



Legerdemain Digest

IBM Ring 313

The John Fedko Ring
Volume XVIII, Issue 8 August 2012



Message from the So Called President



It is amazing how magicians think along different lines. Consider Dan Sylvester's lecture on July 31, 2012. How many people can honestly say they look at magic the way he does? Even among magicians, who are considered "birds of a feather," Danny soars head over shoulders.

Why ask him to lecture at our Ring? Most of our members are not invested in the craft. How many of Ring 313 members design and build creations that are unique? Dan was invited to expose our members to a man who is committed to driving innovation forward. Interestingly though, many magicians are more interested in buying the "flavour of the month, week, or year" type trick, than to take inspiration from Sylvester. His most important message to us is, if Dan Sylvester can be amazingly creative and take risks, then so can you! After all, one of his creative methods is to ask an idiot.

We all know idiots who can give us new ideas to play with.

I hope that everyone who experienced Danny's lecture will attempt to make something that comes from within. Let's say it's 3am and you wake-up with an idea in your head. What do you do? Do you write it in your bedside notebook? Do you attempt to make it come true or do you say to yourself, "That would be too hard to make, why bother?" I hope that you've tried to make that effect even if it didn't work. Then you would know what it's like to be genuinely creative. Creativity is a messy process. Sometimes your failures become a new effect. If you have not attempted to make something new, really new, I hope you appreciate the ability and tenacity of those who do; without discounting the work of the inventor, just because.

Please remember, when you have to go ... push 2 and 4 together, next push 3, and then turn the handle to get into the restroom. Can someone tell me... who exactly is resting in the room?

Jay (Show us what you got) Leslie, President, The John Fedko Ring

N.B. Video taping of lecturers is only allowed with the direct permission of the lecture. Please observe this rule.

Coming Events at Ring 313

August 28, 2012

Jon Armstrong to lecture

September 25, 2012

Member Performance Night . . . **Impromptu Magic**

October 30, 2012

An Evening of **Bizarre MAGIC**

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

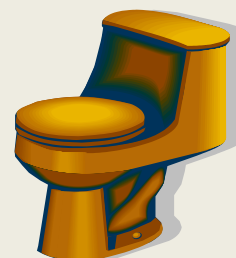
President, **Jay Leslie** (714) 847-5311
Vice-President **Roy Ball** (310) 356-0018
Secretary, **Philip Henderson** . . . (949) 322-4329
Treasurer, **Chris Wynkoop** (949) 929-0829
Newsletter Editor, **Jim "Cardman" Greene** (714) 318-2309
Asst. Newsletter, **Philip Henderson** (949) 322-4329
Past President, **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

How do you like our new meeting room?

To open the restroom, follow the directions below:

Press 2 and 4 simultaneously, release

Press 3, release, then Open. Or say, "Open Sesame"





Meet member Ron Porter

Part 1 of 2 parts by Philip Henderson

Ron Porter is a southern California man all the way. Raised in Orange County he began his life in magic when he was only five years old. An older cousin built him a "square-circle"

and he was off and running. At age seven, Porter introduced himself to illusionist, *Chuck Jones*, telling him, "I'm a magician too!" Jones must have seen how serious the boy was and treated him as though he was a fellow magician. This support and encouragement at an early age was a clear signal that Porter could become a real magician.

In the fourth grade, Porter performed a magic show for his classmates, and shortly thereafter produced a magic show for his sister's birthday party. By the time he entered high school, performing magic was just a part of life. He had a part-time job at the Knott's Berry Farm magic shop showing close up magic to guests at Knott's. *Jeff Martin, Steve Mattan, Ricki Dunn, Paul David, and Armando Lucero* were among the magicians who helped him learn to perform. He also began performing at local Orange County restaurants. One of the most important lessons he learned from his mentor, *Barryn Vaughn*, is the admonition to "treat your audience as if they are guests in your home." Porter enjoys entertaining his audience. Instead of feeling superior or attempting to make fools of the audience, his performance is designed to put smiles on their faces and laughter to their hearts.

Despite performing magic for hundreds of audiences over the last forty years, Ron Porter describes himself as a shy person unless he is performing. He prefers to observe and watch others. This is perfect for his daytime work. Ron earned his doctorate degree in clinical psychology and for more than twenty years has tended to the residents at a local state developmental center as a clinical psychologist.

Most members of Ring 313 have met Ron's sons *Ryan and Jason Porter*. They are active members of the Ring's Junior magician's program. The boys are merely following the footsteps of their older sister Courtney. She is also a student of the entertainment industry, currently studying in New York City. The performing arts were well accepted in Ron Porter's family. In fact, his mother toured with the *June Taylor Dancers*, and his aunts were professional singers. This encouragement by family and the performers he met gave Porter the confidence to study and perform. Working at the Knott's Berry Farm store gave him the hours of practice required to hone his skills, and his years of performing in restaurants provided the much needed time in front of live audiences.

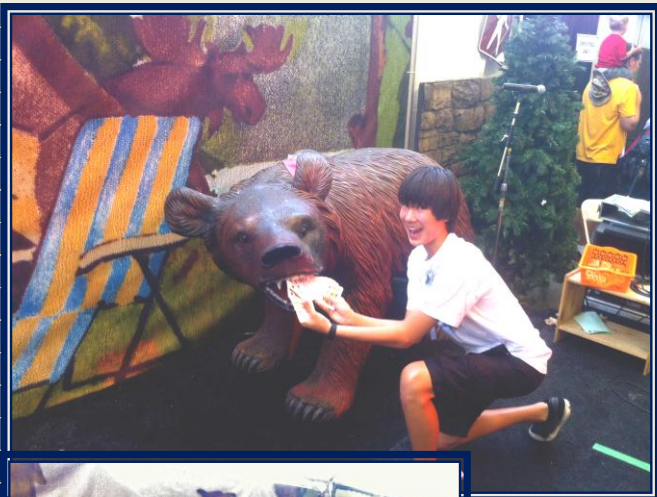
Ron Porter's favorite performers include close-up magicians *Barryn Vaughn, Martin Nash, Paul David, and Al Goshman*. Ron participated in *Jeff McBride's Magic and Mystery School* as a guest speaker teaching those in the healing arts how to use magic to help their patients. Porter recommends McBride's course and especially, **The Mystery School Book** © 2003 by *Jeff McBride and Eugene Burger*. This is a textbook for those interested in the development of an act and a career in magic. Porter also recommends **Sleights of Mind** © 2010 by *Stephan L. Macknik and Susana Martinez-Conde* (the writers are members of the Academy of Magical Arts, the Magic Circle, and IBM) for those interested in learning the neuroscience of magic. Part 2 next month.



DAY of MAGIC

at the 2012 Orange County Fair the morning of July 28th 2012.

On Saturday, July 28th the Ring's Junior Magicians, working with folks from OCMC, hosted a "DAY OF MAGIC" at the Orange County Fair. While only one contestant was bold enough to enter the contest, the event was a great success. Dozens of future magicians were delighted to learn how to perform beginning magic tricks. Joining Annie Young and Kent Kwan as hosts were: Todd "*Banana Man*" Reis, Ron Porter, Diane Tamura, Christopher Tarr, Josh and Kevin Brown. Getting young people to learn the "secrets of magic" is important for the success of this wonderful art form. Thanks to everyone for showing up at this annual event.



Raffle News

Raffle Director, **Michael van Horn** offered a special opportunity. Only twenty tickets were sold for \$5 each. Every ticket purchased won a prize. The last ticket drawn won the grand prize, *The Encyclopedia of Impromptu Magic* by Martin Gardner. The market price for this book is in excess of \$150. Congratulations go to new member **James Hjorth**. James was clever enough to purchase multiple tickets for this special opportunity.

Other raffle winners included: *Dick Shafer*, Kennard's Mysterious Box; **James Hjorth**, Timothy Wenks, Misled; *John Fedko*, Fazer Beam; *David Peltier*, Digital Delusion; *Chung Wong*, Total recall deck; *Dan McKerren*, Flowers and Hanky; and *Ruben Garza*, Jumbo Card deck.

Also winning were: visitor *Steve Nguyen*, Premonition Outdone; **James Hjorth**, Dice Box Trick; *Philip Henderson*, The Mystic Compass; *Chris Wynkoop*, the Purple Orange Eater; **James Hjorth**, See it Switch Tube, *Mori Fatehi*, Loftus Color Change; *Richard Zucker*, Double Talk Tapes; visitor *Austin Bennett*, Brad Burt's Billiard Ball magic; new member *Victor Kohn*, the Dancing Disc.

Additional prizes were won by: *Manuel Jamison*, Ten Card Poker Deal; *Roy Ball*, Richard Turner's The Cheat VHS parts 1 and 2; **James Hjorth**, Flight of Lucifer; and *Bill Pearce*, Genesis Prop. Congratulations and thanks for helping fund the Ring.

RANDOM THOUGHTS

1. Who said, *Ask an idiot?*
2. Who said, *Sometimes our bodies think better . . . try it . . . then do it!*
3. *Jugglers* is an early name used to describe the work of magicians. When sporting men played the famous shell game, the movement of the shell was called Juggling, thus the person performing the work was called a Juggler.
4. Real magic occurs in the minds of the spectator. Our goal is to perform for the mind not for the ears and eyes. Magicians use the frail ability of a person's senses to give accurate and timely information about actions that occur in front of him. Sleight of hand takes advantage of the inability of a spectator to follow the small movement in the presence of the large movement. We fool the mind not the eye.
5. *Jay Leslie* was mentored and coached in magic in the ancient method through the kindness and wisdom of the late *Jim Swoger*. *Who is your mentor?*
Who are you mentoring?
6. We are eager to recruit more Junior Magicians to our Ring. If you have a son/daughter or grandchild who wants to learn the art, please bring them to our meetings! Our members are getting older . . . we need a youth movement!

Sylvester the Jester

re-appeared again in Orange County with his special brand of magical effects. Dan Sylvester made his third visit to Ring 313 and as usual, he had a full bag of creative ideas. Dan is a kind of Johnny Appleseed when it comes to magic. Instead of selling you a complete packet trick or a one-sized fits all effect, Dan discovers basic ideas that you can convert into your own special way of performing.

My English teachers insisted that it is incorrect to refer to someone as “very unique” because unique already means there is only one, so one cannot be “very unique”. It is correct to say that each magical performer is unique because each of us has his own way to entertain an audience. However, when it comes to Sylvester the Jester, to say he is unique is an understatement.

Dan’s mind is constantly at work. Every object he sees can become a magical prop. He is a creative soul. Every time he gets his hands on a magical prop, he is compelled to dismantle it. He is intent on discovering a way to make the new object produce magical effects in the minds of his audience. Dan is always asking “What if?” His opening statement set the tone for the evening’s lecture. “*Magic is the only truth . . . everything else is false.*” This extreme position is the basis for the creative processes Danny uses to discover how to perform impossible illusions. Some of these illusions are “eye-popping,” while others are “jaw-dropping.”

Danny examines the world like a child would. He eagerly dismantles simple devices to discover the secrets they hold for a magician. Who would imagine that a pair of suspenders could provide cover for a “*magician’s servante?*” Dan Sylvester did and look at his invention.

Danny sees magical opportunities everywhere. He is prepared to perform the necessary experiments to tease out the highest use of each tool. His ten-foot pole and enormous wooden mallet resulted from rigorous experimentation. Trial and error until finally . . . finally success. When Sylvester decided to transform his performing character into a human cartoon, he did not know how he would accomplish each effect. He was willing to take a risk. He was fearless. He was committed to working hard until success became the only option! Putting up with failure and little support from other performers Dan persisted with the development of his character *Sylvester the Jester*.

www.SylvesterTheJester.com



ORDER of MERLIN

If you are in the Order of Merlin please notify Secretary Philip Henderson



Several of you have been members for IBM for more than 25 continuous years. Such members are referred to as belonging to the **Order of Merlin**. I know some of you who are Merlin's however, I don't know everyone in our Ring who has attained that rank. We like to recognize our long term supporters of IBM International. Don't be shy! Send me an email message or just let me know your status when you see me at the next meeting.

ORDER of MERLIN is a special honor. Please acknowledge the Merlins among us. If you know of others in our Ring who have earned this level, please contact me at once.

IBM Ring 313 Member	25 plus years	35 plus years	
SUDS	Order of Merlin	<i>Shield</i>	Since 1964 (48 yrs)
John Fedko	Order of Merlin	<i>Shield</i>	Since 1968 (44 yrs)
Bill Pearce	Order of Merlin	<i>Shield</i>	Since 1972 (40 yrs)
Bob Moss	Order of Merlin	<i>Shield</i>	Since
Dick Shafer	Order of Merlin	<i>Shield</i>	Since 1976
Forrest Miller	Order of Merlin		Since 1980 (32 yrs)
Catherine Fedko	Order of Merlin		Since 1983 (29 yrs)
Chris Wynkoop	Order of Merlin		Since 1984 (28 yrs)
Ron Porter	Order of Merlin		Since 1987 (25 yrs)
Todd Reis	Order of Merlin		Since 1987 (25 yrs)
Jay Leslie	Order of Merlin		Since ?? (30+ yrs)
YOUR NAME here?			

The Order of Merlin is awarded after 25-years of continuous membership. After 35-years, members are elevated to the **Shield** level of membership. Next, after 50-years of continuous membership our member is raised to **Excalibur**. Finally, to recognize 60 or more continuous years of membership, members are known as **Excelsior**.

Our member **SUDS** is just two years away from becoming an **Excalibur**. That will be a notable accomplishment. Members who have experienced a lapse in membership have opportunities to repurchase lost years. Please contact International for the procedure to accomplish such a change in status.

Every Friday afternoon the **LUNCH BUNCH** meets at Carrows Restaurant in Huntington Beach. Usually more than twenty local magicians break bread and share new ideas about magic. If you haven't been to the lunch bunch recently, put it on your calendar. You can practice a new effect or teach something to an eager audience. Come join us and have some fun with magic!

**Carrows Restaurant, 16931 Magnolia St, Huntington Beach, CA 92647
(714) 848-1995**

Treasurer's Report as of June 30, 2012

Chris Wynkoop, our Treasurer, prepared this quarterly financial report for your information. Our goal is to be transparent to the members. Your dues and contributions make our Ring successful. Your dues and guest fees pay for the lecture fees we offer our guest lecturers.

Balance Sheet (as of June 30, 2012)

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
IBM Checking Account	\$1,856.41
Library /Petty Cash	30.00
Raffle / Petty Cash	<u>30.00</u>
Total Checking/Savings	1,916.41
 Total Current Assets	 1,916.41
 Total Assets	 <u><u>\$1,916.41</u></u>

LIABILITIES and EQUITY

Equity	
Retained Earnings	\$1,762.95
Net Income	<u>153.46</u>
Total Equity	\$1,916.41
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$1,916.41

PROFIT and LOSS (January through June 2012)

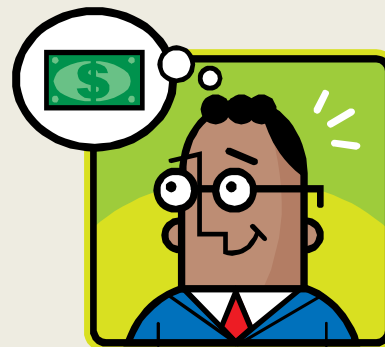
INCOME

Dues, Members and Guest	\$1,380.00
Dues, Members and Guest/Swap Meet	80.00
Raffle Income	<u>229.00</u>
 Total Income	 <u><u>\$1,689.00</u></u>

EXPENSE

Awards and Engraving	195.03
Bank Charges	65.00
Christmas Party	25.90
Dues and Subscriptions	-30.00
Juniors	28.75
Lecture Fees	1,050.00
Newsletter	26.00
Office	16.15
Picnic	158.71
 Total Expense	 \$1,535.54

Net Income	<u><u>\$153.46</u></u>
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Secretary's Notes . . . What's happening at the Ring?



The August 28, 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 filmmakers 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.

September 25, 2012 is a member performance night. Picture yourself on the Marquee of Carnegie Hall, giving a command performance for invited guests that include Lance Burton, David Copperfield, Eugene Burger, Shoot Ogawa, Tony Macaroni, Erich Weiss, and even **The Great Foolini**. Whenever a friend or coworker discovers that you are a magician, they want to see if you can "entertain them with your skills." So, what is it that you always carry with you to show your stuff. Some of the best magic is impromptu. However, the secret is always be prepared then impromptu effects are easy. Member **Dick Barry** has dozens of impromptu effects you can master with practice.



October 30, 2012 is an evening when members demonstrate Bizarre Magical Illusions, magic that makes you say, "OooooH." Contact member **Kevin Brown** and sign up to get your place on the stage for this special evening. Kevin can be reached at GLYPHMAN@COX.NET, or at (949) 347-0305.

We want to see bizarre magic that will make your toes curl. Bring us Spooky magic that confounds the mind and awakens deep-seated feelings of ghostly spirits traveling in the darkness of the night. If you have a mentalism effect, that would be perfect for this evening.

Everyone loves a Parade!

The IBM International Newsletter, The Linking Ring is seeking Parades of magical effects from individuals or from Rings. Many of our members have created their own magical effects, enough to produce a Parade. Would you like to participate? **Please contact me by September 30, 2012 and we will get to work.** I like the idea of a Ring 313 Parade in the Linking Ring. Let's get ourselves in the middle of the Linking Ring. From the top of my head, I can think of a half dozen members ready to contribute.

Legerdemain Digest

Jim **Greene** / Philip Henderson
IBM Ring 313 Newsletter Editor
329 Las Palmas Drive
Irvine, California 92602
www.Ring313.org



Wizard's Calendar

Regular meetings are held at the **Irvine Ranch Water District Building, 15500 Sand Canyon Avenue in Irvine**. Coastal Fertility, Community Room.
Directions and map at www.Ring313.org.

Tuesday, August 28, 2012	7 pm	Regular meeting of RING 313 with Jon Armstrong lecture
Tuesday, Sept. 26, 2012	7 pm	Member Performance night. What do you like to do impromptu?
Tuesday, October 30, 2012	7 pm	A night of Bizarre Magic, you know like what you might do for Halloween!
Tuesday, November 27, 2012	7 pm	To be announced

"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."



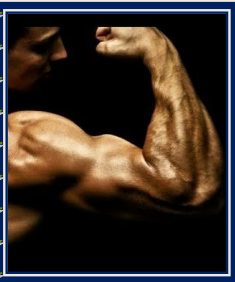
IBM RING 313

Tuesday, August 28, 2012

7:00 PM at the Irvine Ranch Water District



Jon Armstrong



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, August 28, 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 filmmakers 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 **RING 313** members; guests will pay a \$10.00 fee.

“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.”

Cartoon of location of new meeting room for **IBM Ring 313**. We meet in the Community Room of the Coastal Fertility building at **15500 Sand Canyon Avenue**. Entrance is from the northbound side of Sand Canyon Avenue only. If you arrive from highway 5 and are headed south on Sand Canyon, then make a U-turn at Waterworks Way and turn into the parking lot serving both locations. Our new meeting room is about 50 yards from the former meeting room. *Cartoon is not to scale.*

