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Performers at the August meeting



Toni Perrine celebrated her birthday at the meeting, thanks to Joe Mystic!

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August 11 Meeting Highlights



Joe Mystic

The August 2009 meeting of Ring 76 explored the theme of Paper Magic, but the biggest subject was beloved Ring 76 member **Jack White**. **Bob Ingalls** provided an update, as everyone voiced their support and positive prayers for Jack's healing.

Club President **Michael E. Johnson** started the meeting with a new format, a 5-minute Local Vendor Showcase, to let members learn about each others services. **James Kellogg Jr.** launched the segment, talking about his business selling theatrical lighting and sound.

Next up, a Magic Mini-Panel Discussion was introduced to address the subject of "How to handle hecklers". An impromptu panel of experts **Joe Mystic**, **Jeff Marcus** and **Alex Greenbaum** described their experiences, and others in the audience shared as well.



Gary Dismukes



Alex Greenbaum



James Kellogg Jr.

August Meeting (continued)

Performers that night were **James Kellogg Jr.**, **Gary Dismukes**, **Joe Mystic**, **Jeff Marcus**, **Alex Greenbaum**, **Nick Brown**, **Charlie Gott**, **Richard Ustick**, **Greg Wauson**, **Michael E. Johnson**, and behind the bar, **Kenny Shelton**. **Belinda Kaesler** helped coordinate the show

Ring 76 guests included **Alexander Irving**, **Austin Blakely**, **Dolly Oberst Greene**, **Eddie Shinn**, **Stephen Gruibo**, **Cyrus Watson**, **Feras Abushaar**, **Ray Golden**, **Stan Katz**, **James Kellogg III** and **Victor Ball**.

The next meeting is
Monday, September 14.



Richard Ustick



Nick Brown



Jeff Marcus



Michael E. Johnson



Charlie Gott



Kenny Shelton



Greg Wauson

Editorial

Let's rename Ring 76 after Jack White

By Dr. Joel Moskowitz

A rose by any other name,
will smell even sweeter

A quiz: When you think of a welcoming, hospitable, sharing, encouraging, upbeat, affable, unassuming member, you will have difficulty not to think of Jack White. For almost half a century, his appearances on San Diego TV were an audience favorite and an industry legend. His credits and credentials are outstanding: an Emmy, The Mark Twain Award for writing, five (5) Golden Mike awards, Best Newscaster by The Associated Press, authoritative consultant for the movie "Anchorman" (DreamWorks Production), and he has appeared in several feature films.

This humble person is only too ready to teach, and to make his talent available to all who ask. He is the epitome of a gentleman magician. We of Ring 76 have had the advantage of Jack's generosity—our meetings are held in his marvelous museum of magic and circus memorabilia. He is a source of magic history, collects vintage magic apparatus and has an extensive library of books of legerdemain and 16 mm films portraying the art of yesteryear. His devotion to the conjuring arts has been recognized by the International Brotherhood of Magicians. This, the largest association of magicians in the world, has chosen Jack White as the next President.

In the latest "Linking Ring" magazine, I noticed that a ring decided to honor one of their members by hyphenating his name along with the prior Ring name. Although few are likely to have first hand knowledge of Honest Sid Gerhart, a businessman whose 'force' rejuvenated the IBM Ring in San Diego in 1958, Jack White knew him. Although Honest Sid passed away in 1975, his wife only died recently and there are some children. Knowing Jack's kindness, he would probably not wish to replace the Honest Sid Gerhart name with his own.

I propose that Ring 76 henceforth be known as The Honest Sid Gerhart-Presto Jack White Ring 76. What do you think?

I have explored the mechanism for doing this modification. Sindie of IBM Headquarters tells me that all that is needed is that she receive a copy of the Minutes of the Ring asserting that we wish to make this change. Joan Caesar, the current President of the IBM, thinks that this is a wonderful idea. So do I.



Jack White having fun at the June meeting



The latest news on Jack White

From Magic New Zealand

The September 5, 2009, issue of **Magic New Zealand** (Issue #690) published a letter by **Jack and Lynn White**, providing the most current update on his health situation. Here is the letter:



“International President Jack White suffered a diabetic stroke on July 20. It caused him to lose the use of his legs and ultimately to land in a physical therapy facility in San Diego where he lives. Jack is working hard at his therapy as well as performing his presidential duties from his bed. From time to time the numbness in his lower back has disappeared and then returned.”

“However, his doctors see this as a positive step. He has also noticed the touch of his therapist on his feet and ankle a few times. Obviously, progress is going to be slow, but progress is progress, and Jack is all for it. On September 9, Jack is transferring to the Veterans Hospital in San Diego where they specialize in spinal cord injuries. Jack is a U.S. Army veteran and is very grateful that the VA is an option for him. He will probably reside at the VA for at least a month.

“Jack is extremely grateful for all of the cards, good wishes and prayers that his fellow magicians have sent. You have no idea what a positive impact it has on Jack when he receives a funny card or a note from his brotherhood. Jack is determined to overcome this ‘bump in the road,’ and with everyone’s wonderful support, he knows he can do it. Thanks again. Jack & Lynn White”



From Twitter

To keep people informed on a daily basis, Lynn has been sending out Twitter updates since July 27. Here’s a sample of her daily reports:

1. Jack's Dr said that it was definitely an infection that caused his paralysis. Still growing the culture to see what it was. [9:57 PM Jul 27th](#)
2. We may learn what the culture is tomorrow. . .if it does not grow, that means it was an old infection. If so, no idea what happened. Jack also had 45 minutes of PT today, mostly hanging his legs over the side of the bed. [8:59 PM Jul 28th](#)
3. Visited Jack last evening and read him some of the funniest cards/letters ever. He enjoyed hearing from everyone. He said he thinks he felt a twitch in his right leg. Don't want to get too excited though. Still in a good mood. Jack was able to feel the warmth of a wash cloth on his leg this morning. He may be going to a rehab facility in Encinitas tomorrow. [4:40 PM Jul 30th](#)
4. I have been asking questions. The result is that the Drs have agreed to do more tests: bone scan, another MRI, heart ultrasound & angiogram. Jack felt the warm washcloth on his legs again. We are getting second opinions from nat'l experts through his connected magic friends. [9:56 PM Jul 31st](#)
5. The results of the MRI showed very slight swelling in spinal cord, nothing that would indicate

(continued)



Jack White Update (continued)

damage. Tomorrow & into next week, more tests. [4:48 PM Aug 2nd](#)

6. Right. Even better news is that this am PT got Jack to press his left leg down on the PT's hands which is very encouraging. It was his left leg that had the least movement immediately after his legs became weak, so he is pleased. Spinal tap this afternoon. [1:47 PM Aug 3rd](#)
7. Jack has left Mercy and gone to a PT rehab unit. He needs to concentrate on this, so we aren't giving out phone numbers or location. Jack is now working with the same Dr that took care of my mom after she had a stroke. The Dr really thinks that Jack had a diabetic stroke. [9:29 PM Aug 4th](#)
8. Jack's ready to work hard. Also, he loves the funny cards everyone is sending. Just to update, all of the tests at Mercy were negative, so we just have concentrate on rehab, regardless of what caused Jack's paralysis. [9:40 PM Aug 4th](#)
9. Dr thinks PT will take 4 wks. He offered to help get the house ready for his return. Magic friends are still getting a 2nd diagnosis 4 him. [9:39 PM Aug 5th](#)
10. Jack contracted a mild infection and was moved out of PT rehab to acute care. No PT until Mon or Tues. He had me laughing so much today. [9:12 PM Aug 8th](#)
11. They are still working to clear up the infection. [7:29 PM Aug 9th](#)
12. Good news--Jack had a strong twinge in his left foot. His infection is almost gone. He's back on the PT floor & looking forward to working hard again. Jack thanks everyone for their good wishes. It means so much to him that everyone is so concerned. Your good wishes make him happy. Thanks! [10:06 PM Aug 10th](#)
13. Jack had another twinge in his left leg tonight. . it went from his big toe to his shin. He had a lot of PT today, maybe that's why. [9:34 PM Aug 11th](#)
14. Jack had good news tonight. He is beginning to get some feeling in his gluteus maximus, if you know what I mean. Happened during PT today. Jack is scheduled to be in rehab until at least Sept 9. Then I may be able to get him into another rehab program, the more the better. [9:18 PM Aug 12th](#)
15. Jack was exhausted tonight from his PT. But that's a good thing because he is working so hard. He is happy with his progress. Jack asked if I could let everyone know that he is taking his progress in millimeters, not inches. He is patient, & hopes you are too. [9:46 PM Aug 13th](#)
16. Jack said one of his therapists asked him to "accelerate his right leg" which means push on her hand. She said she could feel a small push. We received the MRI results & though I will show it to our Dr friends, it looks like it confirms Jack had a stroke affecting his spinal cord. Even though we believe it was a stroke affecting the spinal cord, that doesn't mean that Jack can't get some movement back with intense PT. [9:39 PM Aug 14th](#)
17. I watched Jack's PT today and he had both feelings of pressure when his legs were exercised as well as stretching sensations in his legs. Jack could also feel the Physical Therapists' pressure on his foot when she pushed on it. Jack had a significant twitch/twinge in his left leg about a half hour after physical therapy today. [9:43 PM Aug 15th](#)
18. More leg tingling today which the Dr says is a good thing. Jack had a nice workout this afternoon in the PT gym. [6:28 PM Aug 18th](#)
19. Today the PTs tested Jack's upper body strength. They asked him to stretch a rubber band as far as he could. He broke it. They were in awe. Jack loves the cards, emails and phone

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From the President:

Newsletter Delays Unacceptable

As President of this magic club, I feel embarrassed when the Ring 76 newsletter is late. The last issue was published in June. The July and August issues are still missing in action!

I've shared my concerns with the Editor, and he promised to get caught up as soon as possible. He claims to have work and family issues, but who doesn't during these interesting times? He told me the late July and August issues will still be published, probably in the next few days. Hopefully, things will back on track for October.



Michael E. Johnson

In order to spice up the club meetings, I have added a Local Vendor Showcase and a Magic Mini-Panel Discussion. The vendor showcase is designed to help Ring 76 members do business with each other. Every month, a vendor will get five minutes to pitch their product, then the opportunity to sell that product after the meeting. If you want to sell something, contact me! Space is limited.

The Magic Mini-Panel Discussion will highlight a specific magic-related question every month, then ask an impromptu group of professionals to respond. Last month, the subject was hecklers. Future subjects might include Magic Show Pricing. If you have any questions for consideration, let me know!

The next meeting of IBM Ring 76 is Monday, September 14. The theme is "My New Magic" and members are encouraged to bring something new to share. See you soon.

Jack White Update (continued)

messages you are sending. It keeps him optimistic. Thank you for all you are doing. It means so much. [9:54 PM Aug 19th](#)

20. Yesterday Jack did sit-ups in PT. He is also keeping busy in between PT sessions with his Presidential magic duties via phone. Jack had a very active PT session today and tonight he had constant tingling in his legs. Today Jack could feel sensation while therapists exercised his legs & one of the hospital executives came by & gave Jack a snuggly blanket. [9:38 PM Aug 21st](#)
21. The tingling in Jack's legs is constant. He even felt sensations when the physical therapists worked with his legs, especially in his knees. [9:36 PM Aug 22nd](#)
22. Today Jack & I were able to go outside with the wheelchair. It was so great to see him enjoying the fresh air. I think he is improving! Jack's roommate's mother said Jack is the nicest man she has ever observed. She's been there every night & she said he's unusual. I agreed. She said, "you don't ever meet people like Jack." I said, "yes I'm very lucky." She has no idea! [9:06 PM Aug 23rd](#)
23. Jack's Dr. was impressed with Jack's upper body strength tonight. More tingling in his left leg but tingling still felt in both legs. Jack did side push-ups today. He had a great work-out, so tomorrow I am bringing him a vanilla milkshake from Carl's Jr. [10:05 PM Aug 24th](#)



Magic News Briefs

Mago Ruly has an exciting lineup of talent for the 7th MagiaFest 2009 in Mexico this month. Ring 76 members **Mago Ruly**, **Joe Mystic** and **Alfonso Vasquez** are headlining both days. Festivities start at Hotel Rosarito Tuesday, September 15 at 8:00 p.m., in Rosarito Beach. Performers include **Mago Frank y Blas**, **Turin**, **Justin y Joker**, **Ballet Ixtlazihtel** and **Mariachi**. The cost is \$15. The next day, in Tijuana, the program includes **Frank y Blas**, **Kalihan**, **Turin**, **Brenda Shinohara y sus Canciones**, **Club Infantil**, and an Expo. This 2:00 p.m. show will be held at the Saury-Teatro Entrada libre. For more info, e-mail mruly@yahoo.com, or call 01152-664 663 63 64.

Joel Ward hosts a special benefit show on Sunday, September 27, for the San Dieguito Heritage Museum in Encinitas. The event begins with lunch at 11:30 a.m., followed by entertainment at 12:30 p.m.. The cost is \$25 per person. The Museum is located at 450 Quail Gardens Drive in Encinitas. Joel is a long-time supporter of the Encinitas community. His great great grandfather was one of the beach city's founding members. For more info, visit www.sdheritage.org.

Brad Etter of Vista is recovering from a serious car accident he suffered after his heart stopped beating while driving. Thanks to the quick actions of a bystander, Brad received CPR and was saved.

FISM comedy award winner **Robert Baxt** will give a lecture on Tuesday, October 6, at 7:00 p.m. at Jack's Magic Place, 4275 University Ave. in San Diego. The cost is \$15. For more information, call event sponsor Syd Segal at 619-300-1344, or e-mail him at BTL6380@aol.com. You can learn more about Robert Baxt at www.robertbaxt.com.

The **Trick Shop in Temecula** is sponsoring a lecture by **Aaron Fisher** on Saturday, September 19, at 6:00 p.m. For info, call 951-506-0664 or 866-MAGIC-04, or visit www.trickshopmagic.com. Their hours are now Thursday – Saturday from noon to 5:00 p.m., and on Monday – Wednesday by appointment. Their new address is 28545 Felix Valdez #B-3, Temecula, CA 92590.

Terry Lunceford performs at the Magic Castle in Hollywood on September 18 and 19 in the W.C. Fields Bar, and from September 21 – 27 in the Parlour late shows. Terry is one of the few San Diegans to be honored on the walls of the Magic Castle. His caricature hangs with other luminaries like Dai Vernon.

Ring 76 Calendar

Sep. 14*My New Magic Night
Oct. 12* Halloween Magic Night
Nov. 9 Auction
Dec. 13Holiday Banquet
Jan. 11, 2010* Lecture &
New Member Induction
Feb. 8*Close-up Competition
Mar. 8*Favorite Trick Night
Apr. 12..... Swap Meet
May 10*Stage Competition
June 14 Lecture, Election & Dues
July 11 Awards Banquet &
Installation of Officers

* chance for members to perform

