

Legerdemain Digest

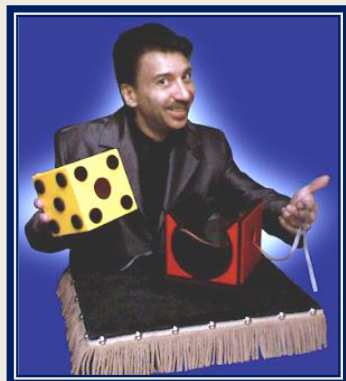


IBM Ring 313

The John Fedko Ring
Volume XVIII, Issue 4 April 2012



Message from the President – *(sounds official, doesn't it?)*



Old is goooooood.

For some unexplained reason, magicians who have seen a magic trick that has been around for some time, say "I've already seen that one," and they ignore it. Why? I don't know, perhaps they are not performing for other people, but are buying magic for themselves.

Look at car collectors. They proudly show-off their 56' Chevys but if they were magicians they wouldn't be caught dead driving anything other than the newest car available. *{Except for Dick Barry's Model T}*

What are the benefits of researching the classics? Well, if you remember back, not too long ago, there were a few young men who cracked open some of the classic books like Wilsons', Dunningers', and Tarbells. They used some of the tricks therein to create modern theatre, for the public. The major difference in the effect, from the time it was published to the modern time where it is seen on television, is the way the performer is dressed and the performance venue.

Consider this. How many times do magicians go to kid's birthday parties and perform the linking rings. This is a new trick for that audience. Then consider the percentage of people who actually go out and perform on a regular basis. There are 311,591,917 people in the US and only 70,000 people who perform in any regular capacity. Magicians comprise only .00224 percent of the population.

How many times do people talk to you about the magic they've seen? When they do, I bet it's usually about the same tricks again and again. So, when you decide to pass over tricks and effects because they've already been on the market and YOU know how they work, I say, that you're not performing for the audience, but for yourself. That's the same as a band who only plays new music. We all know that when you buy a ticket to see a live concert that you want to hear them play the songs that made them famous.

So the next time you visit the magic shop or look in a book, take a look at the effects and ask the question "will my audience like these." Don't look upon your Next Trick as the "One" that will make you famous.

Jay Leslie, President, The John Fedko Ring

Coming Events at Ring 313

April 24, 2012 *Jon Armstrong* to lecture
May, 29, 2012 Dealers demos and sales plus a Swap Meet
June 26, 2012 *David Zirbel* to lecture
July 31, 2012 To be announced

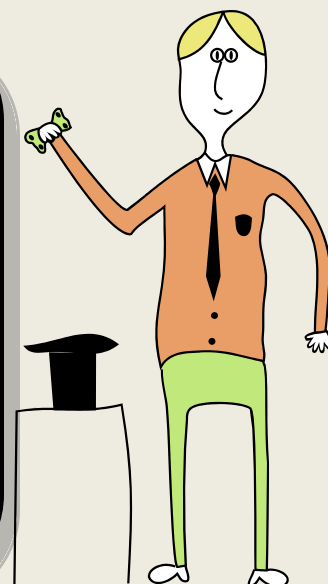
Welcome NEW Members

New Members to the Ring will have a **red arrow** on their name badges. When you see that red arrow, please introduce yourself; that applies if you have a red arrow too! The name badges help to break the ice, please get to know the Ring members by name.

The IBM Ring 313 Officers and Directors for 2012

Officers and Directors for 2012

President, **Jay Leslie** (714) 847-5311
Vice-President **Roy Ball** (310) 356-0018
Secretary, **Philip Henderson** . . . (949) 322-4329
Treasurer, **Chris Wynkoop** (949) 929-0829
Newsletter Editor, **Jim "Cardman" Greene** (714) 318-2309
Past President, **Kevin Brown** . . . (949) 347-0305
Raffles Chair, **Michael Van Horn** (714) 965-0101
Member at Large, **John Fedko**. . (714) 538-6044
Member at Large, **Todd Reis** . . . (714) 673-7320
Webmaster **Don Hill** (714) 345-1114
Junior's Program, **Kent Kwan** and **Annie Young** (714) 966-1652



Sorry folks, no picnic this year.

Due to our inability to secure a proper location to hold our annual picnic, we will forgo a picnic this year. Many of our members are active in the OCMC, which will host its annual picnic on June 10, 2012. Check with OCMC President Michael van Horn for details.

Ring 313 Members flash the Pasteboards

At our March 27, 2012 Regular Meeting we used the time to exchange ideas about performing magic using Playing Cards. Whenever someone discovers that you are a magician, he or she expects that you will be able to entertain him with an illusion using playing cards. Playing cards are great props for magicians because most lay people have played card games. Using a prop that is familiar to your audience is always a benefit for the magician. Each of us uses different methods (your favorite method) to handle the cards that cause miracles in our hands.

We practiced false cuts, false shuffles, revelations, and methods to force a card. Jay Leslie started things off for the evening followed by first time guest, Abu, then Richard Zucker, Gos, Ryan Porter, Roy Ball, and Chris Wynkoop. Then two new members, James Hjorth and Lanny Broders stepped up with a slip force and the glide respectively. Jeff Abbit showed the power of using an unwilling shill as he slipped a card into the pocket of an unsuspecting spectator while he forced the card using a 50/50 deck. Bill Pearce showed us nuances on the "cut deeper force" and the Balducci force. Todd Reis and Cardman Greene showed some of their moves. Sammy Ruiz took the stage to close the evening with three effects, Monkey in the Middle, Paint in the Hand, and Michael Ammar's (Bill Goldwin) Ace Assembly. (Editor's Note: Sorry, I didn't get all the moves.)

THEY DID WHAT?

The following items are from "Herrmann's Book of Magic © 1903. Printed by J. Drake & Co, Chicago, Illinois. These are dangerous tricks and should not be attempted:

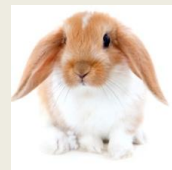
Luminous Writing—Take a piece of phosphorus, and, during candle-light, write upon a whitewashed wall any sentence or word, or draw any figure according to fancy. Withdraw the candle from the room and direct the attention of the spectators to the writing. Whatever part the phosphorus has touched will be rendered quite luminous, emitting a whitish smoke or vapor. Care must be taken while using the phosphorus, to dip it frequently in a basin of cold water, or the repetitive friction will throw it into a state of the most active combustion, to the manifest detriment of the operator.

Two Cold Liquids When Mixed Become Boiling Hot. Put in a thin phial two quarts (by measure) of sulphuric acid, and add to it one part of water; on agitating or stirring them together the mixture instantly becomes hot, and acquires a temperature above that of boiling water.

Exploding Soap-bubbles. This is a novelty, and will be found to produce a very good effect. The bubbles are blown in the usual way with an ordinary clay pipe, the only preparation necessary being that the bowl of the pipe must be filled with cotton-wool soaked in gasoline. Bubbles blown with a pipe thus prepared will be found to explode in a flame when approached with a light.

Two world famous magicians meet at the Magic Castle. A visitor walks up to the magicians and asks them to perform a magic trick. The first performer does a card trick. The second magic turns five \$1 bills into five \$100 bills. The visitor thanks the magician and turns into a bar.

Which trick was the best?



Answer: The visitor's trick.



Philip is the guy on the far left, standing next to his local city councilman in June 1965.

Secretary's Notes . . . What's happening at the Ring?

magic trunk and replace those old lamps with new magical possibilities. The first law of magic is Thou cannot purchase new stuff, no matter how enticing, until you make space in your trunk for the new goods. That means parting with a treasure that you obtained with good intentions however over the past decade has only gathered dust and taken up valuable space. Bring that stuff to the Swamp Meat. Let your magic get a new home and you can bring home a kitty cat or a puppy.

The April 24, 2012 meeting is a lecture by **Jon Armstrong**. He last lectured for us in 2005, we are happy that he is returning. Jon specializes in close up performances. He is a regular performer at the Magic Castle and gives advice to film-makers who want to use magical effects in their motion pictures. Jon will demonstrate



tricks, sleights, and methods to handle hecklers while entertaining your grateful audiences. You will see how to build your routine and use misdirection to get your audience on your side. Armstrong uses humor and carefully designed routines to make his magic special for each audience member. If you missed his lecture in 2005, make certain you get a front row seat this time.

May 29, 2012 will feature a **Dealer's Demo and Swap Meet**. We will begin having dealers show us their newest items on sale for members. We will continue with your opportunity to unload magical apparatuses that have grown old in your

June 26, 2012 will feature a lecture by **David Zirbel**. A multiple awarding winning magician will lecture at IBM Ring 313 fresh from a world tour. Zirbel dazzles and



amazes audiences world-wide. This is his first Orange County lecture, you are certain to see methods and techniques that will enhance your stage performances. Zirbel is the second lecturer we

have hosted in the last six months who stands 6' 9" tall. Bring your binoculars if you want to see him eye-to-eye.

Please send your answer to *Barry Matas* at MerlinWestCoast@netscape.net. The first ten correct answers will receive **one free raffle ticket** for the April 24, 2012 meeting that features a playing card workshop.

Magically Fun Facts about Jon Armstrong

Which statement is false?



1. Jon Armstrong won Close Up Magician of the year at the Magic Castle in 2007.
2. Armstrong spent 10-years perfecting a quick change routine for his dog.
3. Jon has served on the Board of Trustees at the Magic Castle. He was the youngest person ever to serve on the board.
4. Armstrong's collection of Batman comic books goes all the way back to 1939.
5. Jon named the lead character in the "Smoke and Mirrors" comic strip after his magician mentor, Terry Ward.

DEAFinitely News at Downtown Disney



Our Ring member Steven Longacre and Greg Koppel form the performance act known as **DEAFinitely Magic!** They have won international awards for their magic as well as first place in the Ring 313 Stage Contest. On Saturday, March 17 and Sunday, March 18, 2012, they put on two- fifteen minute magic shows each day. They were part of a special program showing the abilities of deaf performers. Steve hopes this will become an annual event. It was called "**SIGNin' in the Street at Downtown Disney District.**" This event was a celebration of creativity in the Deaf community. Steven is a charter member of our Ring; Greg is a long-time visitor who you will remember is the comic relief side of the magical duo.



This event celebrated creativity in the deaf community in the arts, in technology, and in society. *American Sign Language* (ASL) "I Love Mickey" t-shirt is one of the merchandise exclusive to the event.

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Jim **Greene**/Philip Henderson
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Wizard's Calendar

Regular meetings are held at the Irvine Ranch Water District Building, 15600 Sand Canyon Avenue in Irvine. Directions and map at www.Ring313.org.

Tuesday, April 10, 2012	7 pm	Ring LITE at Knowlwood Restaurant, Irvine an opportunity to try out new tricks and sleights
Saturday, April 14, 2012	2-4 pm	Junior Magicians Club meeting. At the home of Leader of the Pack. Practice and rehearsal for play.
Tuesday, April 24, 2012	7pm	Regular meeting of RING 313 with special guest lecturer Jon Armstrong
Tuesday, May 8, 2012	7 pm	Ring LITE at Knowlwood Restaurant, Irvine an opportunity to try out new tricks and sleights
Saturday, May 12, 2012	2-4 pm	Junior Magicians Club meeting. At the home of Leader of the Pack. Practice and rehearsal for play.
Tuesday, May 29, 2012	7pm	Regular meeting of RING 313 with Dealer Demonstrations and a Swap Meet

"THE IRVINE RANCH WATER DISTRICT NEITHER SUPPORTS OR ENDORSES THE CAUSE NOR ACTIVITIES OF ORGANIZATIONS WHICH USE THE DISTRICT'S MEETING ROOMS THAT ARE MADE AVAILABLE AS A PUBLIC SERVICE."



IBM RING 313

Tuesday, April 24, 2012



Jon Armstrong

7:00 PM at the Irvine Ranch Water District
15600 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine, CA 92618



Jon Armstrong uses **"SMOKE and MIRRORS"** to entertain audiences all over the world. He was the Close up performer of the Year in 2007 at the Magic Castle. This local prestidigitator will visit IBM Ring 313 on Tuesday, April 24, 2012. **Yes, his arms are powerful; he can double lift with only one hand.** He is a regular performer at the Magic Castle and gives advice to film-makers who want to use magical effects in their motion pictures. Jon will demonstrate tricks, sleights, and methods to handle hecklers while entertaining your grateful audiences. You will see how to build your routine and use misdirection to get your audience on your side. Armstrong uses humor and carefully designed routines to make his magic special for each audience member. If you missed his lecture in 2005, make certain you get a front row seat this time.

Admission free for IBM members; guests will pay a \$10.00 fee.

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