

# FLEMING FLASHPAPER

FEBRUARY 2019

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!

FEBRUARY 7th : The theme is "Romantic Magic". So, get your Rico Suave on and bring your most romantic routine to share. Effects with hearts, cupid, couples, flowers, etc.

FEBRUARY 16, 2019 Lex The Illusionist will be performing at the Skiptown Playhouse in Hollywood. Doors open at 7. Age 21 and over.

## 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!

RING 21 CLUB MEETING:

First Thursday of the month

NEXT MEETING:

February 7<sup>th</sup>

7:15 pm

Providence St Elizabeth  
10425 Magnolia Blvd  
North Hollywood, CA

We are on twitter!

@ibmring21

And the internet!

[www.ibmring21.org](http://www.ibmring21.org)



## MAGIC RESOURCES

### MAGIC APPLE

The best magic shop and one of the few  
Remaining “brick and mortars” around!

11390 Ventura Blvd  
Studio City, CA 91604

Also online: [www.themagicapple.com](http://www.themagicapple.com)

### Magic Mondays

<https://www.magicmondayla.com/>

### Westside Wizards Sam 291

Note: See [www.westsidewizards.org](http://www.westsidewizards.org) for calendar of events  
Stoner Park OPICA Adult Day Care  
11759 Missouri Ave, Los Angeles, CA

### Mark Wilson IBM Ring 280

Note: See [www.ibmring280.com](http://www.ibmring280.com) 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  
[www.verticalwinebistro.com](http://www.verticalwinebistro.com)  
626-795-3999

### Woodley Proper Magic Monday

Bar has magic on Monday nights.  
[www.woodleyproper.com](http://www.woodleyproper.com)  
16101 Ventura Blvd, Encino, CA 91436  
(818) 906-9775

### MAGIC MONDAY

Santa Monica Playhouse

[www.santamonicaplayhouse.com](http://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](http://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](http://www.ivanamodei.com)

(866) 811-4111

### Smoke and Mirrors

The Road Theatre

5108 Lankershim Boulevard

North Hollywood, CA 91601

[www.SmokeandMirrorsMagic.com](http://www.SmokeandMirrorsMagic.com)

(310) 450-2849

### The Magic Castle

7001 Franklin Avenue, Hollywood, CA 90028

[www.magiccastle.com](http://www.magiccastle.com)

(323) 851-3313

# MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Hi. I am looking forward to seeing all of you at our next meeting to share "Romantic Magic".

Bob Thomas

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JANUARY 2019 PROGRAM

## MESSAGE FROM ROBERT GUERRA



Here is a photo of our own Robert Guerra delivering gifts to the Burbank Fire Department to be delivered to kids for Christmas.

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



## **Roy Benson**

During the 1950s and 60s, the name Roy Benson was one that virtually anyone who knew about magicians would have easily recognized. As a matter of fact, many considered him one of the greatest of twentieth century conjurers. But after his death his reputation quickly faded. Fortunately, a book came out a few years ago that has helped to re-establish his position in the pantheon of exceptional performers and for this we should give credit to Levent and Todd Karr for their excellent study: Roy Benson by Starlight.

Born January 17, 1914, in a town near Paris, France, Edward Ford Emerson McQuaid was the child of two popular vaudeville performers. His father was a partner in a comedy juggling act, and his mother appeared with her sister in a dance act that became famous as The Ford Sisters.

Young Edward Ford grew up in a theatrical family and this was the only life he knew.

At the age of eight he announced to his parents that he wanted to become a magician. Instead of reacting negatively, they accepted his choice and hired a close friend to be the boy's tutor. The teacher's name was Nate Leipzig, who just happened to be one of the masters of sleight-of-hand magic.

Young McQuaid was an apt pupil and, under Leipzig's tutelage, became a skilled manipulator.

In 1932, now eighteen years of age and calling himself Roy Benson, he appeared at New York's Belmont Theater with a routine that included the torn and restored newspaper, Chinese Sticks, and the DeKolta vanishing birdcage. His act was filled with rapid-fire humorous patter that was both clever and charming. He soon added a multiplying billiard ball routine—with six balls—and quickly established a reputation as one of

New York's most popular performers, and he was kept busy appearing in night clubs, cafes, and hotel ballrooms.

Benson would soon add other classic effects, including the Al Baker rice bowls, serpentine silk, egg bag, and six card repeat. And although each was a traditional trick that other magicians performed, Benson's version was distinguished by his own original approach and charming comic flair.

In 1935, while Benson was performing on the West Coast, he was spotted by a talent scout for the movies, and soon was being cast in several motion pictures.

In the 1940s he added an effect to his repertoire that would soon become one of his signature tricks: the "long pour" salt trick. Though many performers now do it, he may well have been one of its originators: the salt that vanishes from one hand soon reappears in the other but the stream never seems to stop as it pours out onto the stage and he takes his curtain call still pouring more salt from his fist!

Whether he was working in nightclubs or on television, his act never seemed to age. He continued doing the same routines, but his patter changed with the times, and he often made fun of himself and his magic—yet it was constantly funny.

With his wife Connye, a dancer, he developed an Oriental act involving dance, masks, and magic, but the new act, though fascinating and unusual, never caught on with the public and proved not to be commercial.

Benson, unfortunately, struggled with the problem of alcoholism through much of his life, and he died December 6, 1977 of emphysema at the age of 63.

2018 – 2019 EXECUTIVE BOARD	MEMBERS AT LARGE
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<p>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.</p>	
<p>EDITOR: KARL JOHNSON 818-790-9600 <a href="mailto:karl.johnson@gwcmi.com">karl.johnson@gwcmi.com</a>  <b>Deadline for submissions for the next newsletter is the last Thursday of the prior month.</b>  <b>Please put "IBM 21 Newsletter" in the topic line.</b></p>	