

# Legerdemain Digest

R I N G 3 1 3 - T H E J O H N F E D K O R I N G

U P C O M I N G M E E T I N G S & E V E N T S



## Welcome to an Evening of Bizarre and Mental Magic **IBM Ring 313, The John Fedko Ring**

Presents

*Scary, Scary Magic*



**Tuesday, October 26, 2010  
at the frightening hour of 7:00 pm**

The Irvine Ranch Water District Headquarters will be transformed by spirits from beyond the Beyond! Ring Members and Guests will be horrified by their own performances.

We are seeking gifted necromancers to call upon the spirits of the nether world forcing them to spew forth their secrets. We want to place your name on the list of scary, scary performers! Contact Ghost Host President Kevin Brown at once using your telephone, email, or via spirit writing (you know what I mean).

**If you have a special trick (or treat) that just fits the bill for this scary, scary, night please contact our Ghost Host, President Kevin Brown and sign up to perform your magic.**

Ghost Host Kevin Brown  
glyphman@cox.net

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**But wait, there's more! Before we enter the realm of scary scary, our very own Juniors have put together various routines to compete for the prestigious perpetual trophy.**

**Please join us at 7pm on Oct. 26, 2010 for our**

## **Annual Ring 313 Junior's Contest**

**Where several of our juniors will compete to be Top Magician! And yes, you will be voting.**



## PAST EVENTS

Article by Philip Henderson

Photos by: Jay Leslie



Eighty Ring members and guests gathered for our regular monthly meeting at 7 pm on Tuesday, September 28, 2010. Results of the IBM Ring 313 Performer of the Year were announced. Third place was won by long time member, Michael van Horn. Second place was awarded to Daniel McKerren. First place honors were earned by the dynamic duo of Steven Longacre and Greg Koppel (aka "DEAFinitely Magic"). In addition to beautiful trophies signifying the victories, each contestant won a cash prize. Congratulations to all Ring members who participated in this event!

Brown introduced lecturer, Jay Scott Berry, master illusionist. Berry last graced our Ring with a visit and lecture in April 2004, members were eager to see him again. We enjoyed our largest attendance of the year for this special visit. Jay Scott Berry began his lecture performing a mysterious routine where various items appeared and disappeared at his fingertips. Each illusion was performed seemingly effortlessly, with no hint how the effect was performed. At one point Berry changed a blank piece of paper into a one-hundred dollar bill. After lighting a taper candle, Berry removed the flame from the candle and balanced it on the top edge of the currency. Berry carefully replaced the flame on the taper and then pocketed the bill without damage.

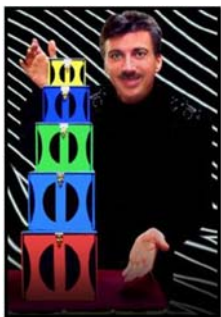
Berry's magic is in your face. His work is highly visual with sparse patter to guide your thoughts. He works hard to simplify this performance. For example, his traveling magic bag is no larger than 4 inches by six inches by 16 inches—yet an entire evening of magic was available to him. His philosophy is to start each performance clean—with his hands free and to conclude the performance equally clean.

Berry has developed several devices that allow him to travel and pack lightly and still play large. For Jay Scott Berry, magic is a "*living, breathing life-form; bringing amazement and wonder to audiences.*" As with many successful performers, Berry consistently gave credit to magicians who paved the way for his inventions. One performer who influenced Berry's career is English magician George Blake (1983-1979), founder of the first British IBM Ring. Berry studied Blake's work in the Tarbell Course. He credits Blake for inspiring him to develop his original illusions.

Berry is an outstanding teacher. He was able to demonstrate the processes he used to perform to a large audience who paid close attention to every move. Berry has simplified his moves so that only a few actions are required to perform jaw-dropping effects. Jay Scott Berry told us that the "*boundaries of perception are not the boundaries of reality.*" That is where the magic occurs, in the minds of the audience members. Jay Scott Berry was frabjous. Callooh! Callay!

(abridged. Full version can be found in the Linking Ring)





## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: JAY LESLIE PART III

### **Is Jay Leslie a Magician? This writer says NO!**

By Philip Henderson

(continued from September Newsletter...)

**Nonetheless, this writer insists that Jay Leslie is no magician, not by a long shot!**

Every good magician has secrets that he keeps. Among Jay's secrets are a few varied careers he pursued before making magic his full time business more than thirty years ago. Even though I don't consider Jay a magician, he thinks of himself as one of the clan. Leslie says the best part about being a magician is *"When I show up to perform, everyone is waiting for a magic show. I help people enjoy themselves by getting the audience completely absorbed in my performance. For the moment I am on stage, the audience is able to forget every care."*

Jay Leslie resides with two canaries (*Gregory and Peck*); *Fido* the rabbit; and an itinerant feline who sometimes answers to the name *Inspector Princess*. Jay's workshop in Huntington Beach is covered floor to ceiling with magical apparatus. Some of the props are more than one-hundred-fifty years old! Many items are labeled to permit Leslie easy retrieval. Leslie feels comfortable in this workshop. It is as if there was real magic in the props that seek a way out to entertain audiences. Leslie is likely to be found here long after midnight making equipment for magicians who need an express mail delivery to replace a broken prop or a special device that only few know how to manufacture. This workshop is more like home than his residence. Leslie is devoted to the art.

Many of his customers require complete secrecy including what the prop is and how it works. He also manufactures mechanical prototypes for inventors and shoots/edits video for other performers. Leslie continues to perform at businesses, schools and other venues taking a parlor size show, stage illusions, or strolling magic to suit the event. Jay seems to have his mitts in every aspect of the art of magic. He creates effects used by others, manufactures magic supplies and performs; he even makes instructional DVD's sold to other magicians. Leslie told me he is particularly proud of his instructional DVD's because people regularly tell him how useful they are.

I asked Jay if he had a *protégé* who might carry on the tradition in magic nurtured in him by Jim Swoger. Pondering that question, Jay had no ready answer. However, he appeared to consider that part of his obligation, as a performer of this art form, is to provide a living legacy. Perhaps someday soon, Jay Leslie may find his own *protégé* while continuing to make secret devices in the House of Enchantment, famously known in the past as Regrows Magic Studio!

**No, Jay Leslie is no magician. Definitely not!**

Looking at everything Leslie does, I believe it is inaccurate and misleading to call Jay Leslie a magician. More accurately, Jay Leslie is an entertainer. He is a professional entertainer whose skills with acting, staging, directing, and performing magical illusions, elevates the magical arts from being merely tricks to being live theater! Leslie brings peace and lightness to audiences. While on stage, his audiences forget their troubles. Instead, they enjoy the theater created by Jay Leslie, Master Thespian! Jay Leslie is an entertainer on live stage, playing the role of a magician.

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## Legerdemain Digest

Newsletter Editor



Questions? Comments? Corrections? Ideas? Magical articles? E-mail the editor at [Ring313.editor@gmail.com](mailto:Ring313.editor@gmail.com)

## Magic Calendar

Regular meetings are held at the Irvine Ranch Water District building, 15600 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine.  
Directions and a map are available at [www.Ring313.org](http://www.Ring313.org).

<b>Tuesday, Oct 26, 2010</b>	7PM	Ring 313 Gen Mtg —Bizarre Magic & Jrs Contest, Irvine
<b>Tuesday, Nov 9, 2010</b>	7PM	Ring 313 LITE Mtg—Knowlwood's, Irvine
<b>Saturday, Nov 13, 2010</b>	2-4PM	Ring 313 Junior's Meeting @ Annie&Kent's house
<b>Sunday, Nov 14, 2010</b>	2-5pm	JUNIOR'S—CHOC Fundraising Event @ Anaheim Hilton Towers
<b>Tuesday, Nov 30, 2010</b>	7PM	Ring 313 Gen Mtg

*Prepare for some spooky magic in October! ( along with a contest for the Juniors )*

### *Your Ring 313 Officers and Board Members*

**Kevin Brown** -President- (xxx) xxx-xxxx; **Kent Kwan** - Vice President (xxx) xxx-xxxx; **Philip Henderson**-Secretary (xxx) xxx-xxxx; **Gary - Meier**- Treasurer (xxx) xxx-xxxx; **Todd Reis** - Member at Large (xxx) xxx-xxxx; **John Fedko** (xxx) xxx-xxxx, **Annie Young**- Juniors and Newsletter Editor (xxx) xxx-xxxx; **Don Hill**-Webmaster (xxx) xxx-xxxx; **David Peltier**—Raffle Coordinator (xxx) xxx-xxxx; **Catherine Fedko** - Librarian (xxx) xxx-xxxx