



# THE SPIRIT TRUMPET

IBM Ring 96' Newsletter



June 2024

## May Meeting Round-up

May 19th was the exciting date for the annual Ring 96 close-up competition. We decided not to hold our usual pre-meeting workshop so as not to teach magic to our lay guest audience. Instead, we jumped right into the competition.

The event was emceed by Kevin Papke who had won the competition last year. Kevin had taken the names of the performers and randomized them so there was neither advantage nor bias in the order of appearance.

The first performer of the night was our current President John Piercy. John began his set with his version of "Cards Across." His volunteer counted out cards and found them moving as if by magic. Next John brought out a pile of postcards. Each card had the name of a well-known movie on it. He turned his back

while she pulled out one card and shuffled the rest. John took a glance through the remaining pile; he easily named the movie she selected.

Jon Strum was the next performer. He took a deck of cards and began to deal them out. He instructed someone to yell stop at the right moment and he did. He started a new pile and had another person call "stop." He did this four times and revealed that the top card of each pile was an Ace. Jon performed his version of twisting the aces. The different aces took turns being right side up and upside down. Next came a version of MacDonald Aces which certainly left the volunteer with her jaw on the floor.

Paul Case was next. He did a clever bit with the audience holding up one hand open and one in a fist. They were instructed to switch their hands status to various questions, and this ended with everyone's right hand open.

### Next meeting:

June 16th... 7 pm

"Linking Ring Night"

North Senior Center

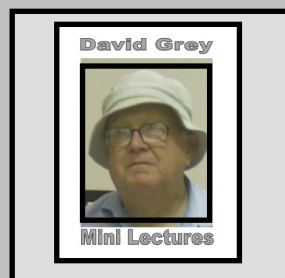
3333 Saint Cloud Drive.

Seal Beach, CA

## Coming Soon to Ring 96



June 15th



July 20th



Aug 17th

Paul showed off a photo of his pride and joy, which is a fine old sight gag. Paul had a random card selected and placed back in the deck. Paul named the correct card and showed it was on the underside of the card box all the time.

Allan Hanson opened with David Regal's "Sudden Deck." Much to the amusement of the audience. It looked like was about to go into the cups and balls, but instead, he produced a sock puppet in a sight gag. Then came the cups and balls which led to a sponge ball routine.

Larry "Zeezo" Campbell opened by having a volunteer sign a dollar bill. Larry took the pen and stabbed it through the bill. Somehow the bill was soon shown to be unharmed. He changes a \$1 bill to a \$10 bill. He changed the \$10 to \$100 in his volunteer's hand. Larry changed a \$1 bill to four quarters in the volunteer's hand. The reality was that it was a mis-made bill it changed into, but that is four quarters. Pulling out a stack of \$5 bills, Larry showed both sides. One flip over and they were all \$100 bills. Larry ended with a pair of sucker gags using two coins, and one that kept reappearing no matter how often it was taken out of his hand.

While the votes were being counted, Kevin Papke the emcee came out and did a few tricks. His version of Kate and Edith had the audience rolling.

When the dust settled, Larry Campbell had won first place, Allan Hanson had taken second and Jon Strum had taken third. Larry also won the "people's choice" award as selected by the guests rather than the members.

Another exciting night at Ring 96.



## Want to help out your Ring?

Sign up to attend the next Ring meeting, even if you can't make it this month!

[registration page!](#)

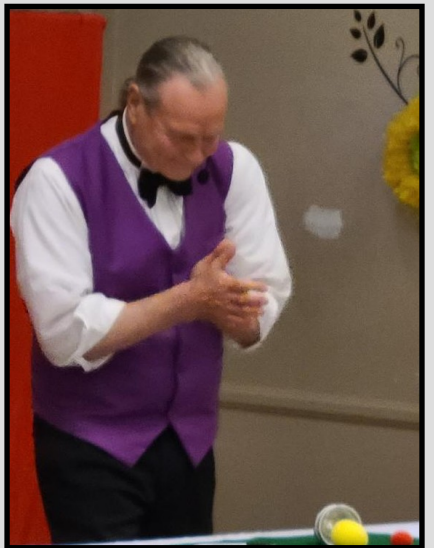
Thanks for helping us out!



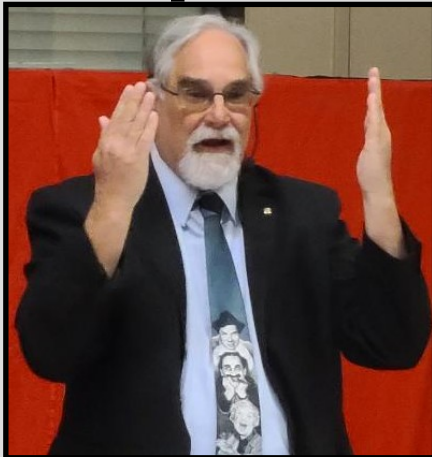
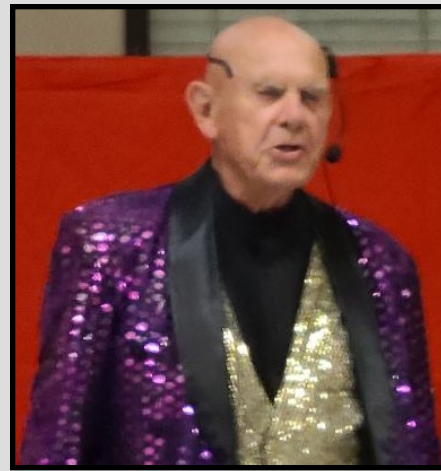
# Don't forget to find an effect in the Linking Ring Magazine to perform next month at Linking Ring night!

Rules for Performing at Linking Ring night:

1. This is an open meeting; no exposure.
2. This is an open meeting; practice well.
3. Invite your friends? Yes.
4. Any issue dating back to #1 is fair game.
5. Please cite what issue your effect is in.
6. Just 1 effect please.



**Close-up  
Competition**





**Don't forget to go through your old magic and donate it to our raffle.**

**You will be helping out our club big time.**

**David Gray  
Mini lectures  
coming this July.**

**Do you have a mini lecture you might give?**

**Maybe 20 minutes long?**

**When you have a chance, go visit our good friends at**

**Vanishing Magic Inc.**

**They have lot's of great effects waiting for you.**

**Former Ring 96 President**

**Kim Hallinger**

**will be performing at the brunch**

**Parlor show at**

**The Magic Castle**

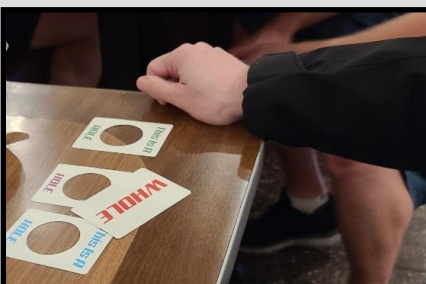
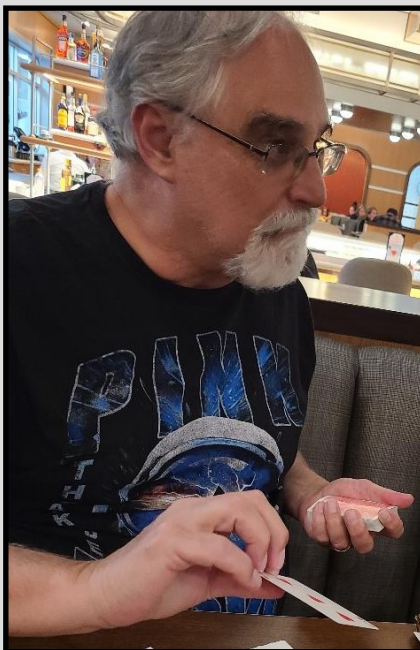
**July 20th & 21st.**

**Go see her if you can.**

**Attention South Bay/Long Beach Magicians. Come Jam on Wednesday, June 19, 2024 at the 18TEN Magic and Dance Studio in Lomita at 7:45 pm. All magicians and aspiring magicians are welcome to tryout any all magic material at this quarterly #magic jam session sponsored by the Demilo Foundation Inc.**

# May Sessioning

This month's session started off on a strange foot. Cliff performed an effect that involved placing out the cards in a matrix and consolidating them into one pile. The trick worked fine, but a fellow sitting at another table begged to show us a trick. It might have been a good connection, so we agreed. This young man was into back magick and we had no interest. We separated from him quickly. Jheff showed us a couple of exciting card tricks and gimmicks. Michael Stave continued working on his Elmsley count with assistance from Jheff and Brett Bolich. Paul showed us a trick he performed at the close up competition and it work much better at a table than on a stage. The trick included, predicting a word, spelling it and predicting a card. Aside from the rocky start, we had a wonderful night and are looking forward to seeing more of you next month.





# Houdini Needs Help

copied from John Cox' "Wild About Harry" Website

Saturday, May 25, 2024

Houdini's grave is in trouble

There is an alarming situation unfolding at the Houdini gravesite. A crack in the exedra, which appeared a few years ago, is expanding. A large chunk has recently fallen off the back. The danger of cracks like this is water can get inside and freeze during winter, causing the cracks to enlarge. There is a very real danger that if left untreated, a large section of the exedra will break off. The photos below were taken by our friend Perry Reed a few weeks ago and should chill us all.

The good news is Dorothy Dietrich, owner of the Houdini Museum in Scranton, is now Chairman of the S.A.M. Houdini Gravesite Committee and is well aware of the situation. Dorothy, along with Dick Brookz, famously restored the Houdini bust and the headstones of Gladys and Leopold, so she has been a loving and proactive caretaker of Houdini's grave. Dorothy is working with the co-chairman Joe Devlin on a solution.

Cracks like these can be repaired, and the S.A.M. does have a Houdini Gravesite Fund they can draw from to help. But, as Dorothy points out, the repairs need to be done during the dry summer months so that

means now. Another winter will increase the danger of the exedra breaking, and fixing that might not be so easy.

You can help by making a contribution to the [Houdini Gravesite Fund](#). Or you can contact Dorothy Dietrich directly at the [Houdini Museum](#). Houdini always looked after the graves of fellow magicians, so it's time to do the same for him.





## The stage competition is coming

The annual stage competition is coming this September. This year we are handling things a bit differently as last year's show had some serious issues.

Did you want to compete this year? Good for you, I hope you do well. Get an act together of 8 to 10 minutes long. Practice it a lot. Do your blocking and get a friend to watch and critique you.

How to sign up? First be a member in good standing of both Ring 96 and our parent group the IBM. Next, have been a member for at least three months and have come to our meetings.

Last thing to do is come to our night of auditions at the August meeting. Why are we doing all this? Because the Stage Competition is our biggest meeting of the year. We do the most publicity both for the potential lay audience as well as those who might book a show with us later. Obviously we want everyone to look good, and we want Ring 96 to look even better.

So polish up that act and get ready. We are looking forward to it and you should be as well!



## Silent Auction

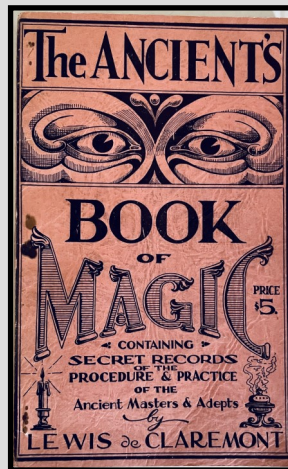


Do you have old magic books or other valuable items that are in good usable condition? Are some of these the stuff that has been sitting on your shelf for years waiting to be used? Maybe it is time for the silent auction?

It works like this. At most meetings we will take the first six items brought in and put them on the silent auction table. First six; first come first served. You bring a page for signing and bidding. You set the opening bid and the increments you want.

At the end of the meeting, you will hopefully have sold your item. You take 80% of what you take in, and you donate 20% to Ring 96. Note: you can donate more if you wish.

That is it, very easy. You save some space at home. You get a little money, the Ring gets a small donation, and a member gets a new effect or book etc. You can do this as soon as our next meeting!



# Want More Magic?



The Hollywood Magic Castle

## Magic Club in Irvine

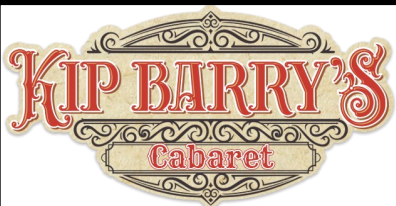


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<https://www.ring313.org>



<https://theocmc.com/>

## Magic in Anaheim



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## June's Birthdays

Judy Case

David Fisher

Do we have your birth  
month on file? Why not?



## Quote of the month!

**"For centuries,  
magicians have  
intuitively taken  
advantage of the  
inner workings  
of our brains."**

- Neil deGrasse Tyson

## Ring 96 Officers' Contact Info

President:	John Piercy	<a href="mailto:thinkonthis@msn.com">thinkonthis@msn.com</a>
Vice President:	George Reis	<a href="mailto:Reis@imagingforensics.com">Reis@imagingforensics.com</a>
Treasurer:	Jon Strum	<a href="mailto:Jonstrum@gmail.com">Jonstrum@gmail.com</a>
Secretary:	Cliff Gerstman	<a href="mailto:cliffg37@proton.me">cliffg37@proton.me</a>
Sgt. At Arms:	Judy Case	<a href="mailto:madmonsterparty@yahoo.com">madmonsterparty@yahoo.com</a>
Past President:	Paul Case	<a href="mailto:madmonsterparty@yahoo.com">madmonsterparty@yahoo.com</a>
Member At Large	John Engman	<a href="mailto:jeng8man@gmail.com">jeng8man@gmail.com</a>
Member At Large	Dan Habel	<a href="mailto:magicdano@aol.com">magicdano@aol.com</a>
Member at Large	Paul LaGreek	<a href="mailto:plml2k@verizon.net">plml2k@verizon.net</a>



**join us for a Ring 96**  
**Session of Sessioning**

**Monday, June, 25th at 7 pm.**

**Hof's Hut in Seal Beach**

**Just buy dinner at Hof's,  
and bring your cards,  
coins, or other close up magic.**

**In May we had six of us at the session.**

**Will you be there next month?**

**Note: This is not meant to be a social  
gathering, it is meant to be a magical  
gathering. Showing a magic effect is required.**

**See you there!**



**<http://hofshut.com/locations/seal-beach>**

**12489 Seal Beach Blvd.**

**Seal Beach, CA 90740**

**(562) 799-9552**

**Find an effect you like  
from the magazine  
and perform it!  
Any style magic  
is OK!**



**Linking Ring Night!  
June 15th**



## What is a Mini-Lecture?

A mini-Lecture is a presentation on a magical topic that typically takes about 20–30 minutes. Usually Ring 96 presents four mini-lectures in one evening. If you have a magical concept, or a type of effect, you would like to teach, let us know. These events can be very informative and enjoyable. The list of possible topics is quite extensive.

## Who was David Grey?

In the year 2000 he was President of Ring 96. Later he was our secretary and later our Treasurer. A fan of book tests and mathematical magic, David gave many years of service to our club, and pioneered the idea of the evening of Mini Lectures. He sadly passed away in January of 2015 and is still missed today. This particular event is a tribute to his memory.

# David Grey



# Mini-Lectures

I.B.M CONVENTION • TACOMA, WASHINGTON • JULY 10 - 13, 2024

## THE STARS ARE BRIGHTER IN TACOMA!

Check out just some of the amazing talent headed to Tacoma this July for the I.B.M. convention.



Alexandra Duvivier



Nick Diffatte



Guest of Honor  
Michael Ammar

#BestLineupEver



Erik Tait



Gabriella Lester



Jade



Ondrej Psenicka



Rachel Wax



Joshua Messado



David Kovac

Don't miss your opportunity to see, meet, and learn from our amazing 2024 lineup. Special early bird rate ends February 29, 2024.

**\$345**

WWW.IBMConvention.com



## Attention, All Contestants!

*This year we're going straight to the finals! We are now accepting video submissions of your act. If you are selected for the finals, you'll be showcased in the evening show. Your picture will also be placed on our talent poster.*

*Do you have what it takes to appear in one of the largest stage and close-up contests in the world?*

Submit your performance video to  
[ibmcontestmunoz@gmail.com](mailto:ibmcontestmunoz@gmail.com)  
by **May 3, 2024.**

*A panel of judges will view and select the top six in each category.*



*The finalists will be announced on May 31, 2024.  
Those finalists will appear during the Gold Medal Evening Show or the Gold Cups Contest at the I.B.M. Convention in Tacoma, Washington.*





**Last year we had some issues...**

**This year we can address them.**

**Come to the August 17th Ring meeting**

# **Auditions and Rehearsals!**

**The September Stage**

**Competition is our**

**biggest "open to the public"**

**event of the year.**

**Let's make it great!**

**Come to audition**

**Come to Cheer people on**

**Come to applaud**

**Come to laugh**

**but do be there!**

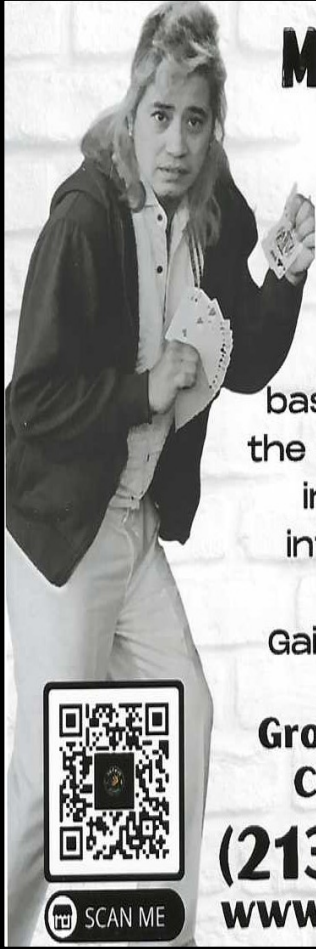
**Stay Tuned**

**More info to come**

**Note: This meeting is NOT open to the public as it may contain exposure.**



# Magic around town!



## MAGIC CLASSES FOR BEGINNERS of all ages

Learn the basics of the act and the secret of the trade in a fun-filled and interesting learning environment.

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from **The Magic Castle**

will amaze sud-sippers from

7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

with their sleight of hand.

(Call first to verify the event is happening)

**Magic Thursdays**

**6 - 8 pm**



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