## FLEMING FLASHPAPER

**JUNE 2018** 

#### CARYL FLEMING IBM RING 21 NORTH HOLLYWOOD CALIFORNIA

Celebrating the enjoyment and camaraderie of magic since 1938!

## **DON'T MISS OUT: WHAT'S COMING UP!**

#### RING 21 CLUB MEETING:

**IMPORTANT NOTICE!** 

First Thursday of the month

We will not have our regular Thursday evening meeting this month. Instead, we are having our annual...

**NEXT MEETING:** 

**PICNIC** 

Saturday June 9<sup>th</sup> 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm

SATURDAY JUNE 9<sup>™</sup>

Church of Jesus Christ LDS 15555 Saticoy Street Van Nuys 91406

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@ibmring21

3:00 TO 4:00 PM DINING 4:00 TO 5:00 PM SHOW

And the internet! www.ibmring21.org

## DO YOU EVER SHOP ON AMAZON?

If so, then add our website link to your favorites and use the Amazon link at the bottom of our web page. Our club will get a referral bonus!

G.C.

JULY 5<sup>TH</sup>: Four on the Fourth! We will be doing a four corners demonstration meeting in honor of the Fourth of July. So far, we have two confirmed demonstrators. If you would like to be one of our demonstrators, please let Bob Thomas know. See his contact info at the end of the newsletter.

JULY 7-8: Bill Turner Magic sale. Stay tuned for details.

### **MAGIC RESOURCES**

#### Westside Wizards Sam 291

Note: See <u>www.westsidewizards.org</u> for calendar of events Stoner Park OPICA Adult Day Care

11759 Missouri Ave, Los Angeles, CA

#### Mark Wilson IBM Ring 280

Note: See <a href="https://www.ibmring280.com">www.ibmring280.com</a> for info and calendar The Boys & Girls Club of Santa Clarita Valley 24909 Newhall Ave. Newhall, CA 91321

#### **Vertical Wine Bistro Dinner & Magic Show**

NOTE: Vertical Wine Bistro has the best steak around!

70 N. Raymond Avenue, Pasadena, CA, 91103 <a href="https://www.verticalwinebistro.com">www.verticalwinebistro.com</a>

626-795-3999

020 733 3333

#### **Woodley Proper Magic Monday**

Bar has magic on Monday nights. www.woodleyproper.com

16101 Ventura Blvd, Encino, CA 91436

(818) 906-9775

#### **MAGIC MONDAY**

Santa Monica Playhouse

www.santamonicaplayhouse.com

1211 4th Street Santa Monica, CA, 90401

#### Magic and Wine – David Minkin

**Bardot** 

1737 North Vine Street, Hollywood, CA 90028

www.MagicandWine.com

(800) 838-3006

## Ivan Imodei's Intimate Illusions – The Show Four Seasons Beverly Wilshire Hotel

9500 Wilshire Boulevard, Beverly Hills, CA 90212

www.ivanamodei.com

(866) 811-4111

#### Smoke and Mirrors The Road Theatre

5108 Lankershim Boulevard North Hollywood, CA 91601

www.SmokeandMirrorsMagic.com

(310) 450-2849

#### **The Magic Castle**

7001 Franklin Avenue, Hollywood, CA 90028

www.magiccastle.com

(323) 851-3313

## PAUL RICHARDS LECTURE!

Ring 21 members—and many nonmember guests—provided a lively and interested audience for guest lecturer Paul Richards as he baffled, charmed, and involved more than 40 magicians at our May meeting.

Richards, former owner of Elmwood Magic and a busy figure on the convention and magic club circuit, kept his audience intrigued with his many unique effects, and carefully explained each one to the rapt crowd.



Among the many bits of magic he covered were several variations (and a bit of history) about the rising cards, his own approach to the signed coin put into (and taken out of) a balloon, and his "Hue-go" where colored crayons jump from hand to hand.



He showed the amazing flexibility of a "wide card" and its great potential as a locator, using it in a four ace assembly and for forcing. He showed how ESP cards can be marked on the edge and some of the effects you can do with them. Coin workers were intrigued by his "Shanghai Coins"—very thin coins that are magnetized and stick together, which allows the performer to both produce and vanish without the traditional shell.

Paul covered numerous other effects, remained to be sure his audience's questions were all answered, and, of course, provided lots of items for sale.



Members agreed it was a top-notch lecture with lots of valuable information presented by a very personable magician.

**Gerry Schiller** 

# The Greats of Magic A Series of Capsule Biographies of Famous Magicians by Gerald Schiller



## **Carter the Great**

In 2001 Glen David Gold's novel *Carter Beats the Devil* appeared and quickly became a best seller. Gold had taken the story of magician Charles Carter and intertwined it with the strange death of President Warren G, Harding. And while the book was rather fanciful in many ways, it did introduce many readers to Carter and other magicians of his time.

The real Charles J. Carter was born June 14, 1874 in Newcastle, Pennsylvania. A serious student, he attended Catholic schools and later both Villanova and Loyola Colleges—even earning a law degree some years later.

He had an early interest in magic, and by the age of sixteen was performing professionally, even appearing in New York at Koster and Bial's Music Hall as a teenager.

Carter quickly developed a solid reputation and put together an illusion show that included a transposition called "The Lion's Bride." He also did the famous "Million Dollar Mystery" in which a glass box in the center of the stage produced a large multitude of items that culminated in the appearance of a girl and then an assistant dressed as the Devil.

Booked on a tour of Australia and the Orient, he soon became very partial to performing abroad. In Oriental countries he was only required to do one show per day, had little competition, and was royally treated by everyone.

With his wife Corinne, he made eight round the world tours, all highly successful.

A close friend of Harry Houdini, Carter made a pact with the escape artist that whoever died first would try to return and report to the other. Houdini gave him a copy of his book, *A Magician Among the Spirits* and wrote on the first page: "To my friend Charles Carter—best wishes and luck to our pact—Houdini—July 8, 1926." Just four months later Harry Houdini would be dead.

In 1933 Carter set up a show at the Chicago World's Fair in a theater he named The Temple of Mystery. Each hour he presented an exciting show of illusions but the attendance was poor. Apparently there was so much to see at the fair that most spectators did not want to sit for an hour's magic show.

Carter sold the building to a restaurant and decided to try another world tour. He was approaching 60 and brought his son Lawrence along on the tour, billing him as Carter the Great II and letting him do half the show.

In June of 1935 in South Africa, Charles Carter became ill, but he continued appearing briefly in the show doing a mental act. (He feared he would be breaking the contract if he did not appear on stage.)

On February 13, 1936 Carter died in a hospital in Bombay, India.

His son Lawrence continued the tour through India and China, eventually returning to the U.S. and putting the show in storage.

Though not as well known as illusionists of his time like Thurston, Kellar and Blackstone, Charles Carter had a long and illustrious career and anyone curious about him can check out Gold's novel, *Carter Beats the Devil*, or a more accurate account in Mike Caveny's authoritative biography, *Carter the Great*.

#### 2017 - 2018 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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BOARD MEETINGS are on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm at

Four 'N 20 Pies located at 4723 Laurel Canyon Blvd, Valley Village, CA 91607. Phone: 818-761-5128.

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Deadline for submissions for the next newsletter is the last Thursday of the prior month.

Please put "IBM 21 Newsletter" in the topic line.