# FLEMING FLASHPAPER

FEBRUARY 2021

#### 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!**

Join us for our next Zoom meeting!

The February meeting is all about romantic magic and magic to music. So, come share something with us.

We also have a treat in March: Our own Gerry Schiller will conduct a magic lecture, you won't want to miss it. See next month's newsletter for details.

We have a sad broken wand ceremony to perform in our next meeting, for our own Robert De La Guerra. See more about our beloved Robert below.

# 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

**MEETING DATES FOR 2021:** 

FEBRUARY 4<sup>TH</sup>
MARCH 4<sup>TH</sup>

7:00 PM

ZOOM

Look for email from our

President for instructions.

We are on twitter!
@ibmring21

And the internet!



#### BROKEN WAND - Robert De La Guerra

It is with great sadness that the members and friends of IBM Ring 21 announce the passing of Robert de la Guerra on December 27, 2020, at the age of sixty.

An active member, two term president, and hard-working participant in club activities, Robert's loss will be felt by the many ring members who admired his skills and learned so much from him in the almost twenty years he was with us.

Robert was also a member of the Magic Castle, avid student of Karate, and manager at Case Parts Company.

He and his wife Marta had been married for 27 years.

As a magician he was a consummate performer with a most delicate—and very often humorous—approach. This was most evident in his performance of the "Floating Table" illusion—a performance envied by all of us who have been enthralled by it so many times.

As our current president Erin Kabbash put it:

"Robert was not only an incredible magician...he was an incredible person. He had the ability to focus on what really matters in magic, the people. He will continue on in my thoughts as I go through my magic journey in life."

He will be sorely missed by all of us who knew him.

**Gerry Schiller** 





#### BROKEN WAND: Ted ("Suds") Sudbrack

An IBM member for over fifty years and member of the Order of Merlin, Suds Sudbrack passed away on April 5, 2020 at the age of eighty-eight. He was a member of four IBM rings, the SAM, and the Magic Castle.

Many of us knew him for his dependable appearance at Castle Swap Meets, where he had lavish displays of magic for sale (and had developed many tricks of his own). He always seemed to be the last one to leave and was a patient and effective salesman.

We also remember him as the funny emcee of quite a few of our school shows over the years.

Suds served in the U.S. Navy and also worked for a number of years in the aerospace industry until 1979 when he decided to devote full time to his magic.

Those of us who knew him remember Suds affectionately as a charming and knowledgable member of our magic community.

He will indeed be missed.

## **LINKS TO PRIVATE IBM 21 MEMBER VIDEOS**

Some of our members have shared videos they have posted on the internet. Below are the links:

4/27/2020: Bob Thomas: FUNNY book test with Lex participating:

https://youtu.be/FQ-w0bOXSS4

4/22/2020: Michael Larkin: A ninja ring routine I put together myself, and a great coin routine by Daryl.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bShYQju5Zqk https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wyUg-UGhGlw

4/21/2020: Karl Johnson: Fun and Funny performance that my 8 year old daughter and I did for her school talent show:

https://youtu.be/mkKwufGLB\_Q

4/16/2020: Don Kinney: Short but hilarious interview at Kingsley Manor.

https://fpkingsleymanor.oneday.com/Video/E3B7436B42

4/18/2020: Jim Richardson: A fun cart trick, and the longest card trick:

https://youtu.be/TptMf-XKe30 https://youtu.be/Mri2yvZMBCk

| 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  | MAGIC ON THE GO Great magic instruction brough to you by our very own Steve Valentine: <a href="https://magiconthego.vhx.tv/">https://magiconthego.vhx.tv/</a>  |  |
| Westside Wizards Sam 291 Note: See <a href="https://www.westsidewizards.org">www.westsidewizards.org</a> 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 | 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<br>Four Seasons Beverly Wilshire Hotel<br>9500 Wilshire Boulevard, Beverly Hills, CA 90212<br>www.ivanamodei.com<br>(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   | Magic Mondays <a href="https://www.magicmondayla.com/">https://www.magicmondayla.com/</a>   |  |

## MY FAVORITE TRICK FROM LAST YEAR

Our president Erin gaveled the meeting to order at 7:15 with a well attended group on board reporting via Zoom from throughout Southern California. Raul Fernandez announced that, in spite of most schools functioning only via Zoom as well, he wanted to present some magic to local students and asked members to submit him a 3-5 minute video clip which he will put together into a presentation. Several members volunteered to contribute.

Erin announced the sad news that Robert de la Guerra—a longtime Ring 21 member (who had twice served as our president) had just passed away. We will have a broken wand ceremony at an upcoming meeting.

After spinning the "virtual raffle wheel" Bob Thomas then handed out prizes to the lucky winners.

Our January meeting (more often than not) is usually designated either as the "what I got for Xmas" meeting or members' "best trick of the year" meeting. So in spite of the fact that (as most people seem to agree) 2020 was hardly an auspicious twelve months to remember, it seems to have provided a chance to develop quite a few new effects--probably because so many of us were stuck at home practicing as well as having a captive audience of family members to bother with "watch this new card trick requests."



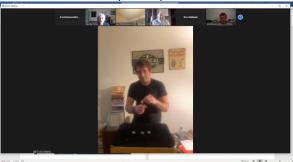
President Erin Kabbash provided a quickie by passing a coin right through a plastic baggie.



Raul Fernandez stood up with his mask on and had a card selected, then when his announcement of what it was proved muffled, he flipped the mask inside out and there was the name of the card on the inside of his mask. I guess that proves you can be both safe—and accurate!



Gerry Schiller put together several prediction tricks by first laying out eight cards from a shuffled deck, then punching some numbers into his I-Phone from others' suggestions, multiplying the numbers, and they matched the eight cards. But his coup-de-grace was a one dollar bill he had sent through US mail to Wendy Sobel several days before. When she opened the sealed envelope and read the bill's serial number, it also matched both the cards and the tally on his phone!



Lex Schwartz did a beautiful four coin vanish, executing it with superb panache.



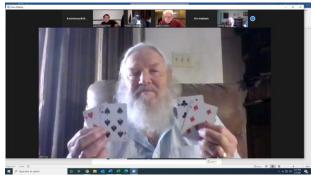
Wendy Sobel did Aldo Colombini's classic "Jacks in the Box" in which the four jacks magically separate themselves from the four tens and end up in the card box.



John Engman did the Jim Steinmeier version of the Sympathetic Cards which, in spite of being shuffled and placed in separate glasses, both suits end up in the same order. It was a version (virtually impromptu) that I now realize can save lots of money compared to many other versions sold for 40-50 dollars!



Michael Larkin (assisted by his charming eightyear-old son) did finally find the card his young son had picked but it took a lot of (well-rehearsed) comic responses.



Elroy Codding performed Miraculous Sevens, a trick where four sevens appeared on top of random piles from the deck.

So was 2020 a good year? Many would say no. For Ring 21—not bad at all!

**Gerry Schiller** 

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



#### SIGFRIED AND ROY

On October 3, 2003, on the stage of the Mirage Hotel in Las Vegas, Roy Horn was injured by a seven-year old tiger named Montecore. He suffered a stroke, partial paralysis and underwent surgery including removal of a quarter of his skull to relieve pressure. He continues to receive therapy, and, while he has shown gradual improvement, it seemed clear that the accident had ended the careers of one of magic's most successful and popular acts. There has been much discussion about the accident and many people feel Horn was not attacked but that the tiger was trying to protect him—the way an adult tiger might protect a cub. Whatever the reason, that October night ended one of the great magic acts of the century:

Sigfried and Roy.

Roy Horn who was born in Nordenham, Germany on October 3, 1944 (the tiger attack occurred on his fifty-ninth birthday) teamed up with magician Siegfried Fischbacher

(born in Rosenheim, Bavaria, Germany on June 13, 1939) in 1959. The two were working on an ocean liner: Siegfried as a cabin steward (but also doing a magic show part time) and the teenage Roy as a waiter. Roy joined Siegfried as his assistant, and even on one cruise smuggled a cheetah on board. They incorporated the animal into the act (in the Metamorphosis trunk exchange) and, though the captain, was furious, the audience loved it.

Soon they left the ship (they were only being paid a minimal salary) and began to tour the act all over Europe, but it was only when they appeared before a celebrity audience in Monte Carlo, that they began to get better bookings.

Though their first trip to appear in Las Vegas proved unsuccessful, by 1970 they were booked into the Stardust Hotel and performed there for three years to resounding success. They were acclaimed as "best show of the year" in 1972.

By 1990 Steve Wynn, manager of the Mirage Hotel signed them to a contract that guaranteed an annual salary of \$57.5 million and, in 2001, they signed a lifetime agreement with the hotel.

The show, as thousands of people have witnessed, combines music (written for them) lovely showgirls, and magical illusions that almost defy description. They have incorporated many animals in the act and the Siberian tigers (one of whom attacked Roy) became virtually a signature feature of Siegfried and Roy's show.

The show was popular in part because it combined the glitz of many other Vegas extravaganzas with amazing magic and the allure of their many wild animals.

The duo received awards of all kinds over the years including their own star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 1999. In 2000 they were the ninth highest paid celebrities

in all of the United States (just behind director Steven Spielberg).

They continued to live on a sprawling estate in Las Vegas along with their many animal performers. It was, unfortunately, ironic that part of the reason for their amazing success, one of those very animals, would be the factor that ended the amazing careers of Siegfried and Roy.

Roy Horn died in 2020 from complications of COVID-19. He was 76.

Siegfried Fischbacher died of pancreatic cancer on January 13, 2021 at the age of 81.

| IBM RING 21                | EXECUTIVE BOARD   | MEMBERS AT LARGE  |  |
|----------------------------|---|---|--|
| PRESIDENT: VICE-PRESIDENT: | Erin Kabbash 720-261-5566  erinskabbash@gmail.com  Lex Schwartz (818) 935-4837  lex@lexthelusionist.com | Gadi Rowelsky growelsky@gmail.com Don Kenney 818-896-7261 dkmagik@ca.rr.com |  |
| SECRETARY:                 | Gerry Schiller 805-657-8921<br>geraldschiller@gmail.com   | Charles Cisneros charles.cisneros08@gmail.com                               |  |
| TREASURER:                 | Wendy Sobel 310-753-5357<br>wsobel@roadrunner.com   | Bill Turner 818-786-5326<br>billturner26.2@hotmail.com                      |  |
| SGT-AT-ARMS:               | Karl Johnson 818-790-9600<br>karl.johnson@gwcmi.com   | Bob Weiss magicRW@aol.com   |  |
| PAST-PRESIDENT:            | Bob Thomas 661-390-3068<br>bdbbss@yahoo.com   |   |  |
|                            | BOARD MEETINGS are on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm.                                       |   |  |

They are currently held via zoom. Contact Erin to participate. All members are welcome.

EDITOR: KARL JOHNSON 818-790-9600 karl.johnson@gwcmi.com

Deadline for submissions for the next newsletter is the third Thursday of the prior month. Please put "IBM 21 Newsletter" in the topic line.