold candy that had a prize in every box between the acts of the tent show.



Ted Angell as he appeared in the 1950s and was part of Ring 76

Ted also became a ventriloquist, calling his figure-you guessed it-"Toby." He also painted in oil colors. While on the road he did a large 12"x15" painting of a clown that is now one of my prize possessions.

When the stock market crash of 1929 hit, Ted's father moved back to California, but continued with the traveling Tent Stock companies in the summer and presented shows during the winter months in the community of La Mesa in his tent. In the late 1930s when Ted's father died, Ted moved to East San Diego, having some business ventures in that part of the city. It was then he met his wife Bertha (Berta). Ted served his country during WW II in the Army doing USO Shows billed as "The Wacky Magician."

He was an officer of Ring 76" in San Diego, in the late 1940s when the Ring was formed. During this period of his life he contributed greatly to magic and was appointed Territorial Vice President of Southern California in 1951.

It was sometime in 1949 that Ted became a Christian and began performing mostly Gospel Magic in church and youth groups.

It was in 1963 that Ted and his wife Berta became close friends and my mentor, starting my journey in Gospel Magic. When Ted died he left me his wonderful magic props for which I will be eternally grateful. Most of all he left me knowledge and a wonderful hobby to share with others. Ted was a man who took the time to teach me a special area of magic.

Editor's note: We thank Charlie Gott for taking the time to share his memories of someone who helped him with his magic. If there is someone who helped you and you would like to share that story, please send it along to MagiCurrents for publication.

Magician
Terry Lunceford
supports
The IBM & Ring 76

Magic Book Review by Dr. Joel Moskowitz

"The Man Who Killed Houdini"



Many people have heard of Houdini and even know something of his untimely death at age 52. The man who had defied death succumbed to what today would be a treatable condition, a burst appendix. Lore has it that a Montreal McGill University student, acting on a boast that his body was so hardy that blows would be inconsequential, surprised Houdini with punches. A ripe infected appendix, which atypically was on his left side burst. The subsequent infection killed the man who repeatedly escaped from worldly confines.

Fewer know that Houdini anticipated his death or that a psychic predicted his doom. Even less are acquainted with the still unproven theory that Houdini was killed by vengeful mediums. Don Bell, an antiquarian book seller, and award winning writer, spent the last two decades of his life investigating the mysterious circumstances of Houdini's demise.

Although Mr. Bell died in 2003, the book, "The Man Who Killed Houdini" Vehicle Press, Canada, 260 pp, was completed by his son and published posthumously. The reader doesn't know what obsessed Mr. Bell to investigate cold leads. The most fruitful revelations came from a man, now in his 80s, "Smiley" who was actually a McGill student (the puncher J. Gordan Whitehead seems not to have been actually a McGill student) and who was present when the blows were thrown. As one might expect, the insurance company who indemnified Harry Houdini's life would have been expected to have a significant monetary interest. Double indemnity would apply if it was determined that the death was accidental. Their records support that premise. But could it be that their posture was predicated on Houdini's fame -- not wanting to deprive the much admired conjurer's wife with possibly attendant bad publicity for their firm?

Bell conjectures: could McGill students accosting Houdini, who was sitting in a lounge at the Prince of Wales in Montreal, catch him unawares,

delivering abdominal blows, followed by the incident in his dressing room where one J. Gordan Whitehead, admitted he hit Houdini as a test of his strength - were these all hired by Houdini's enemies to deliver the message of a spiritualist balancing of accounts. After all, on stage, in lectures, through books, Houdini had been on a campaign to destroy the falsehood of those who would bilk the public by alleging they could communicate with the dead.

Regrettably this is not a successful Cold Case TV story. J. Gordan Whitehead is described as a recluse, possibly a drug or alcohol addict, who died of malnutrition. He was never charged with a crime. Mr. Bell consulted with psychiatrists, psychoanalysts and graphologists, all of whom offer interesting theories but none having had any first hand contact with Mr. Whitehead; all that remains is speculation.

What is known is that following the death of his much beloved mother, Cecilia, Houdini hoped to be able to communicate with her in the beyond.

Disappointment led to anger and an intense resolve to debunk those who pretended that they could communicate with the deceased. Author Bell didn't address Houdini's paradoxical behavior-on the one hand, himself, displaying supernatural abilities and, conversely, insisting that the public were gullible fools to accept the performance of spiritualists as special talents. For those who believe in an afterlife, perhaps Don Bell can ask Houdini what he thinks.

The pursuit of clues makes for an interesting read. "The Man Who Killed Houdini" by Don Bell is recommended.

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Steve Hart presents "Free" lecture for Ring 76 Members

Are you looking for new effects for your close-up routine or your stand-up act? Steve Hart's magic lecture, "Hart Attacks!" will deliver all of this and more. Coins, jumbo coins, rings, cards, jumbo cards, a headless rubber chicken, and a vanishing milk bottle right from the grocery store, all of these items will be a part of Steve's lecture. He will entertain you with his clever ideas, his wit and comedy, not to mention his insight of working as a pro for more than 20 years, including 14 years at the famous magic nightclub "Illusions," in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Steve has presented his new "Hart Attacks" lecture to more than 30 magic clubs, magic conventions and at the Magic Castle in Hollywood. Steve comes to

members wishing to attend this great lecture can do so for \$20 at the door.

"Hart Attacks" is not a dealer demonstration; it is a lecture featuring a wide variety of effects that you will incorporate into your act. It is a learning opportunity featuring some excellent magic.

Steve Hart lives in Cape Canaveral, Florida, but spends a great deal of his time on the road doing motivational speaking. Part of what makes these talks so popular is the fact that he is known as the motivational magician. An evening at one of his sessions is both entertaining and educational. You will learn first hand how he does this and have an inside look at the effects and props he uses, many of which are items you have around the house or in your magic case.

This is a very special opportunity to learn some great magic and to be entertained by an excellent showman and magician. It is "free" to all Ring 76 members. Plan to attend Tuesday, September 20th; refreshments will be served as usual at these Ring events.



San Diego by way of the Castle where he will be working the week before lecturing to Ring 76.

This is a Ring sponsored lecture and is "FREE" to all paid up Ring members; it will start at 7 p.m. Tuesday, September 20th, at Jack's Magic Place, 4275 University Avenue. The doors will be open at 6 p.m. so come early and get a good seat. Non-Ring

"MagiToon"

by Jim Whiting & Ellen Friedman



No wonder it takes them
forever to sew on a button.

Magic Day at Blood Bank Con't

use our presence as a vehicle to attract more donors and restock their dwindling supply of blood.

Ring 76 members began taking part in Magic Day at the San Diego Blood Bank in the 1990s and have been represented each year. Recently those who took part in last year's Magic Day Blood Drive were invited to attend a special banquet honoring Blood Bank volunteers at the Omni Hotel.

We will have sign up sheets at our meeting on September 12th; you can choose the location you want to work and the time you can appear. Blood Bank officials assure us that your presence and work as a close up or parlor performer does make a big difference in attracting donors to the various donor centers. It is also an opportunity for Ring 76 members to come together and give back to the community in which we live and work.



James Kellogg doing card trick at 2004 Magic Day at the Blood Bank.

Bob Ingalls, Len Cardoza, Jeff Marcus, Jack White, Diane Lane, Bob Pozner, Michael E Johnson, Joel Ward, Charlie Gott, Ted Dunning, James Kellogg Jr., Jacques Lord, Alex Greenbaum, Terry Runyon, Mike Stilwell, James Thayer,

Kyle Hohn, Loch David Crane, and Greg Wauson all took part in the program last year, we need even more help this year.

Put five or six; tricks in your pocket and take part in the program; you will find a eager and excited audience waiting for you to show them a trick after they have given blood.

If you have any questions, contact Jack White Ring 76 Secretary at prestooone@cox.net or by phone at 619-299-9027 for more information on Magic Day at the San Diego Blood Bank, Saturday, October 8, 2005.

New Magic Shop Con't

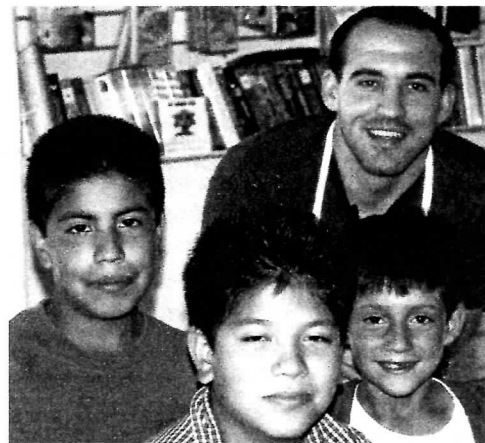
shop keeper, then in San Diego, he quickly discovered there was a void when it came to getting supplies for his various shows, so after talking the situation over with his wife he decided he would go into the magic business and continue to do shows in the North County.



John Paul Seirica Co-owner of Escondido's "The Grand Magic Shop" 1607 S. Escondido Blvd.

All of that was in early spring of this year; first they had to find a location for their store, and so they began shopping around. They decided on the new building they are currently in on Escondido Blvd. It is easy to find the shop and this area of Escondido, is coming back as a shopping district with unique and different stores.

Magic City in Paramount, California helped J.P. set up his shop with a line of new and popular effects to get things going. Take the time to drop by and say



John Scirica and a few of his eager magic students at the Grand Magic Shop.

hello; the Seiricas are working hard to make their business a success. They want to know what you as a performer need and they will stock it.

View from the Cheap Seats



By Jon A. Hand

Magician vs. Gambler

routined table magic

This month begins a description of a routine that I cobbled together several years ago from many sources. As best as I am able, I will credit the component parts as they occur in the routine.

Effect: The magician weaves a tale about meeting a retired Las Vegas dealer. In the tale, the two begin to compare experiences of the way a magician might handle cards vs. the way a gambler might handle cards. After the dealer shuffles and cuts, he announces that he instantly knows the position of every card in the deck from his shuffle. He then proves his assertion by naming the top card after the shuffle and cut, the ace of clubs. The incredulous magician asks the dealer how a gambler could make use of such knowledge. The dealer demonstrates his knowledge of deck handling by executing a flawless second deal and then dealing a full house of aces/queens. The magician, stunned by what he has seen, takes the cards and demonstrates his ability by having two chosen cards instantly reverse themselves in the deck, one at a time. The dealer proclaims the magician's skill to be worthless, as it would do nothing to garner any money at the card table. The magician retorts that he would never be allowed at a card table anyway, as he could magically deal any hand he wanted at any time. Despite several shuffles and cuts during the course of the routine, the magician deals a Royal Flush in Diamonds.

Set-up: You will need a commonly available deck of cards, such as Bicycle, and a matching Ace of Clubs from an additional deck. You will also need a double-faced card that is a court card on one side

and a spot card on the other, such as the 8H backed with the KS. Lay the following stack face up on the table in the order which follows, placing each card face up on the card preceding it: AC (foot of the club closest to you), QH, AS, QC, AH, duplicate AC (foot of the club nearest you), KS, 10D, JD, QD, KD, AD, the bulk of the deck, the double-faced card with the 8H face up, and the real 8H. Check this for correctness. Then, grasp the deck at the far narrow end, and turn it over end for end and place it in the card case.

This routine is a great closer in my experience, so you might want to do a few other card tricks with a normal deck and then put the deck away to do a non-card effect. When the deck returns from the pocket, you have done a deck swap. This is also a great effect to do when someone says, "Wow, I wouldn't want to play cards with you," as you reply, "I wouldn't want to play cards with a professional gambler," and start the routine.

Routine: Bring the deck out of the pocket in the case, and remove it the same way you placed it into the card case. This means that the foot of each of the two AC cards will be facing away from you as you hold the deck face down. Execute a false overhand shuffle keeping the whole deck in position as you talk. My choice of shuffle is from *The Second Now You See It, Now You Don't*, by Bill Tarr, page 29. Essentially, lift the whole deck off the left hand, drop 1/4 of the cards from the top into the cupped left hand, lift the right hand, and return as if to drop or pull off another bunch. Catch the original fourth between right thumb and middle fingers as you drop a second bunch into the left hand. Pick up the original fourth on the upswing, and drop it onto the second bunch in the left hand instead of dropping the new top of the deck, restoring the original packet order. On the right hand upswing, use the left fingers to flip the "shuffled" portion to the left, and drop another fourth onto the back of the deck, thus keeping the order. On the right hand upswing, use the left thumb to push the "shuffled portion" to the right against the left fingers again, and pretend to drop a bunch of cards into the left hand, using the left thumb rub against the right hand's cards to mimic the shuffle. Finally, on the last right hand upswing, use the left fingers to push the cards to the left once more, and drop the final fourth onto the back of the deck, thus keeping the whole order intact. Follow with a false cut that does not lose a card from the top of the deck.

Suggested patter for removing the deck from the

case, doing the above shuffle, and doing the false cut: "Recently I vacationed in Las Vegas, and I met a retired casino dealer. I asked him about how much cheating he had seen in his line of work, and he told me some interesting facts."

"He said, 'Actually, the Eye in the Sky in each casino would catch players when they cheat. But if a dealer chose to team up with a player and split the winnings outside the casino after his shift, that would be hard to catch.' I asked the dealer, 'How could you cheat as a dealer?'"

"He replied, 'Well, for example, as a long time professional, I can feel the position of every card in the deck after a shuffle and cut.' I said, 'That's not possible!' He said, 'Sure it is! Watch: the top card of the deck is now an Ace of Clubs.' He turned it over, and it was!"

Push off the top card of the deck, grasp it with your dealing fingers on bottom, thumb on top, and turn it over by turning your palm outwards toward the audience.

"I said, 'What could you do with such knowledge?' He replied, 'Knowing the position of valuable cards, I could hold them in place with a second deal, and deal them to my partner. Watch.'"

This pseudo second-deal comes from Bruce Elliott's *Best in Magic*, where he calls it *No Second Deal*. Turn the AC face down in reverse of the way you showed it, and drop it on top of the deck. Slowly and deliberately deal five face down cards onto the table.

"The dealer said, 'Did you catch the second deal?' I have to admit that I didn't catch it."

Turn over the sixth card exactly as you did the first card to reveal that the AC has not moved! Subtly, the foot of the duplicate card matches the foot of the original card, and strongly implies that you have done five expert second deals

"I said, 'Hey, do that again!' He said, 'Sure, anything you want.'"

Drop the sixth card face down on top of the tabled deal. Pick up the six cards, replace on top of the deck, and perform the five card deal once again to show that the sixth card is really the AC held in place from the second deal. Then bury the duplicate AC face down into the middle of the deck, to which you can refer as "burning the card" if you so desire.

Drop the five tabled cards back onto the top of the deck.

Next month, the routine continues. Until then, perfect the shuffle, as it is very useful for other stacked deck effects.

New Plan for Ring Raffle at monthly meetings

For several years Ring 76 has had a nice treasury for special events like the August picnic, which was a no charge event, as well as free magic lecturers and the board of directors has not had to increase our annual dues since 1999. All of this is possible in part because of our monthly raffles at Ring meetings. The cost of purchasing magic, videotapes, DVDs and magic memorabilia has become prohibitive for us to continue as we have in the past so it has been decided that a 50/50 raffle will be held in place of the more traditional prizes we have offered in the past.

We will continue to sell tickets of \$1 each or 6 tickets for \$5. Half of the money collected each month will go to the person whose number is drawn from the basket the rest of the money will go to the Ring to help with future expenses. So the big prize each month will be cash. We will draw two additional numbers and will award some of the prizes we still have in our raffle closet. We will continue to give away all of items we have collected and purchased in the past.

Our monthly Ring raffles are important to keep the Ring rolling along and our treasury healthy. Please support these efforts if it is at all possible. We are hoping our winner each month can walk away with \$25 to \$45 dollars each month. Kenny Shelton sells our raffle tickets each month; he has done a superb job in the past; we ask that you support his efforts in the future.

Favorite Trick night is the theme of this month's meeting- perform a favorite effect, stage, parlor, or close-up.

Magic notes from:



A lesson in Jon Martin magic

It's not very often that there is something in magic that J.P. Jackson will say he is not sure about. But I heard him utter those words earlier this year when the two of us were inventorying the late Alton Sharpe's magic collection for Al's wife Lorraine.

We had just opened a box filled with props that were built by Jon Martin (1882–1968) Martin, who was the legendary British mechanic whose fine workmanship is highly prized by professional performers around the world. Among the many items he constructed were models of the vanishing and reappearing birdcage, the reel, and a gimmick used in conjunction with the rising cards and many other effects. Martin is relatively unknown by most magicians because his work is rare and little has been written about him.

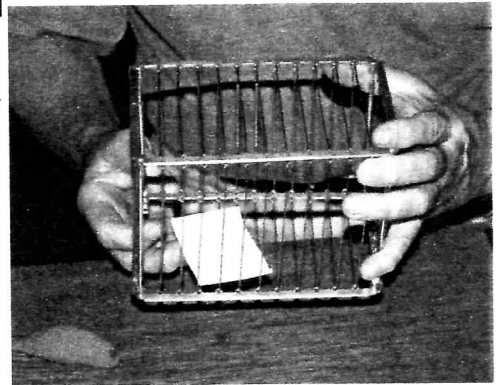
Jon Martin was a jeweler and watchmaker by trade and enjoyed working with intricate things. He was discovered by magician Arnold De Biere, (1878–1934) from England and later toured throughout the world with his magic act. De Biere is best remembered for his vanishing birdcage, expanding die and rising cards, all props that were designed and built by Jon Martin. De Biere kept Martin a secret until shortly before De Biere's death. Once the magic fraternity learned of the talents of Jon Martin they beat a path to his door. However, Martin was just one man and could only turn out a limited number of his beautiful props at any one time. He literally worked on one magic trick at a time until the day he died.

The workmanship and rarity of his magic is what makes it so expensive and desirable today. You would never find Jon Martin items in a magic catalog. They were miniature works of art that were whispered about in the backrooms of magic emporiums around the world and were handed down from one magician to another with great pride and secrecy.

Al Sharpe worked in all of the big clubs, hotels and theaters of Europe during the reconstruction period following World War II, and became acquainted with many European performers. Over the years Al collected a number of rare and very desirable Jon Martin props, some of which Al used in his own act.

In Al's collection J.P. Jackson and I found many of the intricate reels and pulls that were designed and manufactured with

clockwork precision by Jon Martin. Our problem was lining up each reel and pull with every prop they were designed to be used with.



A rare Jon Martin Vanishing Bird Cage circa 1940s.

There were a few fragmented notes as to what went with which piece but many times the information was misleading or nonexistent. There is one note from John Mulholland (1898–1970) talking about a reel he used in the Vanishing Birdcage effect. All of the Mulholland props were neatly wrapped in a cloth bag just as he had used them years before. But the reel for the Mulholland Bird Cage had been mixed in with a box of other reels, and we did not know which one it might be because there were several that were very much alike.



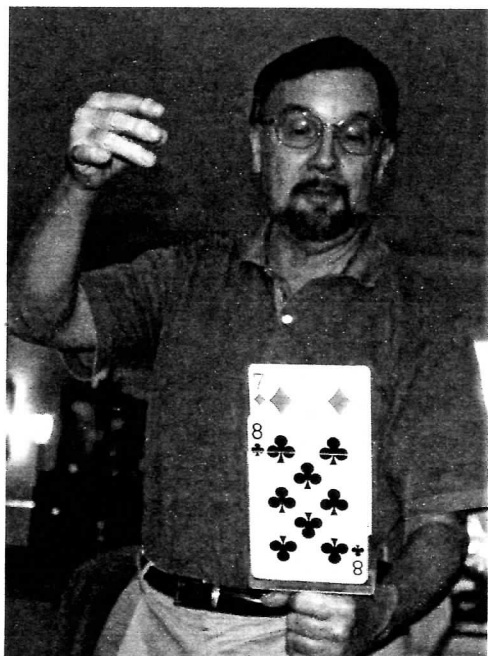
J.P. Jackson & David Alexander examine Martin cage.

By accident last March, at the Ring 313 Swap Meet and Auction in Irvine, J.P. and I met David Alexander, a magician and, later we would learn, an expert on Jon Martin's magic. David was once a protégé of the late Senior

Frackson, a magician famous for using Martin-built props. In May of this year Alexander presented his Frackson act at the Magic Collectors Weekend in Las Vegas. J.P. and I knew the only way we were going to solve the riddle of all the Jon Martin props and apparatus in Al Sharpe's collection was to call in Alexander and ask for his help. But he had a busy schedule and it was mid-August before we could all get together and begin to solve the Martin dilemma.

It was like going back in time; the Martin props were all laid out on Lorrain Sharpe's dining room table at her home in the Laguna Hills. With notebooks, cameras and a lot of time each item was examined. The gimmicks to make each trick work were carefully lined up and put together. For instance, the vanishing and reappearing birdcage has two reels; one is fastened to the wrist, the second is attached to the leg. But most important is a tiny little hand-made device that connects both of the reels so they operate in sync. J.P. and I knew this tiny piece was important but had no idea how important it was or which effect it went with.

David Alexander carefully explained how each piece worked and gave us its approximate age. Many of these items are 60 and 80 years old but are still in astonishingly good working condition. At the end of the four-hour



David Alexander doing the Jon Martin Card Rise

session all of the props and gimmicks were matched, we had learned how to unlock the various reels and we had heard many wonderful stories about who had owned them before and how they were used.

One day in the future these Jon Martin collectables will be for sale. They will be expensive and probably not widely advertised because those who know about them are already on a waiting list to be given a chance to purchase them. I tell you this story so that you will be able to include the name of Jon Martin in your lexicon of magical knowledge, and if you ever find someone who has a Martin built trick you will know they have the best.

As we go to press: Word is beginning to filter in from fellow magicians who live in the greater New Orleans area now cleaning up following the category five hurricane "Katrina" that swept through the south. Harry Anderson has checked in and tells us he rode the hurricane out at his new magic themed club called "Oswald's" in the heart of the French Quarter of New Orleans. Harry says he left when the floodwaters began to rise. He and his wife are staying with friends in Austin, Texas. No one is sure how bad the damage is at his new club or when it will be possible to reopen. Much of Anderson's personal memorabilia and his magic collection were on display at the club.

We will keep you updated on information as we receive word from other magicians living in the path of hurricane "Katrina."

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♥ Member of International Brotherhood of Magicians Since 1976

♠ Member of Society of American Magicians Since 1974

"Magic"
Mike Stilwell
(619) 660-9662

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



Loch David Crane
Says:
Thank You

for your support during his recent illness and troubled times.



Message from the Ring 76 President

For those of you who took part in the August picnic you already know it was a great success and all who attended had a good time. I just want to take a moment to give a special pat on the back to Josef Rennlietner, who supplied us with those tasty Polish Sausage and worked hard to help prepare the food. A big thanks to all of those who stayed behind to help Jack White and me clean things up and haul all of the tables, chairs, tents and barbecue out of the park. Thank you for the excellent teamwork on this very different Ring meeting. For those who were unable to attend the picnic plans for next summer are already in the works.

I have already given Jack White my blessings to begin writing letters to the other IBM Rings in Southern California for a joint picnic somewhere in the Southland next year at this same time. If that event works out Jack has some great plans to make it even more exciting than this year's event. It will also bring a new opportunity to meet and mingle with members of Rings 96, Long Beach; 313, Irvine; 292, San Marcos; and the new IBM Ring in Riverside County. We will keep you up-to-date on our plans.

While I am on the subject of teamwork I hope you will be able to donate an hour or so of close up magic on October 8th for Magic Day at the San Diego Blood Bank. Last year we had 20 members of

Ring 76 volunteer to take part in this very worthwhile event. We really need about 30 people to make this a true success. I have been taking part in this event since the 1990s and believe me when I tell you when it's over, you feel very good because you know you have made a sincere effort to help the blood supply in San Diego County which is critically low during this time of year.

Lynn Stedd at the San Diego Blood Bank promotes our efforts through a newsletter that goes out to 40,000 people county wide so this is all good public relations for the Ring. It is our job to live up to her promotional efforts so please sign up to work one of the four donor centers in San Diego County on Saturday, October 8th.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find a story about some pending changes in our monthly Ring 76 raffle. I am supporting these new changes because I know how important the money is that we receive each month from the raffle itself. Please take the time to read the story and support our monthly raffle.

Finally, I want let our fellow magi in the hurricane-ravaged south know they are in our thoughts. I was especially happy to hear that Jon Hand, who writes an excellent column each month for our newsletter has survived the effects of Katrina. Jon and his family live in Tennessee and were hit hard by the fallout from the violent storm.

We send our best wishes to all of those displaced by the violence and flooding of Katrina.

Bob Ingalls
President Ring 76



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*denotes Past Ring President

For information on membership, or Ring events contact Jack White, Ring 76 Secretary by e-mail prestooone@cox.net or by phone at 619-299-9037

News

Jim Whiting's new book "Analecta," which Jim started writing in February 2004, was delivered to Jim's Encinitas home late in August. Jim is now having several cases of the books shipped off to Amazon.com for online sales. Local residents can get their copies directly from Jim by dropping by his house at 222 Countryhaven Road, Encinitas; the book is \$21 if purchased directly from Jim. There is much in the book about Jim's life in broadcasting and his many years as a cartoonist and illustrator. He also talks a great deal about his love of magic and his being part of two IBM Rings, one in the Finger Lakes region of upstate New York and the other here in San Diego. I think you will find it an exciting book on several fronts.

Joel Ward, who spent last summer working on the road, is spending this summer doing shows mostly in Southern California. In late August he was the after-dinner entertainment at the Encinitas Community Center.

The San Diego Blood Bank honored those who volunteered their services for that organization in August. Attending the San Diego Banquet at the new Omni Hotel next to Petco Park were **Don & Donna Soul, Kenny Shelton** and his father **Ken Senior, Len Cardoza** and his wife, and **Jack White**, all from Ring 76. A second banquet was held at the Four Seasons Hotel in Carlsbad for North County volunteers.

Diane Lane has been kept busy this summer with her many restaurant shows, but in August she made a special trip to Reno to do a show for friends in that area.



That was Diane's second trip to Reno this summer; she was there in late June & early July for the IBM Convention.

Jay Knapp, a member of the Tucson, Arizona, IBM Ring, came to San Diego for his annual summer visit and had intended to attend our August picnic, but a few days into his vacation was forced to return to Arizona because of a family health crisis. Jay enjoys being part of our Ring 76 activities when he is here in Southern California and asked that I tell everyone he is sorry he had to leave so abruptly this year, but that he will be back.

J.P. Jackson flew to Chicago in late August for a memorial service for the late **Al Sharpe**, who died last December. Al owned a magic shop in Chicago for many years in the 1950s and his wife Lorraine is from the Chicago area. The memorial service was a dinner party at a Chicago restaurant because that is what Al would have wanted as a fitting tribute: cocktails, a good meal and a party atmosphere.

Syd Segal is bringing **Daryl** back to San Diego for a lecture Thursday, Sept. 22nd at the Mission Valley Sheraton, 1433 Camino Del Rio South. The fee for this lecture is \$20 at the door. The lecture will feature the full line of Daryl effects that can be purchased after the lecture.

Briefs

Several major drug companies held their annual trade show and business meetings in San Diego the last part of August. Sunday evening, August 28th, they held a huge banquet at the Aero-Space Museum in Balboa Park. Magician **David Alexander** was hired to do an hour-long program for the group. A story about Alexander is featured in **Jack White's** Magic Notes Column this month in MagiCurrents.

Terry Godfrey has wrapped up his season of fair shows and says this was one of his most successful years to date. Terry worked the Yuma, Arizona County Fair; Conejo Valley Days, Newbury, Calif; Sacramento, County Fair, Sacramento, Calif; California Strawberry Festival, Oxnard, Calif; Glenn County Fair, Orland, Calif; the Portland Rose Festival, Portland, Oregon; Solano County Fair, Vallejo, Calif; Coos Bay County Fair, Myrtle Point, Oregon; Benton County Fair, Corvallis, Oregon. He spent the last weekend of August working for audiences in Seaport Village. The afternoon we caught the act he had the kids howling with laughter. Terry has become a master at handling tough audiences, I guess it's all of that training on the midways of all the fair grounds he works every year that gives him that special skill.

MagiCurrents columnist **Jon Hand** lives in the path of the recent hurricane which ripped through the south, and we are happy to report Jon and his family have survived without any loss or too much inconvenience. All of that comes as good news, inspite of the adverse conditions, Jon still met his deadline with his column, be sure and read "View from the Cheap Seats."

Coming Attractions

September 12th, at our regular meeting place, 4275 University Avenue at 7 p.m. Time for members to perform their favorite magic trick. Here is a chance to show off a favorite routine or trick. Free Ring magic lecture Tuesday, September 20th. Details in this newsletter.

October 10th meeting will allow members to present their favorite Halloween magic routine. This can be close-up or platform magic. We encourage everyone to take part in this evening of fun.

November 14th meeting will be the annual Ring 76 teach-in featuring an opportunity for each member to learn a new sleight, move or routine to be presented in close-up or strolling situations. This is always a well-attended and exciting evening.

December 12th Ring 76 annual Holiday Dinner Party featuring a special magic lecture and some surprise magic entertainment. Watch your newsletters for more details.

Next Board of Directors meeting will be Monday, September 26th. The meeting will be at Jack's Magic Place, 4275 University Ave, at 7 p.m. sharp. These business meetings are open to all members interested in attending.

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MagiCurrents is published monthly by Ring 76 and is edited by Jack White; Associate Editor is Jim Riley. We encourage articles, stories, and news items. All material should be submitted to Jack White by e-mail at prestooone@cox.net. or written manuscripts may be submitted to Jack White, 4288 Arguello St., San Diego, CA. 92103.