



THE SPIRIT TRUMPET

IBM Ring 96' Newsletter



February 2022

January Meeting Round-up

For the first Ring 96 meeting of the new year, Alan Sands came to town to give us a lecture. Alan is the son of the legendary George Sands, and he gave us a lecture that was partially his and partially a tribute to his famous and well published dad.

Alan let us know that from his experience, there were three kinds of people who came to watch his lecture. Those who wanted to learn magic, those who wanted material to add to their act, and those who wanted a night away from their spouse.

Alan opened with a strong rope routine called "Sandsational Ropes." This was the routine George created and published many years ago. It includes a site gag of a volunteer who cannot cut the rope ends to the same length, The rope with no ends, a change bag, and a plastic bird.

We learned a simple and doable version of the classic swallow the razor blade trick. Alan did a fine job of presenting this time-honored trick using four razor blades that have been demonstrated to be very sharp, in a way that most magicians could handle and still look spectacular. Safety first is a strong theme in this presentation. There were many enthusiastic questions

following his explanation. He sells the effect in a kit that comes complete with all you need at a very reasonable price.

Alan taught us his "Chicken thieves" routine. Here six tiny rubber chicken are laid out on a mat. With some cute patter, they are picked up in different hands, only to show that the hand holding them is empty. This short and cute effect makes a great add-on for a sponge ball or cup and ball routine. The effect comes with the six mini rubber chickens, six mini realistic chicks, and mini six pigs, so it can be custom tailored to the magician's style.

Using nothing more than lung power, Alan blew up a

Next meeting:

Feb 19th... 7 pm

"Members' favorite effect night"

North Community Center

3333 Saint Cloud Drive,

Seal Beach CA, 90740

Coming Soon to Ring 96



Feb 19th



March 19th



April 16th

red balloon and asked a volunteer to name an animal. What ever was suggested, he miscalls as “dog.” He then makes a very cute balloon dog. This is followed up with a balloon heart. The dog sits in the heart as a cute “give away.” A brief discussion of balloon artistry followed, and we were show how to make a humming bird, or a bee depending on how you hold it, out of two different balloons. George had published two of the very early balloon art books. They went into much more detail than anything else published and available at that time.

Alan had set out two props on everyone’s chair before starting this evening. One prop was four indifferent playing cards. He proceeded to do a “Do as I do” routine in which he ended with all four cards face down. The audience all had one card face up.

The same four cards were used to show the effect “3-card repeat.” This clever routine causes all four cards to become the same card.

Alan showed us how to count to 99 on our fingers. This abacus style of counting then figured into his presentation of “Out of this world.”

We had a demonstration of Alan’s word famous “Belly Stripper” deck. He taught us the history of the deck and told us the

code that his father had worked out to use in effects that involve which card is where in the deck.

A dollar bill was folded up into a tiny little pouch. When finished, there was a quarter magically appeared inside.

Alan’s second rope routine was the much shorter “Rope-Sational.” This routine involves a series of knots that can move or disappear. Along with this, the other prop he gave us was a length of rope. He taught us how to do the “Thread the needle” in the loop of rope effect.

Alan ended the evening by talking about the need of a team to make a successful performer. That is, he has a publicity person, a designer person etc. He spoke about the importance of good audio and showed off the equipment he uses. It was worth quite a bit of money all said and done, but poor audio is a guarantee that people will not enjoy the show. He also spoke as to the value of modern-day rechargeable batteries which have come a long way and are now USB rechargeable.

Another exciting night
at Ring 96.



Welcome New Members,

George Reis &

Tim Tasbulatov!

Merlin Eifert

What you are about to read will be published in the Linking Ring magazine by Dr. Steve Schlanger. Dr. Schlanger is the person who puts together and prints all the “ring reports” each month.

Did you ever wonder who
founded Ring 96?

I just did a little digging in Ask Alexander and came up with the answer.

Merlin Winton Eifert was elected to the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the International Brotherhood of Magicians at the 28th annual Business meeting of the Hotel Di Lido, Miami Beach, Florida, June 24, 1956. He was elected president of Ring 1 in 1942 and in 1946 was chairman of the Dealers’ Committee when the I.B.M. Convention was held in St. Louis. Elected president of the Long Beach Society of Magicians in December 1948, he immediately began to build I.B.M. Ring 96 which was given its Charter December 1949 and Eifert was elected its first president. When the Pacific Coast Association of Magicians convention was held in Long Beach, California in 1952, he was general chairman. Merlin Eifert was elected I.B.M. Territorial Representative for California for 1951-52-53-54 and 55. He was a member of the I.B.M. Ethics and Grievance Committee for 1954-55.



Magic lies in
challenging what
seems impossible.

– Carol Moseley Braun

Our February Rope Event Needs More Acts!

Will you be participating in the Ring 96 Evening of “Rope Magic?” It will be open to the public so we want a good show. Come show off your rope skills. Let’s not repeat effects, that gets boring. Spoken for so far are...

Professors nightmare

Cut and Restored

Jumping knot

Cords of Fantasia

*Sand’s Sandsational Routine w/
Shoelace!*

3 Nightmare DX

Dan Harlan’s Awakening

Contact Cliff to Sign up

cliffg37@verizon.net

Let’s all pitch in big-time
and make Ring 96 the best
Ring ever! Let’s
all be proud of
ourselves!



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Prize

Donor

Winner

**Oops...
No Raffle
This Month.**



Want More Magic?

Ring 313 — Feb 22nd

Jay Scott Berry via Zoom

Orange County Magic Club

February 9th

“Valentine Show and Tell”
Anaheim Community Center

[250 E. Center Street](#)

Joe Derry’s Magic Night

1st Tuesday of each month

[Gallagher’s in Long Beach](#)

The Magic Castle

Happy Birthday!



February Birthday’s

Cliff Gerstman

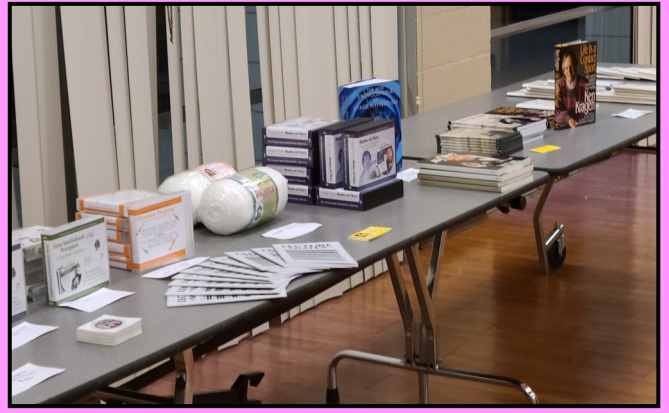
Marty Gorman

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Alan Sands' Lecture



Gallagher's
Proudly Presents

Magic Night

Join us for our monthly Magic Showcase

Enjoy an evening of magic, comedy and variety
acts

1st Tuesday of every month. Free Admission

Close-up magic 6:30—7:30 Main show 7:30—9:00



Gallagher's Pub & Grill

2751 E. Broadway

Long Beach, CA 90803

Ring 21 Presents: Thursday
February 3rd at 7:00 pm.
Live from New York via
Zoom, a lecture starring one
of the world's best
children's performer and
magician, **SILLY
BILLY**. And it's **FREE** only
for **RING 21** members-
others are welcome for the
low price of only
\$10. PayPal link here,
[PayPal.me/rtring21](https://www.paypal.com/rtring21).

\$\$ Time to Pay your dues \$\$

**\$35 per person or
\$45 per family**

**Bring cash to
the next meeting or,
Zelle to: plml2k@verizon.net**

**Or mail a check made out
to "Ring 96" to**

Paul LaGreek

5521 Kern Drive

Huntington Beach, CA 92649

**Do you know of any
non-profit groups,
churches, schools, scouts etc.**

**that could use a fund
raising magic show?**

Let me know.

cliffg37@verizon.net



**Members' Favorite
Effect Night**

Feb 19th

**An evening
of rope magic**



March 19th