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*Lots of spooky fun
at the October meeting!*



Jeff Marcus charms the crowd.



Belinda Kaesler provided the candy.

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October Meeting Highlights

Halloween Magic was the theme for the IBM Ring 76 meeting on Monday, October 12. A great audience gathered by 7:00 p.m. at Jack's Magic Place, conveniently located on University Avenue

behind a sign that reads "Woofle Dust Inc." Ring 76 is the only magic club in the world that meets in a private magic museum hidden behind a storefront on a gritty city street.

Some of the guests in attendance included **Hannan Binder, Ruben, Mario Martinez, Denzil Bee, Chuck Cook, Derek Housan, Bill Pogue, Dotty Oberst and Vidar K. Strat.**



Syd Segal



J.P. Jackson

(continued)



Don Soul



Chuck Cook gets help from Arlene Moskowitz, Donna Greenbaum, and a rapping skeleton hand.



October Meeting (continued)

A quick Board of Directors meeting was held at 6:30 p.m. before the regular meeting. Members are always welcome to attend (and always at risk of getting appointed to something). One item under consideration was a proposal to change the name of the club to the Jack White Ring 76. After much discussion, the Board decided to keep the club name and not mess with tradition. At the same time, there was still consensus to honor Jack in a more special way.

The Board is currently investigating the feasibility of setting up a Jack White Magic Youth Scholarship Fund. Students who are magicians in San Diego County schools would be eligible. It might even be coordinated with the 2010 International Convention in



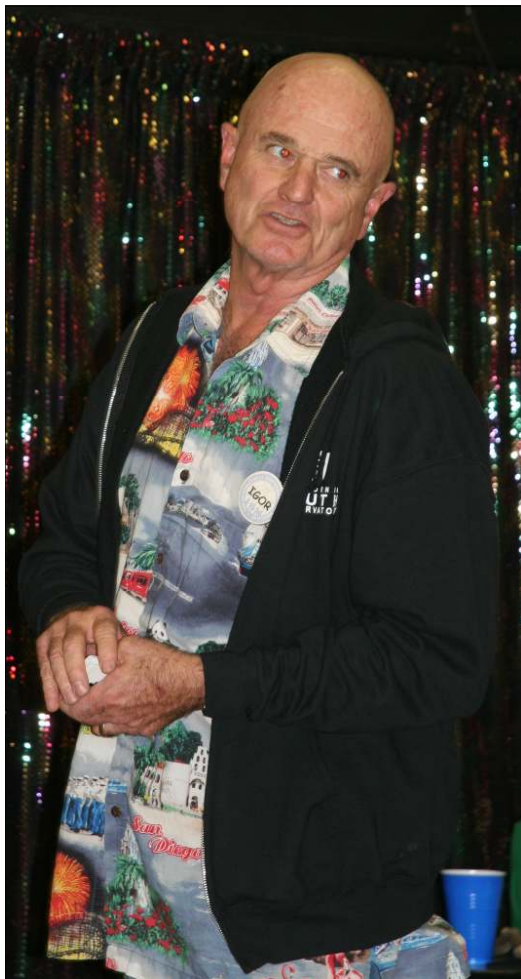
Greg Wauson

San Diego, to allow deserving students a chance to attend this exciting event with a parental chaperone. Money for the scholarships could be raised through benefit shows, and San Diego's top magicians could be invited to perform. The Board decided to solicit more feedback from the members on this.

Then came the magic hour of 7:00 p.m., when Ring 76 President **Michael E. Johnson** started the meeting promptly (at 7:05 p.m.) with a round-up of magic news and announcements.

First on the agenda was **J.P. Jackson**, who met recently with **Jack White** at the V.A. Hospital in San Diego. J.P. reported our International President was in good spirits, despite a grueling schedule of physical therapy. Jack is even trying to set up a magic show at the Hospital, possibly in December. Jack told J.P. and **Bob Ingalls** to thank all the club members for their positive thoughts, cards and prayers.

Second, President Johnson conducted a mini-survey of the membership, to find out preferences for future lecture events. Some of the names suggested include **Lee Alex, Michael Ammar, Harry Anderson, David Ben, Rich Bloch, Eugene Burger, Chris Capehart, Mike Caveney, Michael Close, Daryl, David Ginn, Paul Green, Jeff Hobson, Bruce Kalver, Fernando Keops, Kostya Kimlat, Jonathan Levit, Max Maven, Eric Mead, Rocco, David Roth, Nick Ruggiero, George Schindler, Juan Tamariz, Teller, Richard Turner and Gregory Wilson.**



Bob Meigs

(continued)

October meeting (continued)



Sherry Luft

The Local Vendor Showcase came next, and **Syd Segal** shared exciting news about his activities. First he showed his creative offerings, giving Ring 76 members a chance to purchase DVDs and publications like “Full Metal Jacket”. Then, he talked about the upcoming Magic-Con event he is organizing in March 2010. Syd tipped off Ring 76 members on how to save \$100 off the registration fees.



Malcolm Campbell and Loch David Crane

The fourth item of business was a panel discussion on collecting **Houdini**. President Johnson invited club members to share their favorite stories. His favorite item was a key that once belonged to Houdini. **Don Soul** showed the club a Houdini Action Figure from his

personal collection. **Frank Lehmann** described how he purchased a book signed by Houdini for around \$60 many years ago. J.P. Jackson urged collectors to make sure who they’re buying from, when it comes to Houdiniana.



Bob Ingalls



Kenny Shelton

(continued)



Magicians Needed For Chargers Blood Drive

For many years members of Ring 76 have volunteered to help out with the annual Chargers Blood Drive, sponsored by the San Diego Blood Bank. This year the event will be Tuesday, Nov. 24, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Town and Country Convention Center. Close-up roaming entertainers are needed. If you're interested, contact **Lillian Gonzalez** at lgonzalez@bloodbank.org.



Dazzling Diane Lane & Kenny Shelton

October meeting (continued)

Finally came the magic show, and ten performers signed up to entertain, with help from 1st Vice President **Belinda Kaesler** and 2nd Vice President **Kenny Shelton**.

New member **Malcolm Campbell** started things off with his Ring 76 debut. He performed the signed dime in the water bottle, using **Loch David Crane** as a volunteer. The crowd approved his audition, and voted to accept his membership in the Club.

Second up, **Bob Meigs** did a funny card routine with volunteer **Donna Greenbaum**. Chosen cards were retrieved from a bucket of mud, followed by a snake and a gun.



Godfrey

The third performer was Kenny Shelton, who made one of the best entrances ever by crawling up from under the stage when introduced. His torn and restored card was well received. Fourth, **Jeff Marcus** charmed the crowd with a card trick and the Evil Eye. Fifth, **Greg Wauson** suspended a jar of water with a wooden spoon, stunning the audience. Sixth, **Chuck Cook** had fun with Uncle Gerald's Rapping Skeleton Hand, with help from **Arlene Moskowitz** and **Donna Greenbaum**.

The seventh performer was Bob Ingalls, who did an amazing stunt with words written on cards. His volunteer was **Joel Moskowitz**. Eighth, **Godfrey** shared his Strait Jacket Escape with volunteer **Sherry Luft**. The comedy was so riotous that the Club President / Editor / Photographer Johnson lost power to his camera, and was thus unable to take pictures of the final two acts.

Ninth, **Toni Perrine** did a production of various items from a Plastic Halloween Pumpkin. The final performer was **James Kellogg**, who recreated a spooky campfire setting, with help from volunteer Vidar K. Strat, and some haunted keys. After the show, and the clubhouse clean-up, the Ring 76 gang moved to Dennys down the street for more magic and food. It was another great meeting! Thanks to all!



Review by Joel A. Moskowitz, M.D.

“The London Palladium: The Story of the Theatre and Its Stars” by Chris Woodward

Palladium is a relative of Platinum, another silvery precious metal. The London Palladium is a valued venue where for centuries illustrious stage performers including many of the greats of magic have appeared.

Chris Woodward, a British magician and author (“**Maurice Fogel** - In Search of the Sensational) has with Jeremy Mills Publishing Limited produced a well-deserved tribute to this glamorous theater. Readers of this extensively illustrated book will have a front row seat in the history, charm and enduring affection that performers and audiences have had for productions on this century old stage. Woodward melded his own collection of programs and memorabilia with skillful prose which reads like

poetry to describe the evolution of a building which was to become a world renown theatrical monument.

The Variety menu would often include a “spesh” act, i.e. a magician, a juggler, maybe a ventriloquist or a quick change artist. **Bautier de Kolta** was the first known magician to perform at the Palladium (1987) when the place was still the home of the National Skating Palace. On a special stage built upon the ice rink, he would climb a vertical ladder, dressed as a fireman and almost at the top, vanish! The amazing **Ramses**, actually a former Yiddish actor of Polish descent, was so admired that for the first time the **King and Queen of England** came to the Palladium, stamping royal approval upon the Palladium. Magicians will learn about **Chung Ling Soo**; the **Great Lafayette**; **Hang Pin Chen**; **Carlton** (the first British wizard to make an appearance at the Palladium); “the Whirlwind Wizard” **Horace Goldin**; the master illusionist **Percy Thomas Tibbles** (morphed his last name to become **Selbit**), a former architect who constructed an act where in less than a minute seven distinct illusions were created; **Carl Hertz (Leib Morgenstern)**, creator of the vanishing birdcage with a real canary; **Fred Cullpitt**, inventor of the doll’s house illusion for production of a full-size female assistant; **Hymack**, whose gloves, hat, bow ties and handkerchiefs changed color, disappeared and reappeared at will; and **Carmo** whose “Most Gigantic Mystery Act in the World” involved lions, tigers, bears, horses, two elephants, a camel and forty assistants—Noah would have been amazed.

Followers of the prestidigitator’s famous will know, of course, **Houdini**, **Cardini**, **Channing Pollack**, **Harbin**, **Billy McComb**, **Al Koran**, **John Nevil Maskelyne**, **Jasper Maskelyne** and a myriad of other contemporary wonder-makers. It is no illusion that Woodward tells an enlightening story, not only of the mystics but the exceptional thespians that once upon a time delighted audiences at The London Palladium. The following apocryphal story described by author Chris Woodward tells it all: Auditions were being held for a show. The Producer yelled, “Next”. On walked a man in a raincoat. “What do you do, sing, dance or what?” asked the Producer.

“I don’t do anything” replied the stranger.

“Then why are you here?” angrily said the Producer.

“I just wanted to tell my grandchildren that I had stood on the stage of the London Palladium.”

Such is the magic and mystique of this honored house of entertainment. If television irritates, this reviewer prescribes reading “The London Palladium” by Chris Woodward, a remedy for tired performances. Obtain it from the publishers or your favorite dealer.

Rx Rx Rx Rx Rx (5 out of 5). Highly Prescribed.



From the President:

Ring 76 Auction Set For Nov. 8

San Diego's biggest (and only) magic auction of the year happens Monday, November 8, at the annual Ring 76 Auction. This night of bargains is a highlight for astute collectors of vintage magic memorabilia, and it brings thrills to the rest of us who like accumulating more magic stuff than we could ever learn to use. Here's the lowdown:

Only Ring 76 members may sell, but anyone can buy. Ten percent of the sales go to the Club, the rest to the sellers. Cash only. Auctioneer **Terry Lunceford** promises to keep the action fast and loose, but everyone needs to work together to keep things flowing. Horseplay and monkey business will not be tolerated.

Although the meeting starts at 7:00 p.m., buyers and sellers should arrive early to get registered. Sellers should be there by 6:30 p.m. Each sale item must be described in the following way on a 3" x 5" index card: 1) name of seller, 2) name of item to sell, 3) brief description of item, 4) opening bid price. Index cards will be supplied if needed.

If you can't follow the rules, don't worry, we still love you. We'll find a way to help you sell your stuff, so the Club can get our 10% of the action.

Sale items will be placed on tables with their index card tags. When the auction begins, the auctioneer will start grabbing items. He will sell five consecutive items from one seller, then shift to another seller. That way, every seller gets an early chance at the buyers wallets. Sellers need to pay attention, because when your items come up, the auctioneer might ask questions to help the sale.

Items will sold "as is" to the highest bidders. The auctioneer will rely on the descriptions provided by the sellers and the opening bid prices. If the minimum bid is not met, the item will be returned to the seller unsold. Winning bidders will receive tags. At the end of the evening, buyers take their winning tags to the Ring 76 Treasurer to pay up, then Ring 76 pays back the sellers less 10%.

If all goes well, the Ring 76 Auction is a fast-paced, exciting and chaotic event. If things screw up, it's even more fun.

Holiday Party December 13

The next meeting of IBM Ring 76 is Sunday, December 13, the annual holiday party. Because of logistics, this party will be held at a new location, a location so secret we don't even know where it is yet. But don't worry, we'll figure everything out and let you know.

This is going to be an awesome party! More details will be released soon. And if anyone has a spare room, centrally located in town, with seats for 100 people, allows pot-lucks, doesn't cost much, and is magic-friendly, let us know.



Michael E. Johnson

MagiCurrents

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Magic News Briefs

Syd Segal told Ring 76 members that **Juan Tamariz** has been added as a special guest at Magic-Con from March 19-21, 2010, in a rare American appearance. This conference will be held at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront. Syd encourages all San Diego magic lovers to register early, as the event is almost sold out. For info, visit www.magic-con.org.

Malcolm Campbell found a cheap source for Bicycle decks on eBay, \$1.95 each in quantities of 36. The seller name is "sunlightsuperman". **Eddie Shinn** found a source for rope at www.magiciansrope.com.

Don & Donna Soul enjoyed the recent screening of the San Diego Asian Film Festival in October. Son **Rob Soul** was involved in the film "All About Dad" as Production Manager. Congratulations!

Jacques Lord is finally living in his rebuilt home, approximately two years after fires devastated his Rancho Bernardo neighborhood. He sends his regards to Ring 76, and regrets that his day job, helping to rebuild the San Onofre nuclear plant, has been severely interfering with his magic hobbies.

A new magic shop has opened in San Diego at Seaport Village. Owned by **Lindsay and Jarod Martin**, **Village Magic** is only a kiosk, but it carries many popular tricks and supplies. On Saturday, Nov. 7, Saturday, they host a young magicians workshop for ages 5 - 11 at 10:30 a.m.; cost is \$2.99; visit them at 851 W. Harbor Dr., Suite E, in San Diego; for info call 619-696-5072 or www.villagemagicshop.com.

Tyson Vogel is helping **Milt Larsen** and **Dale Hindman** promote the It's Magic show November 8 at the Kodak Theatre in Hollywood. The line-up is stellar, including **Lance Burton, Mac King, Rudy Coby, Joseph Gabriel & Katalin, Kevin James, Jorge Blass** and **Shimada**. **Neil Patrick Harris** is the host. For tickets visit www.ticketmaster.com.

Loch David Crane appears Nov. 1 at the Fallback Festival in the Gaslamp area of San Diego (along with **Godfrey**), Nov. 17 at the Laguna Niguel Library, Nov. 20 at the Light Up The Night Leukemia event at Qualcomm Stadium and Nov. 21 at the Toys for Tots Motorcycle Run at Oceanside Harbor.

A complete calendar of magic events around San Diego County, including club meetings, public shows, restaurants and fundraisers, can be found at www.SanDiegoMagicNews.com.

Ring 76 Calendar

Nov. 9.....	Ring 76 Auction
Dec. 13.....	Holiday Banquet
Jan. 11, 2010.....	Lecture
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

