

# Legerdemain Digest



## IBM Ring 313

### The John Fedko Ring

Volume XVIII, Issue 2 February 2012



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

I was admitted to Tampa Ring 13 in Pittsburgh at age 14. I was the youngest member in the IBM. They called me a “peanut member.” I was admitted because of the efforts of my mentor, James Swoger. He was the president of Tampa Ring. Swoger reminded the “pros” that since I was on a weekly television show earning more per show than they made in a month, I had earned admission. Swoger even threatened to quit if they didn’t let me attend meetings. Every time there was a vote, I had to go out in the hall with all the wives who also weren’t regular members. Finally, they allowed me to join, mostly because I was working so often. I gave them overflow shows and they liked the money. There are still a few Rings that exclude people, under the age of 18 from attending meetings which seems to defeat the purpose of encouraging new membership.



Weeks and months came and went and slowly other “peanut” members were admitted until the IBM as a whole realized the importance of nurturing young talent. To join IBM a new member had to prove his worthiness as a performer. You had to be unanimously voted in. It is safe to say that without the IBM and SAM promoting younger members, as well as adults who had an interest in magic, our brotherhood would still be an elitist society that equated to a good old boys club.

That brings me to the observation that there are many members, worldwide, who love magic but would never get on stage and try to make a living out of it. Some may say these people are the backbone of what we’ve become and the reason many clubs can now boast greater attendance. Their membership allows us to afford lecturers that other clubs cannot.

Being president doesn’t impress anyone outside our Zombie sphere of influence. It’s never helped me book a show. When I’ve told potential customers I’m the local president, they usually say “That’s nice. How much do you cost? OH... The average guy down the street costs less.” The good part about being president is that I have some influence in bringing lecturers to our club who would normally not be seen. The part I’m not too thrilled with is presiding over the Broken Wand Ceremony. Although I’ve only officiated a few times, it makes me remember how I liked that magician. I see my brothers (and sisters) at other clubs act the same way. It’s in our nature to think that our way of performing a trick is superior to others. The truth is that when we’re gone, all anyone can say is, that person thought the way we thought, acted the way we acted and loved what we loved. This month’s message is written in the hopes that we will all look at what makes us similar and not what sets us apart because magicians are people too.

*Jay Leslie, President, The John Fedko Ring*

## Coming Events at Ring 313

February 28, 2012 **ALFONSO** to lecture

March 28, 2012 Playing card workshop practicing the sleights of forcing, peeking, and revelations.

April 24, 2012 **Jon Armstrong** to lecture

**Editors Note:** Jim Greene and Philip Henderson are the new editors for *Legerdemain Digest*. Send your ideas, story contributions, and advertising to Philip Henderson.

# Welcome NEW Members

We acquired four new members at our meeting on January 31, 2012. **Joshua Serrano** is a Junior Member of the Ring. Joshua is sixteen years old and has been practicing magic for seven years. We hope that Joshua will become active with the Junior's program to continue his mastery of the art of magic.

**Patricia "Potsy" Frank** is a new member. Potsy is a professional performer working as a clown and magician for more than twenty-years. Many of you know Posty, please give her a warm welcome to our Ring.

**James Hjorth** (the "H" is silent) discovered us on the Internet. James performed magic as a child. Now that he has children of his own, he wants to use the art of magic to inspire his children.

**Lanny Broders** signed up for membership and claims to be a rank beginner in magic. I began my study of the art of magic nineteen years ago, and I still consider myself a beginner. Lanny may possess more knowledge than he is willing to admit today, however, he is welcome to the John Fedko Ring!

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.

## Broken wand Ceremony

President Jay Leslie conducted a broken wand ceremony at our January 31, 2012 meeting to honor the memory of long-time Ring member Matt Krasowski and founding member and benefactor Mrs. Triny Peller. The broken wand ceremony is a sacred act performed to acknowledge the good works performed by magicians while practicing the art of magic.

## 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



## Martin Lewis draws a full house at Ring 313! Again!

Thank you **Martin Lewis** for an insightful lecture covering close-up and stage magic. For the third time since 2001, Martin Lewis brought his special brand of magic to the John Fedko Ring. We keep inviting him because he delivers the goods. More than seventy members and guests were present to give Martin Lewis a John Fedko Ring welcome. Martin showed us a wonderful impossible miniature card rise effect that could be easily made by a performer. This effect will delight and amaze any audience, especially other magicians. The device is devious and reliable. You can make the device yourself. Lewis brought an updated *Cardiographic* device that is easy to carry and can be used for stage or close up audiences.

Lewis's *Mardo Eggbag* was transformed into a *Mardo Golfballbag*. Along with the golf ball, he hid a three-foot long putter in the bag. Good work Martin.

Martin Lewis's gentle humor makes him an engaging and entertaining performer. He showed us a color changing pencil illusion that you can make at home. His version of the disappearing Coke bottle, became a transformation effect instead of a vanishing effect, when he substituted a Pringles box for the Coke bottle. Then he destroyed your theory of the location of the Coke bottle when coiled snakes sprang out of the Pringle's container. Yikes!

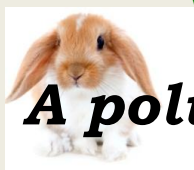
Martin closed the lecture with two wonderful effects. First, he performed *Robert Harbin's Card in a Bottle*. This is the illusion that it is said *Dai Vernon, The Professor*, used to fool Houdini. For fifteen years, Lewis used this effect to close every performance. For his final effect, Lewis displayed his expert manipulation of the Japanese

woven bamboo mat known as "*Nankin Tamasudare*," the dance of the knitting bamboo. The performance is not classic magic, instead it is magical experience to behold. The audience rose to a standing ovation at the conclusion of this effect.





## What do you get when you cross a magician with a politician?



## A politician who makes you laugh when he tricks you!



Philip is the guy on the far left, standing next to his friend Bill the Devon ox. Philip and Bill enjoyed a wonderful friendship until Bill died in 2010 from age related ailments. When Philip is not performing magic, he is an oxen teamster.

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

### Our February 28, 2012

meeting will feature a lecture from

**ALFONSO**, Magic's Mr. Natural! If you are a

regular visitor to the Magic Castle, you are certain to have watched this suave young performer entertaining the guests at various locations in the Castle. ALFONSO specializes in close up performance and particularly enjoys using the



pasteboards. We are happy to invite him for the first time to RING 313 to share his special form of magic.

**The March 27, 2012** meeting is Pasteboard workshop evening. Come to show your favorite methods to force cards, peek, glimpse, or steal cards to produce miraculous revelations.

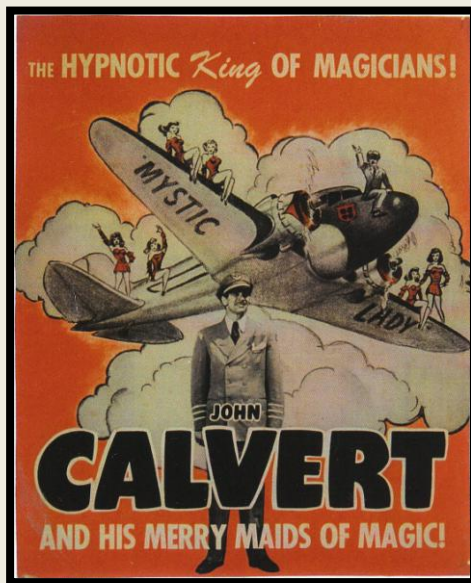


This is a hands-on workshop, bring your own playing cards and get ready for some fun. Double lifts, false cuts, flourishes, the *Hindu* and *Faro* shuffle, spreads, one-hand shuffles, color changes, the *Mercury* card fold versus other methods, and many other card sleights are on the agenda.

### 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.





## Magically Fun Facts

### Which statement is false?

1. *John Calvert* is a famous ship's captain who has sailed around the world more than once.
2. *John Calvert* lectured at IBM Ring 313 in 1999 at age 87.
3. *John Calvert* still performs magic at the age of 101 years.
4. *John Calvert* was a famous movie star playing the role of *The Falcon* in the 1940's.
5. *John Calvert* lectured at IBM Ring 313 in 2009 at age 97.

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 February 2012 meeting that features **ALFONSO** as guest lecturer. Please note, there were no winners to last month's Quiz. Do you need help? Prizes still await those with correct answers.

Phil van Tee, Jeff "Abbit the Average," and Nathan Kvetny (dressed in the original costume of magician known as Hoyam) are having fun at the November 2011 meeting of IBM Ring 313.





# Junior's Corner

## Meet Jason Porter and Ryan Porter

Written by Ron Porter



Jason and Ryan have been around magic and magicians all their lives. Their first magic convention was the IBM in San Diego in 2010, and they loved participating in the youth activities where they had small group instruction from Shawn Farquhar, Joshua Jay and Mark Wilson. They have also enjoyed corresponding with and watching the daily You Tube videos of Canadian magician, Eric LeClerc.

*Jason* enjoys rubber band magic, cards, some rope magic and puzzles, but is not as focused on performing as his brother. He spends most of his time on the computer, playing games

and developing videos and advertising for other gamers. He has recently been approached by Google to partner with advertising on his You Tube Channels.

*Ryan* loves performing magic and will do so at a moment's notice. He started learning magic at the age of 8 and gravitated toward cards, learning material by JC Wagner, Joshua Jay and others. He has enjoyed competing in the IBM Junior's competitions, at the OC Fair and performing at events for CHOC and the Irvine Global Village Festival.

Both boys enjoy sharing their creativity with others and have recently started a film club at school. Their films can be viewed at the following sites:

Film club: <http://www.youtube.com/user/CHHawkEyeProductions>

Ryan's magic videos & other stuff: <http://www.youtube.com/user/magichoooper99>

Ryan & Jason's Comedy Channel: <http://www.youtube.com/user/thecrazypepperoni>

Jason's Gaming: <http://www.youtube.com/user/Windslayer2TV/videos>

## Raffle Nooze

Sean Peltier, Jason Porter, Dan McKerren, Chris Wynkoop, Al Manetta, and new member Lanny Broders were winners in the January raffle. You can't win unless you purchase a ticket. Martin Lewis donated five DVD's that you will see in future raffle contests. Thank you Martin Lewis for an educational lecture and for the raffle gifts that help support our Ring.

Our Raffle Meister, Michael Van Horn, promises to promote exciting and new raffle games for the Ring. Remember last year we conducted a Winner Take All raffle, and member Sammy Ruiz took home \$400.00.

# 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, February 14, 2012	7 pm	Ring LITE at Knowlwood Restaurant, Irvine an opportunity to try out new tricks and sleights
Saturday, February 19, 2012	2-4 pm	Junior Magicians Club meeting. At the home of Leaders of the Pack, Kent Kwan and Annie Young.
Tuesday, February 28, 2012	7 pm	Regular meeting with lecturer, Internationally known magician, <b>ALFONSO</b> , direct from Hollywood's Magic Castle
Tuesday, March 13, 2012	7 pm	Ring LITE at Knowlwood Restaurant, Irvine an opportunity to try out new tricks and sleights
Saturday, March 17, 2012	2-4 pm	Junior Magicians Club meeting. At the home of Leader of the Pack. <b>Practice and rehearsal for play.</b>
Tuesday, March 27, 2012	7 pm	Regular meeting with a <b>Playing Card workshop.</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

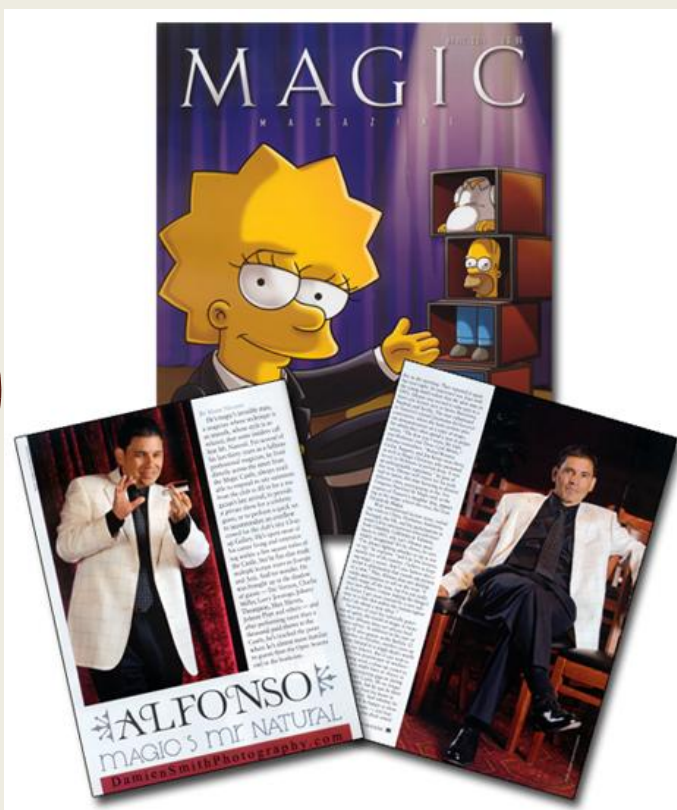


**Tuesday, February 28, 2012**

**7:00 PM at the Irvine Ranch Water District**

**15600 Sand Canyon Avenue, Irvine, CA 92618**

**A  
L  
F  
O  
N  
S  
O**



Who is that suave gentleman performing in the Close Up room at the Magic Castle?

His name is **ALFONSO**! He is known as "*Magic's Mr. Natural*." Alfonso is visiting the John Fedko Ring on Tuesday, February 28, 2012. He will demonstrate his magical style and techniques.

**ALFONSO** performs magical effects with cards, coins, ropes, and mostly with your perception. He creates the illusion that the magic is happening in your mind. Adept at many styles of close up magic, prepare to be amazed at his sleight of hand with coins, cards, and other ordinary objects.

**Admission free for IBM 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."**