



MagiCurrents



San Diego, California

Celebrating Sixty Years of Service to the Magic Community

Honest Sid Gerhart Ring 76

Website
www.ring76.com

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Paul Green in Person at November 10th Meeting!

Put everything on hold November 10th and make sure you're in the audience for the Ring 76 meeting. Paul Green returns to San Diego for a special Ring-sponsored lecture.

Paul's magic is designed to be performed for real people—not just magicians. His magic is audience proven before crowds at the famed Magic Castle, Beverly Hills restaurants and trade show attendees in Chicago, Las Vegas, New York City, Hong Kong and Finland.



Paul Green

His awards include Close-Up Magician of the Year and Lecturer of the Year from the Academy of Magical Arts at the Magic Castle. He was a columnist for the Magic Menu and has been published in Genii and Magic Magazine.

There will be enough for everyone—from the professional to the hobbyist. Cards, Coins, Ropes and maybe something else. Dynamic Magic to entertain, make friends and earn some money. In addition, Paul will share his business expertise in the fields of trade shows, corporate events and restaurants. You can't lose.

Material covered in this 2½ hour-plus lecture will come from his lecture notes as well as his DVD's on the Classic Force; In the Trenches; Live At the Jailhouse; and his newest release Card Warp Finale.

Past President Diane Lane Dies

Past Ring 76 President and current Ring Board member, Diane Lane, died at 1:30 a.m. on Wednesday, October 22, at Scripps Hospital in LaJolla. Diane had been in failing health for several months. She and her doctors were searching for a donor kidney for a much needed transplant. Word that a donor kidney was found came this past weekend. Diane was taken to the hospital and was found to be in good enough health to undergo the transplant procedure. Early on Monday morning following the transplant surgery Diane's liver began to fail and doctors started aggressive measures to turn that situation around. Diane then suffered a massive stroke.

Her family was with her at the hospital. Diane's son Kenny told MagiCurrents that his mother did not want a formal funeral service but a celebration of her life will be held for friends and family on Saturday, November 8th. The time and location for that celebration is yet to be determined and an announcement with details will be forthcoming.

A fighter to the end, Diane Lane had survived for more than a decade with a transplanted liver and other vital organs. In recent months she had been undergoing kidney dialysis treatment while medical professionals searched for a matching donor kidney. She never let her personal health problems interfere with helping and entertaining others. It would be impossible to list all of the charity groups and non-profit organizations she has tirelessly worked her

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Spooky Magic Haunts October Meeting

Our October meeting was devoted to spooky magic with 45 members and guests assembled. Vampire Bob Meigs started things off with a Mirror Penetration then invited visitor Caitlin to insert her head into a stock restraint as he thrust a Sword Thru Neck. Afterwards, she was instructed not to speak for 24 hours to let the invisible wound heal. Donna Greenbaum and visitor, Carol White, did a variation of Computer Number Cards with printed ghostly characters on their backs communicating the thought-of number to her. Following that, Charlie Gott and his visiting assistant, Jonah, demonstrated a glowing light bulb-in-socket, Gravity Glasses, Glorpy and Haunted Silks.

Sidney Franklin took the stage bound in a Strait Jacket as he explained he had just escaped from a hospital. After struggling to release himself, he had Terry Lunceford, Kenny Shelton and Jeff Marcus assist in binding him in thumbcuffs, handcuffs, neck shackle and Mail Bag (from Cannon Escapes) then, in plain view, freed himself. It was Toni Perrine's turn to put the Spirit Séance foulard to work producing spooky objects. The kicker was a large plastic skeleton on her back as she left the stage. Michael E. Johnson presented the Hindu Needles effect, one that gave him a difficult time a couple of decades ago while in high school. This time it worked to perfection.

Don Holcomb stepped up and gave us a clever wooden block-on-rope penetration followed by Dr. Bob Allen, assisted by Toni Perrine, and his variation of the 6-Card Repeat using 13 cards. Next, magic collector J.P. Jackson and assistant Jack White displayed an antique Spirit Painting prop. Jack asked someone in the audience to select a card from his U.F. Grant Visible Change Bag while J.P. placed two previously-examined blank canvases into a light box. Lo, and a somewhat delayed behold, the cranky device revealed a portrait of Abe Lincoln, the very person randomly selected.

Loch David Crane, as Bafflin' Bill Cody, told us a tale of native American lore about a ghost shirt and the Sundance ceremony, the climax of which involved the gory Needle Thru Arm – a finish so ghastly we weren't allowed to view it. Rounding out the evening, Bob Pozner put a goofy spin on Cardini's Modern Marvel and Kenny Shelton gave us a nice rope routine combining several moves. A surprise visit from a scary gorilla about the size of Jack White brought the show to an end.



Bob Meigs & Caitlin



Charlie Gott & Jonah



Donna Greenbaum & Carol



clockwise
starting
right: Sidney
Franklin
escapes,
Don
Holcomb
blocks,
Kenny
Shelton
ropes, Dr.
Bob Allen
counts with
Toni
Perrine,
Michael E.
Johnson
threads and
Bob Pozner
palms.



Performers left to right: Bob Pozner, J.P. Jackson, Sidney Franklin, Michael E. Johnson, "Gorilla Monsoon" aka Jack White, Dr. Bob Allen, Don Holcomb, Loch David Crane, Charlie Gott, Toni Perrine, Kenny Shelton, Bob Meigs and Donna Greenbaum

Magic Book Review

by

Dr. Joel Moskowitz, M.D.



Modern Mesmerization

A review of two books

by Joel A. Moskowitz M.D.

Read this as though you are in bed. Focus your attention on the written words. Begin to experience a hyper-relaxed state. Feel the sensation of comfort and eager anticipation. Great riches await you.

You are surrounded by a positive regard for the prose herein. Your mind is consumed with a spell of positivity. Optimistic and charged, your mind's window is delighting in the benefit of these statements. All resistance is melting away. You are compelled to call (623) 476-2437.

With credit card in hand, you instruct the responder to debit your account for \$34.95 plus shipping and handling. You tell them to hasten to send you "The Ronning Guide to Modern Stage Hypnosis", a hard back 384 pp exposition of the Westward Publishing, PO Box 113 Phoenix, AZ 85340.

Older books such as G. H. Estabrooks' "Hypnotism" Dutton & Co. 1957 treat the topic more widely. Estabrooks' book addresses more traditional subjects e.g. hypnotism in medicine, in crime, in warfare and human situations. The latter book is not readily available but another classic is. From Bibliobazaar P.O.Box 21206, Charleston, S.C. 29413 you may obtain a more current reprint, paperback (2008, originally published 1903) "Complete Hypnotism, Mesmerism, Mind Reading and Spiritualism" by A. Alpheus. This classic exposition presents alternative aspects of hypnosis e.g. simulation - deceit by the subjects; dangers of stage hypnosis; even hypnosis of animals as in snake charming. Telepathy and clairvoyance are represented as variants of the hypnotic state. A medium confesses as to the elements of hypnosis in their craft. These books compliment one another. None, regrettably, provides bibliographic documentation for the allegations. The reader must take what they promise or describe on faith.

Some of the chapters include: Ronning's Seven Pre-Talk Rules. For example, he writes about how to deal with abreaction. This, the author defines, is a negative response to hypnotic suggestion; i.e., in the trance the volunteer imagines he/she is on a roller coaster. What do you do when the audience member experiences vertigo and vomits.

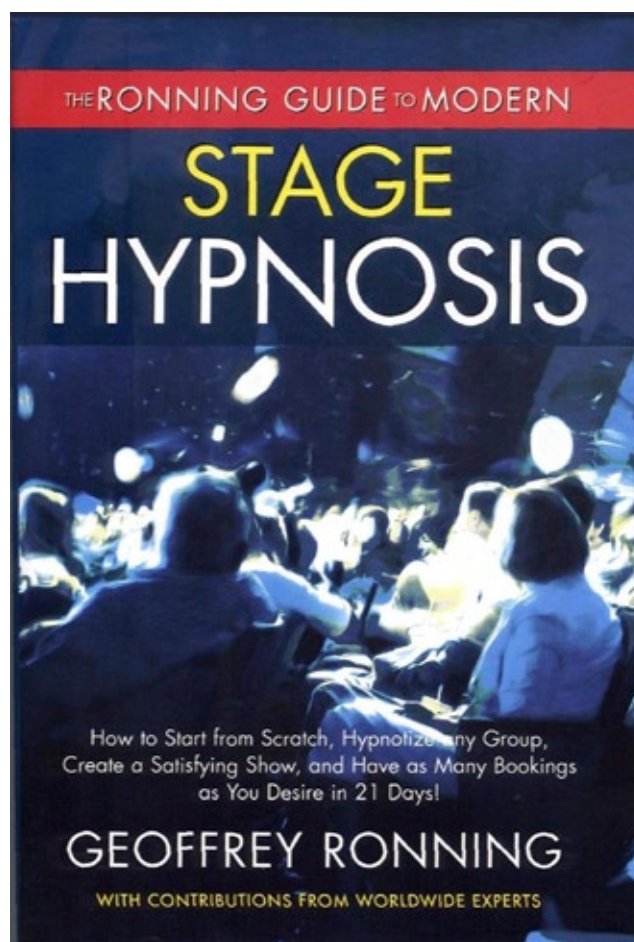
Ronning cautions there are routines that need to be avoided; e.g., full body catalepsy where a volunteer is placed between two chairs and you stand on them. He suggests skits to heighten entertainment.

Ronning offers advice so as to enhance your performance. He admonishes the performer to look 'the part'. He writes about dealing with the range of participants from volunteers to drunks. Suggested as well are varieties of publicity like inviting prospective clients to your show. 123 pages of "The Ronning Guide to Stage Hypnosis" consist of guest expert contributions - praising the worth of Ronning's wisdom in helping them achieve success as stage hypnotists.

Geoffrey Ronning's book is lucid and practical. Magicians as well as hypnotists will find sage advice. A. Alpheus' tomb is erudite and historically tantalizing. For interested persons intent on embarking on a career hypnotizing subjects on the stage, both books are recommended. In addition, for \$12.95 per month Geoffrey Ronning provides a continuing educational experience. (See his web site for further details).

The work of A. Alpheus originally published in 1903 but of interest currently may be downloaded for free at <http://manybooks.net/titles/alpheusa1934219342.html>. Your own paperback copy can be ordered from BiblioBazaar for only \$8.79 plus S&H.

Now that you have completed reading this review, you will have the compulsion to acquire both these valuable books. Be assured that you will achieve satisfaction.



magic in support of over the years. She took her duties as a board member and President of Ring 76 in a very serious manner. She once told Jack White that if there was one thing she wanted to be remembered for in her work with the I.B.M. It would be her efforts to help her fellow magicians become better performers. It was her goal to have more teach-in sessions for Ring 76 members.



Diane Lane was the only woman magician in San Diego, to have her own weekly television magic show that appeared on Time-Warner Cable stations in Southern California for many years. In addition to doing magic on the program and acting as host, she also featured other professional and amateur performers each week on the program. Diane wrote and produced the program as well as being the lead talent on the weekly show. It was a labor-intensive program to produce each week but Diane never complained and some how worked it into her busy schedule.



In January of 2004, The Linking Ring Magazine, the house organ of the International Brotherhood of Magicians, recognized Diane's efforts in overcoming adversity in her life and continuing to help others by entertaining with magic. The



magazine featured her on the cover of the publication. Phil Willmarth, the Executive Editor of the Linking Ring, flew to Las Vegas to personally present Diane with the first copy of the magazine off the press that bore her photograph. The presentation of the magazine was made as Diane was checking into the hotel for the start of the Desert Magic Seminar. The honor of appearing on the cover of the magazine came as a surprise to Diane and she later said: "Being on the cover of the most widely read magic magazine in the world was a true high point in my magic career."



A more complete list of her accomplishments and her life will appear in the December issue of MagiCurrents. Ring 76 President Terry Lunceford noted: "Her loss will leave a void in the Southern California magic scene because she was known and admired by so many people."



Message from the Ring 76 President

The Halloween meeting gave us a cornucopia of performers, each sticking to the theme of the evening: Spooky Magic. What a delight to have such enthusiasm and dedication. From opening act to close, it was a fun evening fit for any haunted house.

I want to take this opportunity to express my condolences to the friends and relatives of past Ring 76 president Diane Lane who died Wednesday, October 22nd. The loss weighs heavy on all of us.

On the upbeat, it is my great pleasure to bring back to Ring 76 one of magics's finest close-up performers, Mr. Paul Green. When you hear him say, "Reach over and take out a card...don't let me see it...I won't look," you know you're in for roller coaster ride using a

deck of cards. His best-selling videos like The Classic Force have inspired many fledgling magicians to emulate his talents. This first free-to-Ring 76-members lecture of my second term is one you really should not miss. Paul Green is just plain fun.

Now for something very important. In preparation for the holiday party December 7th, party organizer Richard Ustick will be bringing with him to the November lecture meeting a bowl of chips. No, not those kind. These chips will have various food items written on them and those in attendance will select what dish they will bring to the pot luck dinner. If you're not present at the meeting but intend to join us for the party, be sure to get in touch with Mr. Ustick and you'll receive your assigned food item. His e-mail is rustick@flash.net or you can reach him by phone at (619) 589-1913. Your interest is appreciated.

Terry Lunceford

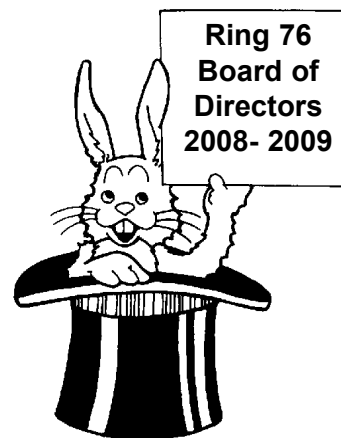
Ring 76 President

"MagiToon"

by Jim Whiting & Ellen Friedman



"You mean...this is NOT the annual convention of the 'International Brotherhood of Magicians?'"



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Kenny Shelton

2nd Vice President

Michael E. Johnson

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Don Soul *

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Sgt-at-arms/Librarian

Donna Greenbaum

Member-at-large

Belinda Kaesler

Member-at-large

Diane Lane *

Member-at-large

Bob Meigs

Territorial Vice President

Jeff Marcus *

*denotes past Ring 76 president

For information on membership or Ring events contact secretary Don Soul by e-mail at dsoul@san.rr.com or by phone at (858) 484-3492

NEWS

On September 30th **Joe Mystic** did a guest appearance on the Channel 5 Fox Morning News. The first cut-in went so well the producer asked Joe to stick around for a later segment of the news. Joe was in his Wizard costume and presented a great TV image as well as some good visual magic. Joe and his wife left a few days after the TV show for a cruise to the Caribbean, a break before the beginning of the Holiday season of shows he has booked.

In early October, **Magic Mike Stilwell** and **Terry Godfrey** worked for 2000 members of the brokerage house, Price-Waterhouse, who were meeting at the Hotel Del Coronado. Mike did a special teach-in class for the children and family members at the Price-Waterhouse annual meeting. Terry Godfrey did a special show for the children and then did some strolling magic for the adults before the evening banquet. Terry Godfrey is back in San Diego after a very successful summer season working fairs in California, Oregon and Arizona. Mike Stilwell says the current economic nosedive by the stock market has made booking new shows during the coming holiday season difficult. Mike tells us that most of this year's holiday business is coming from former clients and includes very few new customers.

Several Ring 76 members and their families were traveling during the month of October. **Don** and **Donna Soul** are driving from San Diego to Muscatine, Iowa where their sports-broadcasting son is living. Rob Soul is getting married November 1st and that event has prompted the trip by his parents to the mid-west. Muscatine, Iowa is a famous city on the Mississippi River because it was



the manufacturing center for circus and carnival calliopes for nearly 100 years as well as being the pearl button capital of the world. Meanwhile, **Bob** and **Judy Ingalls** took a cruise to the Hawaiian Islands but before Bob boarded the ship he spent a couple of evenings at the Magic Castle in Hollywood and says he had more fun visiting friends and seeing shows than he has had in years. **Ralph Mauzy** joined him on that visit to the Castle. **Terry Luncford** and his wife, Lynn, spent several days visiting the Grand Canyon in Arizona. Terry says they had one day of wind and rain but mostly it was sunny and beautiful.

New Ring 76 Board Member **Robert Meigs** has had a very busy October. In addition to getting a Halloween act ready for the Ring October meeting, he and his troop of Boy Scouts of America were scurrying to build a Haunted House that they open every Halloween season in the North County. Funds brought in from the Haunted House attraction help to keep the troop going all year long. A lot of illusion techniques are employed in the production of the Haunted House.

Former San Diego magic legend **Richard Turner**, better known as the "Cheat", will be working the Magic Castle October 13 to the 19th. If you plan on attending the Magic Castle Swap Meet, October 18th and stay over for the evening shows be sure to see Richard. Richard is cur-

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rently living in Texas and is working in a new show that is headed to New York. The show is called "Hoodwinked". After a run in New York, it will go to Las Vegas for an extended run. We hope to have more on the show in a future issue of MagiCurrents.

Craig Stone was back in San Diego for a few days in October. He pitched a trade show at the convention center on Oct 10th then worked at the Gathering Bar and Grill for one evening. He says he is still getting his feet on the ground in North Carolina and that he likes living there very much.

Big Tiny Don Bromley appears (then disappears) November 2nd from 6:30 'til 8:30pm presenting his show "Big Time: Illusions with a Message" at the College Avenue Baptist Church, 4747 College Ave., San Diego. There is an admission fee of \$12 but it includes a lot more than the show. Check with **Greg Wauson** for details. His phone number is (858) 566-5654.

Michael E. Johnson is encouraging IBM magicians to set up magic shows for people and places throughout San Diego County where professional entertainment cannot be afforded. Possible show candidates might be economically disadvantaged families, people with health difficulties, convalescent homes, schools, homeless shelters, military groups, hospitals, adult day care centers, prisons, churches or other worthy charity groups. If you schedule a special show that meets this criteria, please let Michael E. Johnson know at (760)747-4627 or e-mail him at mjohns341@cox.net. He'd appreciate it.

Coming Attractions

December 7	Holiday party pot luck
January 12	Teach-in
February 9	Close-up competition
March 9	Lecture: TBA
April 13	Swap Meet
May 11	Stand-up competition
June 8	Dues/Election/Favorite trick
July 12	Installation banquet



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MagiCurrents is published monthly by Ring 76 and is edited by Don Soul. We encourage articles, stories, pictures and news items of interest. All material should be submitted to Don Soul by e-mail at dsoul@san.rr.com or written manuscripts may be submitted to Don Soul, 10068 Branford Rd., San Diego, CA 92129-3223.