



THE SPIRIT TRUMPET

IBM Ring 96' Newsletter



May 2024

April Meeting Round-up

On Saturday, April 20th Ring 96 met for our latest meeting.

The meeting opened with our pre-meeting workshop. Vinny, the Godfather of magic showed us some moves and effects including cards across and his personal "scoop" move.

The official meeting soon opened with Magic Castle performer and former board member Paul Green as our guest speaker.

Paul began his lecture by demonstrating and teaching his handling of the time-honored classic "The Professor's Nightmare." Two things to be noted... Paul used Green ropes for the effect, and his

handling was different than the version most people know and use. Many members found it smoother and more magical.

Next, Paul showed us his version of a six-coin "Coins Across." He spoke in detail about the right way to palm a coin and the right size coin for your hand. As usual, his handling was excellent and he took the time to make sure everyone understood the mechanism. He also pointed us to his video online if we wanted more in-depth details.

Paul brought out a square piece of paper with a 16 square grid on it and "X's" and "O's" in an alternating pattern. He folded the paper up tightly and asked a volunteer to choose the X's or O's. X's were chosen, and Paul made one cut clean through the folded page. The O's were pulled out one at a time and the X's remained attached.

Next meeting:

May 18th... 7 pm

"Close-up Competition"

North Senior Center

3333 Saint Cloud Drive.

Seal Beach, CA

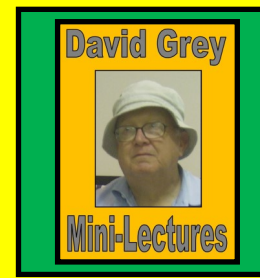
Coming Soon to Ring 96



May 18th



June 16th



July 20th

Paul followed up with a clever card trick that starts with a prediction and uses two volunteers to pass cards to each other. After several passes, the prediction proves to be a series of predictions about the deck and all are correct.

For part two, Paul lead a session of critiquing members' effects. He began with a strong explanation of how to critique. He promised not to pull punches, but to be constructive. The specific goal is to help members improve their magic.

President John Piercy went first. He had a card selected. The card went into a bag and out came a banner with the card's likeness on it.

George Reis showed us a multi-phase "Ring-on-a-rope" routine.

David told a story about his mom teaching him to star-gaze as he performed "Starcle."

Kevin Papke showed us a single coin routine that kept everyone guessing!

Jon Strum finished the night with a strong card trick that involved a volunteer. The volunteer was allowed to shuffle the deck and parts of the deck several times. When all was done, impossible as it seemed when the volunteer spelled "Impossible" by dealing out cards, the chosen card was at the end of the word.

Paul Green delivered a wonderful lecture and critique workshop.

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!

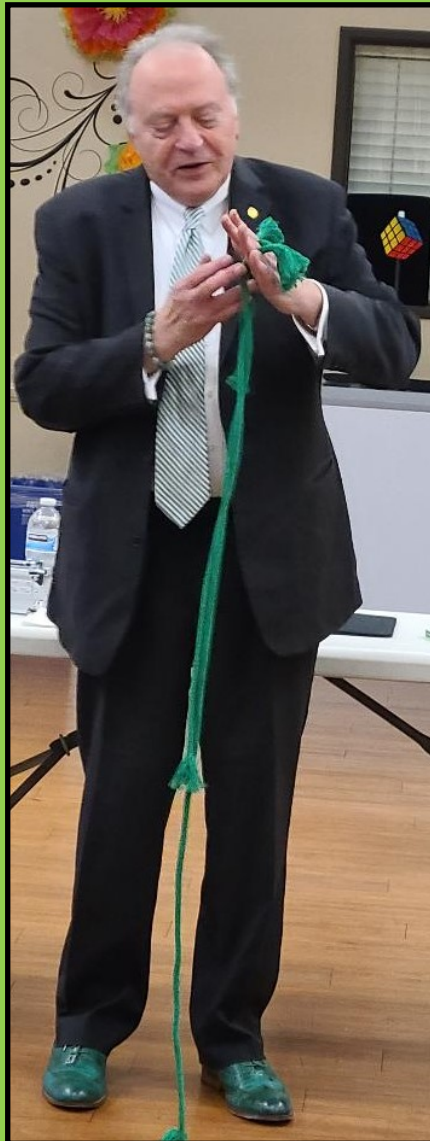


Please invite everyone
you know to come to
the close-up
competetion at
our May meeting

**Remember...
No workshop
in May. We don't
want to teach
to our close-up
spectators.**

Welcome New Members!
Richard & Marsha Andrews
Rudy Sanchez
Joji Taketa
& Welcome back
Marque Dunkle

Paul Green Lecture and Critique!





More Paul Green

Photos by George Reis



Invading San Diego's Ring 76

Photos by Mark Booth



On April 8, five members of our Ring made a field trip to Old Town San Diego to attend the Ring 76 meeting. I learned from Cliff Gerstman that they are a thriving club with over 70 members and an average of 50 to 60 attendees at each meeting.



Their theme was "Fool Us." They give out a very cool looking certificate to anyone who fools the judges. The sample they showed us is also in a beautiful frame (not the 99 cent document frame from Michaels). A beautiful presentation that I know I'd be

proud to have on my wall.



One member stands at the sign-in desk where he signs in members and guests.

He also shows everyone the door prize/raffle items and sells tickets; he also sells tickets for their 50/50 drawing (winner gets half the ticket sales, the other half goes to their library fund - I won last night!). They have a donation can for a member in need. And, this desk also has a bunch of their club brochures (very nicely done). Prizes were pretty good. One is a mystery - the one last night had 24 packet tricks in it. Everyone gets one free ticket.

I thought this set-up was great. It might be more efficient to have a longer table with two people staffing it. It seemed like it could be too much for

one person, and there could be a long wait for people to check-in with their current method.



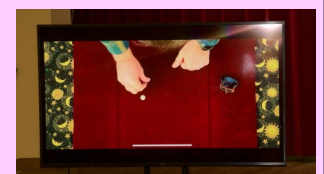
They also had a "Ring Store" set-up in the room. When we attended this was filled with low priced items (many for \$1) and included decks of cards, packet tricks, and thumb tips. There were also some parlor tricks – John Piercy was eyeing a gospel themed parlor effect, and I saw an interesting dye box that was a small cardboard popcorn carton.



Their meeting room is nice with a stage (that wasn't used for some reason). The seating arrangement was nice with a center aisle that

widened toward the front (or narrowed toward the back), making a great view for the inside seats even though they didn't use the stage (still don't know why they didn't). They had a new video set-up that they used for two performances - an iPhone mounted to a boom stand with an HDMI to a large monitor to provide an overhead view. It looked great!

Kevin Papke scoped out the sound systems that they used and has some ideas for our ring. Three performers brought their own system. One seemed to provide the best sound. All three of these performers shared information with him about what they were using, what they liked about each, etc.



Before the meeting started a few people came up to us at various times, and we engaged a few people for short conversations. I don't have enough experience to say this wasn't much different than other magic

clubs - but I think that would be a fair statement. I will say that it didn't feel "cliquish" at all – and I believe all five of us felt very welcomed by each person we encountered.

The drawings were at the beginning of the meeting with the announcements. I liked it, as it got it out of the way. I didn't like it because it seemed like it took too much time (the time for raffles always kind of bothers me at magic club meetings). That time, however, enabled late comers to join without missing any of the meeting/lecture/event, and provided time for performers to get prepared, tech crew to double check stuff, etc. As long as door prizes or raffles are a part of meetings – I think approaching it at the start of the meeting is a better way to handle them.



One announcement was to make sure everyone signed-in, which I think it a good idea.

They also announced the upcoming elections and the fact that nominations are open in a fair manner. I think nominations and elections can become a bit awkward – they don't have to be, and I think the invitation to run for the available positions was well done.



They have a monthly on-line board meeting, and their current president (Josh) swears that he starts exactly on time and finishes in exactly one hour or less. Nice. Monthly board meeting. Time limit. I'd like to see a sample of their agenda. I'd like to attend one of their board meetings.

Two people "auditioned" for their club membership (One as her performance during their "Fool Us" show, one before the show started). They require an applicant to perform, then the membership votes (everyone passes). They don't do the series of three readings. They do require membership in the international body. I liked the idea of requiring a performance. In a discussion with Kevin, he said for really new people to magic, this could be an opportunity to develop a mentorship program. Someone wants to join – they aren't comfortable performing anything, so we provide a mentor to help them work on something.

The main show went quite well. Things moved quickly enough, performances were all good - some quite impressive. Judging was fairly quick. The average caliber was high – you could tell that each performer put time into developing their routine. Each one performed with confidence and entertained the audience. There were nine performers, and the meeting ended just before 9:00.



In the after-meeting, over 20 people went to Denny's. People were at five tables. Conversations seemed animated at all tables (and I wish I could have been with other Ring 76 members). Kevin took advantage of visiting another table to get to know members and find out what draws them to Ring 76. I wish I had done that also. I did hear from one person that he really likes belonging to Ring 76 because it is truly a 'brotherhood.'

It was a great field-trip to a thriving Ring. The meeting was fun, professional, had energy, and the time flew-by. Hopefully we can bring some of what we learned to Ring 96.

A gift from our friend Ram! A list of magic articles of his you can download and use for free!

<http://www.elitedynamics.com/magicByRam>

Vinny's Card Trick Workshop

On Saturday, April 20th Vinny started off our meeting with a workshop based on some of his material.

He taught his version of cars-across. This had been a big hit when he performed it for us a few months ago.

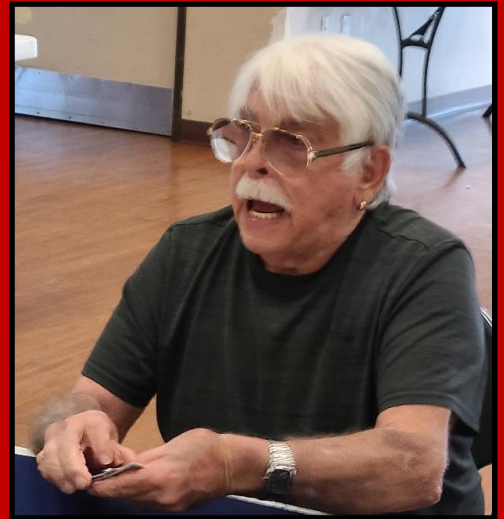
He went over card in envelope and how to gimmick the parts to make the trick work.

Vinny went over his scoop move which is very unique to him. He uses it to make up for having smaller hands and needing to develop alternative methods to do his sleights.

We had ten members come to the workshop which was considered a big success.

So let's all thank Vinny for a fine teaching and workshop experience.

(Remember there is no workshop in May as it is the Close-up competition)



April Sessioning

On Monday April 29th Seven of us met at Hof's Hut for the latest session of sessioning.

George and Wayne started off working on a certain type of force, and had a fins discussion and example performed.

Cliff brought out a half dollar and did nothing with it but start a detailed conversation about coin flipping magic.

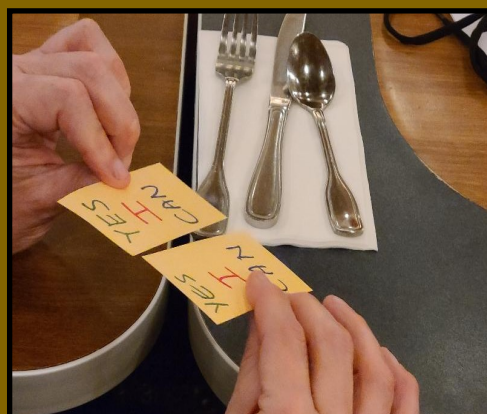
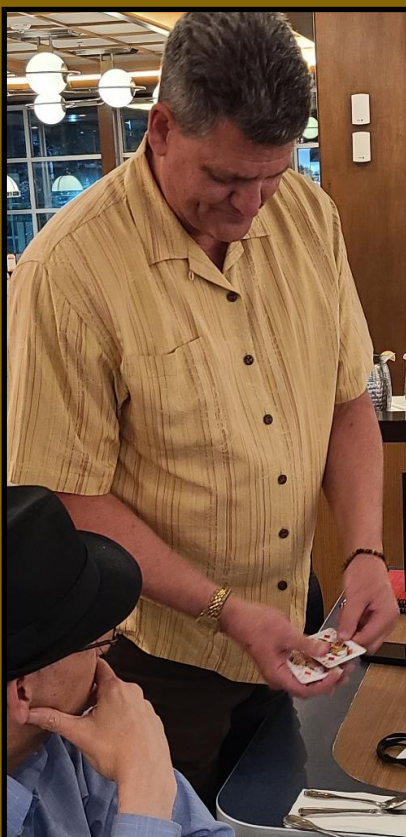
Liam showed us an excellent trick with numbered poker chips, and Jheff showed us a cool effect with different colored poker chips.

Kevin amazed us with his cards in his usual manner, while George did a wonderful card trick that had a deck cut and mixed multiple times and still the chosen cards were right there for him to find.

Jheff had three black sharpies, but inside they were different colors and he did a prediction as to what would be written with the colors.

Brett performed a card trick for us,, while Cliff and Wayne mostly sat this one out.

Come join us next month!





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.

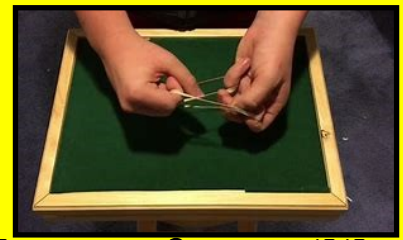
You can do this as soon as our next meeting!

David Gray
Mini lectures
coming this July.
Do you have a
mini lecture
you might give?
Maybe 20 - 30
minutes long?

Don't forget to
go through your
old magic
and donate it
to our raffle.
You will be
helping out our
club big time.



VANISHING INC.
When you have a chance, go visit our good friends at Vanishing Inc. Magic! They have lot's of great effects waiting for you!



Close-up Competition

Saturday, May 18th will be our 2024 close-up competition. Last year it was great! Can we do even better? I think we can!

Get your eight to ten minute close up routine ready. Practice in front of a mirror. Practice on video. Practice in front of another magician, but practice, and time yourself.

Sign up by notifying Cliff Gerstman cliffg37@proton.me and letting him know what you will do. **There is one slot left as of today!**

It is first come first served. We don't want duplicate effects performed for our public audience. Remember we want to attract publicity and new memberships. So let's put on a spectacular show.

Remember, by competing in this event, you are making a commitment to a personal improvement of your own magic skills!

See you, and your guests there!

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<https://www.ring313.org>



<https://theocmc.com/>

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May's Birthdays

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

I don't know about

any Ring member

having a May birthday!



Quote of the month!

"Mentalism is the silent music of the mind; magic is the orchestra of the unseen."

- Jon Finch

Ring 96 Officers' Contact Info

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

join us for a Ring 96
Session of Sessioning

Monday, May, 27th 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 April we had 7 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



Ring 96 - The Seal Beach Magic Club



Presents our annual

Close-up Magic Competition!

Admission is free!

All ages welcome!

Watch the show!

Vote for your favorite!



May 18th at 7 PM

North Senior Center

3333 Saint Cloud Drive,

Seal Beach 90740

www.ring96.com

Ring 96 is the local chapter of the International Brotherhood of Magicians

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



**Linking Ring Night
June 16th**

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 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

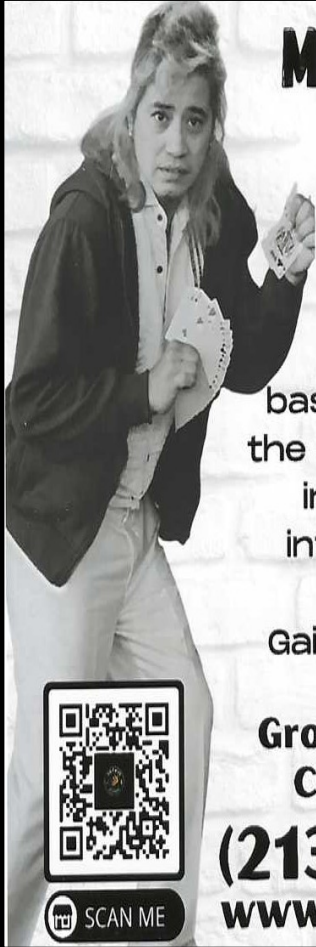
but do be there!

Stay Tuned

More info to come

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

Magic around town!



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On the first Saturday of the month, multiple magicians

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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