

Legerdemain Digest

IBM Ring 313

The John Fedko Ring

Volume IX, Issue 9 September 2013



Message from the **Fire-Eating** President

Howar(d) Hamburg provided us with great lecture in August. He displayed the techniques and ideas he developed under the tutelage of the likes of The Professor, Dai Vernon. The Professor enjoyed called him Howar' without the "D" sound. Howar' regaled us with stories of his lessons from *Vernon, Larry Jennings, Charlie Miller, Michael Skinner, Johnny Thompson, and Tony Giorgio*. Howar' enjoyed a twenty-two year friendship with the Professor. On this visit to Ring 313 he recalled stories that illustrated the hard work it takes to become a first class performer.

On September 24, we are grateful to host a lecture by World Champion magician Johnny Ace Palmer. He will perform his 18-minute World Championship routine.

Johnny will describe the work he did to attain, then to maintain world-class status. If you have young magicians in your family, this is an especially good lecture for them to attend. This is an opportunity to meet and learn from an Orange County legend, the one, the only . . . Johnny Ace Palmer.

Remember to contact Kevin Brown and sign up to perform on October 29, 2013 for our member performance night. Bring out your scary and bizarre magic suitable for Halloween entertainment. On November 26, 2013, we welcome a Magic Castle favorite, Rich Crowley. Our new WEB site is coming along extremely well thanks to the efforts of members our planning team, led by Cornelius Wilson. Our expected launch date is January 2014.

Magically yours,

Chris Wynkoop, President, The John Fedko Ring

If you require a guest pass to visit the Magic Castle, please remember that I am a member of the Magic Castle. Any member desiring a guest pass, need only to give me a call or drop me an e-mail request and I will help you get your reservation to the Magic Castle.

Contact me at (949) 929-0829 or email at Chris@WynkoopCPA.com

Coming Events at Ring 313

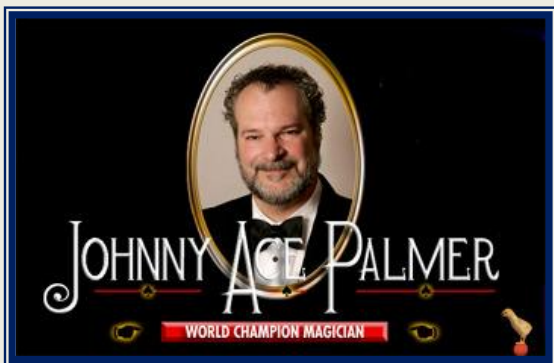
September 24, 2013 Johnny "Ace" Palmer
October 29, 2013 An Evening of Bizarre Magic led by Kevin Brown
November 26, 2013 Rich Crowley
December 10, 2013 HOLIDAY PARTY on Special Date
January 28, 2014 Arthur Benjamin, Mathematics Magician

Welcome NEW Members

New Members to the Ring 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. Please welcome returning member **Tim Kreiner**. Tim is a long time member who has returned to Ring 313, we are grateful to have him back in our club.

IBM Ring 313 Officers and Directors for 2013

President, **Chris Wynkoop** (949) 929-0829
Vice-President **Victor Cohn** (562) 252-2580
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, Jay Leslie (714) 847-5311
Member at Large, **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



Please mark your calendar for Tuesday, September 24, 2013 for the inimitable **Johnny Ace Palmer** a true miracle worker with magic. He is a World Champion Magician specializing in grace and style. Join us for a special evening at the Community Room. Come early to help set up the room; please bring a few chairs to help get everyone seated.

Ring 313 OFFICERS for 2014

We are seeking nominations for Ring officers for 2014. You may nominate a friend or nominate yourself. Elections will be held on November 26, 2013 and officers will be installed at the December 10, 2013 Holiday Party. Officers must be dues paying members of International. Offices include: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Sergeant at Arms. Other positions include: Newsletter Editor, Junior's Leader, Raffle director, webmaster, and member at large of the Board of Directors. To keep your Ring a superior club, consider standing for office. Please send your nominations to Philip Henderson at PhilipHenderson@sbcglobal.net or call him 949.322.4329.



September 24, 2013 Johnny Ace

Palmer returns to Ring 313 with his award winning magical style. Johnny Ace Palmer is the first close up magician to win the **SAM** Gold Medal Award of Honor (1986), the **IBM** GOLD CUPS

Award of Excellence (1983) and the **FISM** GRAND PRIX AWARD (1988). His magic is sublime and wonderful. What's the deal with Johnny and chicks? If you haven't seen Johnny work his magic with chicks then you are in for a treat.



October 29, 2013, An Evening of Halloween and bizarre Magic.

This is a member performance night. We celebrate the Halloween holiday with a special evening devoted to magical illusions that are on the bizarre and crazy side of the art. Your responsibility is to bring tricks and effects that will confound and amaze. We are most grateful if you bring effects that you teach others to perform to entertain family, friends, and paid audiences. Please contact past president **Kevin Brown** to sign up for this fun evening. Don't make him call you to recruit your participation. Kevin can send remote messages that may keep you awake all night long.

November 26, 2013 Magic Castle favorite, Rich Crowley has agreed to join us for this meeting.

December 10, 2013 An Evening of Celebration of the Holidays.

Whether you are celebrating **Christmas**, **Hanukkah**, **Kwanza**, **New Year's** or **Magical Tuesday**, we will honor that day on Tuesday, December 10, 2013 for the annual magician's holiday party. The Ring will provide coffee and cold drinks; you bring a holiday favorite desert or nosh to share with magicians from all over Orange County.

Please contact Kevin Brown to sign up to perform at our meeting on October 29, 2013.

This is our annual member performance night where you show (and tell if you want) some of your best illusions for Halloween night. The tricks need not rise to the level of bizarre, however, the creepier the better.

Call Kevin Brown at (949) 347-0305

Or send him an email to glyphman@cox.net

Tuesday, September 24, 2013
IBM Ring 313, The John Fedko Ring
presents
Johnny Ace Palmer



*People often ask him, why are you called **Johnny Ace Palmer**?
His usual answer is, "Because that's my name."*

Members and friends of Ring 313, if you want to know how the ace got there, then you must attend our next meeting on Tuesday, September 24, 2013. Johnny will answer that question and provide dozens of reasons that make Johnny Ace Palmer a **World Champion Magician**. Just don't ask him if he is lucky with "chicks." His answer is certain to embarrass you. Johnny is very lucky with "chicks." If you are a special audience, then he may show you how he does it.

Our meeting starts promptly at 7:00pm, doors open at 6:00 pm. We meet at the Community Meeting room at 15500 Sand Canyon Avenue in Irvine next door to the IRWD offices. *See map below.* We are close to the highway 5 Sand Canyon offramp. **Members only event; guest membership available inquire with Ring Secretary.**

"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."



The Art of Magic is earned by blood, sweat and tears

An essay by Philip Henderson, the ethical magician

Magician, juggler, prestidigitator, wizard, illusionist, clown, mime, actor, entertainer, performer, artiste, conjurer, comedian, thespian, necromancer, worker, *fakir*, escape artist, *magus*, sorcerer, describe the activities of someone who entertains using secret methods.

Our secrets are learned through diligent practice. Most performers earn their mastery by performing in the most challenging circumstances. We must make blatant errors until we learn how to entertain audiences in the most difficult venues, on the streets, in bars or restaurants, and performing before children. Successful performers credit the masters who guided them as their mentor. Mentors push the would be performer to excel beyond his imagination. No detail is too small to escape the mentor who exhorts his protégé to work longer and harder. The aim is perfection, ease, and simplicity. Blood, sweat, and tears. Two kinds of magicians succeed; first, those who prefer to “fool” other magicians and secondly, those who choose to entertain an audience. Which kind of magician are you?

Mentors constantly urge their protégés to attain impossible feats of endurance. They expose their understudy to rigorous standards and allow no backsliding. Such mentors make the conditions as true to life as possible, with unexpected disturbances, heckling, and false moves. Just like a performance for a real live audience. What are you going to do when a guest is drunk and thinks he knows your secrets? What are you going to do when this drunk correctly guesses your method? When you are a professional, you live for these moments. You have spent a lifetime practicing under terrible conditions . . . you are prepared to handle the drunk in a way that keeps the audience on your side, and politely laughing with the drunken guest instead of making a fool out of him. (*He already played the part of the fool; only your timely response rescued him from lasting embarrassment.*)

Your performance is designed to amuse and entertain. In becoming a master of the effects you use, you have an “out” for every likely mistake and for most unlikely errors as well. I read an article about Jerry Andrus in *Genii* magazine that got me interested in meeting this magician. The article discussed his lifelong interest in optical illusions. In the article, he is standing inside an impossible box. When you look closely, he appears to be standing inside and outside the box simultaneously. He created an illusion box similar to the drawings of M.C. Escher. As I got to know Andrus, we spoke about philosophy, poetry, and politics. Jerry Andrus performed in the close up gallery of the Magic Castle for two or three weeks every year. I would visit him for two or three days on each week of his stay. He invited me to sit with him between performances while he reset for his next show. Andrus would ask me to sit in different positions in the gallery to watch each



show. During the break, he would ask me if he flashed on certain moves. Jerry did not practice for his shows at the Castle; he wanted to know if his work met the high standards he established for himself. I was willing to tell him precisely what I saw because I knew he valued an honest critique. I told him when he flashed. However, I had seen his show so often I knew when to look where. I doubt that the flashes I caught would have been detected by a lay audience member. To his credit, whenever I noticed a flash, he would make a subtle correction so that the next show, I was unable to see the mistake. When a master performer can learn from a young magician, that is true magic! Jerry Andrus was happy because he was serving his audience. I was happy because I was able to give him the information he required to improve his work.

Jerry Andrus used methods that for the most part he devised himself. However, he was a student of the art of magic as much as he was a teacher. He encouraged young performers to live up to the highest standards of ethics. He encouraged them to work hard to develop their magical skills. In his performances, Jerry often told the audience that he was only able to fool them with his art because they were smart. He told them that he was prepared to use their intelligence against them. That is precisely what he did. He revealed his secret at the beginning of the performance. It was that bit of humanity that won their hearts. He did not have the air about him that he was smarter than his audience was. He performed his effects with grace, great ease, and confidence.

Danny Sylvester was a close friend of Jerry Andrus. While the work that Dan does is in no way an imitation of Jerry Andrus, the meticulous nature of his performance is right out of the Andrus way of entertaining. Leave nothing to chance. Work the piece until you can wake up in the middle of the night and immediately begin to perform. Preparation means that you are always ready to present your act. At some level, you are hopeful that a heckler will appear, or some other distraction, to make that particular performance special. When every performance feels like every other performance, you get a bit stale. To keep yourself fresh, and to entertain the audience, you want to get out of your comfort zone and create some real magic for yourself and the audience.



One evening in the Magic Castle, I was enjoying *Andrew Goldenhersh* in the close up gallery. He was performing an illusion where he removes a "tattoo" of a butterfly by peeling it off his arm. He lifts the tattoo in the air and a real butterfly flutters out of his hand. This time the butterfly rose to the top of the Close up gallery, made a hard left turn, and returned to the stage landing on Andrew's outstretched hand. All this in less than one minute. Andrew paused, made eye contact with the audience, then he said, "this is the first time that has happened." He quickly hid the butterfly then resumed his act. This is a great illusion without the butterfly returning to the stage. Andrew made the moment special for himself and for everyone in the audience because he shared his wonder with the audience. How long do you think I will remember that show? So far it is ten years and counting.



Magicians must enjoy magic as much as their audience does. Magicians can experience the excitement that entertains their audience because they have worked hard to make the impossible look easy. Get to work. All it takes is blood, sweat and tears and you too can become a master performer, a magician.

Philip Henderson, ox whisperer



September 2013 Member
Interview—Philip Henderson,
ethical magician

Wow, I usually write a short quiz about different guests or members of IBM 313 but this month I hit pure gold. I had to choose from a list of Twenty-two comments that Philip Henderson gave me. I chose a selection to show some of the depth that Philip brings to life. I challenge all of you to ask him more about his varied and extensive interests. ALL of the tidbits of information are true this month. It is my way of sharing some of the history of a very special person.

Philip Henderson; magician, chef, IBM

313 Secretary, lecturer and friend to animals.

1. Philip drives a team of oxen. He is called the Ox Whisperer because of his relationship with animals. He writes articles for Rural Heritage Magazine, a periodical devoted to those who work with mules, draft horses, and oxen.
2. He studied modern and cultural (Ghana and Israel) dance for seven years, practicing at least three-hours a day.
3. He has won more than two dozen ribbons for cooking at the OC Fair, including two division prizes in International cooking. He has made Turducken six times. I'll let you ask him how to make Turducken.
4. Philip is the world's first Ethical Magician. He explains that an Ethical Magician uses magic to help people understand difficult concepts, instead of using magic merely to entertain. He has become a better public speaker because of his training in magic.
5. His first three years at UCLA was as a mathematics major; however, he earned his bachelor's degree in economics and then an MBA. Philip told me that mathematics was his first love. He switched to economics for practical reasons; he wanted a career that would help him improve his community. I think that he succeeded!

The Lunch Bunch meets every Friday at Carrows Restaurant. Come have some fun with your favorite Orange County Magicians. 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

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Philip Henderson and Cardman Greene

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In 2014 our member SUDS will join the rare rank of **Order of Merlin, Excalibur**. Congratulations, SUDS!

Wizard's Calendar

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

Tuesday, September 24, 2013	7pm	The one and only World Famous JOHNNY "ACE" PALMER
Tuesday, October 29, 2013	7 pm	An Evening of Bizarre Magic led by Kevin Brown
Tuesday, November 26, 2013	7pm	A lecture from Rich Crowley
Tuesday, December 10, 2013	7pm	Holiday Party for all Magicians
Tuesday, January 28, 2014	7pm	Arthur Benjamin, a Math Magician



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 make a U-turn at Waterworks Way and turn into the parking lot serving both locations. New meeting room is about 50 yards from former meeting room. Cartoon is not to scale.

