

# Legerdemain Digest



## IBM Ring 313

The John Fedko Ring  
Volume XVIII, Issue 5 May 2012



### Message from the So Called President

"Anything that can happen usually does."

Those are sage words from my mentor Jim Swoger. "*Anything that can happen usually does*". However if you're not there to see it, did it happen or is it an urban legend?

Upcoming Sunday June 10<sup>th</sup> is our next event (Picnic). That is, if you forget about the Swap Meet May 29<sup>th</sup>. Do not forget about the swap meet the day after Memorial Day. Instead, remember to bring stuff that's sitting on your shelves and see if you can find a new home for it. Seeing that this is a brotherhood. We're all going to try and share table space so if you show-up early and load-up a few tables, then please be prepared to unload them. Since we've never had a big problem with too many people at the swap meet there shouldn't be a problem now. I believe we should all just try to get along.



The idea that you are rotating stock (bringing out new stuff) from one hour to the next could work to your advantage: People tend to walk around the room a bunch of times then leave when they think they've seen it all. By bringing out new items you'll peak their interest and you may have better sales then the times people take an hour to look - not buy - then walk around some more and finally leave. When someone sees what they want, they'll ask.

An alternative to laying everything out at one time, is to have items in boxes that you rotate. Invite folks to look through the boxes. Then other people will want to see what all the buzz is about. Suddenly you have a bidding war, on your hands... but I digress. As I said in the beginning, "*Let there be light.*" Sorry, that was another speech. As I was writing in the beginning, anything that can happen usually does. And if this system doesn't work: We can always go back to signing-up for tables...being told that you didn't sign-up in time... showing up to find empty tables because a few people (who signed-up) didn't attend... and wondering why there's empty tables and all your stuff is at home . . .

Anything that can happen usually does. That means you might see unusual stuff at the picnic that will never happen anywhere else. You never know if I might pick-up Michael Van Horn and turn him head for heels. Well. I promise . . . I will never do that again. I might flip Suds over so all the loose change comes out of his pockets, or toss Scott in the pool to see if

he's been practicing his escapes or actually chop the head off a volunteer. Never mind what might happen to Jeff... All I'm saying is, anything that can happen usually does... but if you're not there you'll miss it.

*Jay (anything can happen) Leslie*  
President, The John Fedko Ring

### Coming Events at Ring 313

May, 29, 2012	<i>Dealers demos</i> and sales plus a <i>Swap Meet</i>
Jun 10, 2012	<i>PICNIC with OCMC</i> at Dan McKerren's home
June 26, 2012	<i>David Zirbel</i> to lecture
July 31, 2012	<i>Sylvester the Jester</i> , <i>Dan Sylvester</i> to lecture
August 28, 2012	To be determined

# 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.

## IBM Ring 313 Officers and Directors for 2012

### Officers and Directors for 2012

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





## David Regal shows professional chops at Ring 313

On Tuesday, April 24, 2012 magician and writer David Regal lectured for the third time since 2003. He was outstanding! Regal showed us great technique and good magical thinking. Many of his ideas were illusions that you can manufacture yourself. He told us how to make the props and where to get the raw materials. Of course, there were a few gimmicks that it was easier to purchase than to make. Nonetheless, Regal showed us many great illusions that you can make yourself for a small sum using ordinary objects. David Regal was a last minute substitute for Jon Armstrong who was forced to work for money instead of enjoying the evening with us. Our members were the fortunate winners in this switch. We are grateful to Jon Armstrong who asked Regal to fill in for him. Therefore, we have two magicians to thank for a great evening.

Most of what Regal showed us was published in his landmark "textbook" on magic, "Approaching Magic." Members purchased a box full of this book at a special lecture only price. Published in 2009, Approaching Magic has more than 1,000 photographs on more than five hundred pages. The book contains magical effects that can be performed standing, sitting, close up, or stage. Regal shows you how the effects work and how to perform the effects for a truly magical experience for your audiences. Many effects use ordinary objects that add power to your work because everything appears impromptu, as though you can make anything magical.

Regal is an entertainer who uses magical effects to bring stunning effects to his audience. His easy going personality invites the audience to play with him as he produces one after another magical effect. Playing cards, dollar bills, talking 8 balls, coins, Regal's magic comes at you from every direction. Whatever style suits you, Regal has something to challenge you to learn.

## Raffle Nooze



The April 24, 2012 meeting featured a 50/50 raffle. Michael van Horn was recuperating from an illness, therefore our Sergeant-At-Arms, **Jim "Cardman" Greene**, filled in to run the raffle. The winner was Mr. Lanny Broders, who took home \$28.50 Thanks to everyone for your support of the Ring!

*Phil van Tee teaching an Average magician a rope trick.*



# Junior's Corner

On April 14, 2012, our Ring 313 Juniors, Christopher Tarr, Tommy Ogura and Josh Serrano, brought their magical prowess to an event aptly titled "**Ethics in Wonderland**" in the Woodbridge community of Irvine. The

event was sponsored by Irvine dentist, Dr. Bill Hsiang, held at his dental offices. The set up was fantastical, an Alice in Wonderland theme if you will. They performed a multitude of close-up magic. The guests were amazed that these three young gentlemen truly bewildered them with their card effects.

The question of the hour became, "Where did you learn all this? Do you go to school for this?" The juniors responded with information about Ring 313, although I would have responded "Hogwarts" myself. The only thing missing was that rascally white rabbit. *Uh oh*, Juniors! Did you have something to do with this?

If you know anyone else who may have an upcoming event, our juniors would love to help. Clockwise: The Trio; Tommy, Christopher, and Josh! Congratulations guys!





Two magicians meet at the Hearth and Hare room at the Magic Castle. One magician is from Germany and floats objects in midair. The other magician is from Canada, he saws a woman in half. **Which illusionist used gimmicks and which one was a real magician? Answer: Both performers are real magicians because they use gimmicks. If they could do this without gimmicks they would not be magicians, they would be Gods!**

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



**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 and will conclude with an opportunity for you to unload magical apparatuses that have grown old in your magic trunk. Bring your favorite illusion that you would enjoy seeing someone else perform because it is merely gathering dust in your storage room. Bring your magical curiosity and get ready to purchase a new illusion to fit in the space that you now have available because you sold the old piece at the Swamp Meat. We expect at least eight local dealers to join us and present their newest items to tempt your wallet. Dealers will be allowed to set up between 6:00 and 6:45 pm, then the fun begins.



**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 worldwide.

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.

**July 31, 2012** features a lecture by Dan Sylvester, known to most of y'all as Sylvester the Jester, the human cartoon. Dan will present some of his new ideas. This is Dan's third visit to Ring 313. Danny has been traveling a lot since his last visit spending a lot of time in Japan and Europe.



You will be surprised to see the ideas that have crossed the oceans with him. He always has a lot of ideas about how to create a magic show using ordinary objects that take on a magical quality.

**PICNIC NEWS!** Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls . . . **The Orange County Magic Club** has invited us to join them on **Sunday, June 10, 2012** as they celebrate their annual picnic. This year the event will be held, as is their tradition at the home of a member. This time Dan McKerren is the host for the picnic. Ring Members are asked to bring desserts and salads; chairs; and a readiness to perform magic for the guests. More details to follow.





## Magically Fun Facts

### Which statement is false?

- 1 Jugglers are magicians.
- 2 Magicians are also called illusionists
- 3 Magicians practice legerdemain
- 4 The Society of American Magicians was founded by Harry Houdini.
- 5 Magicians who reveal secrets have broken the IBM ethical code.

Please send your answer to *Barry Matas* at [MerlinWestCoast@netscape.net](mailto:MerlinWestCoast@netscape.net). The first ten correct answers will receive **one free raffle ticket** for the June 26, 2012 meeting that features a lecture by David Zirbel.

## What is a Magician?

Some folks define a magician as an actor playing the role of a magician. That is my favorite definition, because it is accurate. We are not real magicians. Real magicians come from Hogwarts. They do not purchase tricks online from magic shops, instead they use their “powers” to cause unnatural actions. For example real magicians cause a silver coin to turn into a gold coin without using sleights or gimmicks . . . they perform transmutations. On the other hand you and I can duplicate the effect without making the change. We use sleights, gimmicks, and misdirection to convince our audience that we performed an impossible act. We perform our illusions with such skill that the audience rules out all the methods they can imagine. They are left believing that we are real magicians. However, we know that we are actors playing the role of a magician.

Because we are actors that means we must study the craft of acting along with perfecting our handling of magical effects. Merely to perform a “trick” with great skill does not make the performance magical. The magical part of the performance occurs only in the minds of the audience. It is your acting that convinces spectators that there is no explanation for what they just experienced except that you are from Hogwarts, or are the bastard son of Merlin.

Whether you are known as: *illusionist*, magician, *juggler*, sleight of hand artist, *conjurer*, wizard, *necromancer*, magus, *medium*, wonderworker, *medicine man*, confidence man, *mime*, sorcerer, *trickster*, prestidigitator, or *card mechanic*. You are part of the fraternal order of entertainers who play a role as an actor. Study acting. Find a mentor or director who can guide your work. Know that your “magic” is a dignified form of acting. You carry your stage with you. **[Comments written by Philip Henderson]**

What do you think? Who wants to argue with me? Who wants to support me?

Treasurer's Report prepared by *Chris Wynkoop, Ring Treasurer*

**Profit and Loss Statement**  
**January 1, 2012 through March 31, 2012**

**Income**

Dues-Members and Guests	1,330.00
Raffle Income	<u>159.00</u>
Total Income	<b><u>\$1,875.00</u></b>

**Expenses**

Bank Charge	39.00
Christmas Party	25.00
Lecture Fee	550.00
Newsletter	26.00
Supplies/Secretary	16.15
Lodging/Lecturer	88.90
Youth related	28.75
Picnic	9.69
Total Expense	<u>695.49</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b><u>\$ 793.51</u></b>

---

**Balance Sheet**  
**As of March 31, 2012**

**Assets**

Current Assets

Checking/Savings	
IBM Account	2,496.46
Library/Petty cash	30.00
Raffle/Petty cash	30.00
Total Checking/Savings	2,556.46

**Total Assets**

**\$2,556.46**

**Liabilities and Equity**

Equity

Retained earnings	1,792.95
Net Income	763.51
Total Equity	2,556.46

**Total Liabilities and Equity**

**\$2,556.46**



# Legerdemain Digest



Jim **Greene**/Philip Henderson  
IBM Ring 313 Newsletter Editor  
329 Las Palmas Drive  
Irvine, California 92602  
[www.Ring313.org](http://www.Ring313.org)



## 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](http://www.Ring313.org).

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. <b>Practice and rehearsal for play.</b>
Tuesday, May 29, 2012	7pm	Regular meeting of RING 313 with <b>Dealer Demonstrations and a Swap Meet</b>
Saturday, June 9, 2012	2-4 pm	Junior Magicians Club meeting. At the home of Leader of the Pack. <b>Practice and rehearsal for play.</b>
Sunday, June 10, 2012	11am-4 pm	PICNIC with Orange County Magic Club at the home of a member.
Tuesday, June 26, 2012	7pm	Regular meeting of RING 313 with <b>David Zirbel lecture.</b>
Tuesday, July 31, 2012	7pm	Regular meeting of RING 313 with <b>Dan "Sylvester the Jester" lecture</b>

"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

The John Fedko Ring

Tuesday, May 29, 2012



## Dealers Show and Swap Meet (Swamp Meat)

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

Every year you make a promise: No more purchases! Enough already. **Your wife or husband has told you NO MAS.** There is a way out of this dilemma. Bring your junk (magic props) to the Ring 313 Dealers Show and Swamp Meat. **Viola**, you will have room for something new. **It's easy. It's fun. You will earn points at home.** Clean up your secret closet or storage room that is already overflowing . . . pack up the DVD's and tricks still in shrink-wrap and sell them to your friends as NEW items.

**Sim Sala Bim . . .**Dealers will be present with **hot prices.** These folks want to carry nothing back to their shops. **Hocus Pocus . . .**Help them to help you find a secret treasure to become part of your repertoire of magic. **Abracadabra . . . a magician's paradise.**

"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."