



# MAGICURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76

JUNE 2012

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## Tech Magic

Our June meeting is upon us and it brings a new (and hopefully exciting) theme to Ring 76. Bring all of your gizmos, gadgets and electronic wonders to the stage as June is our new Hi Tech month! Do you have an article of amazement that works using AA batteries or even just a clever (possibly futuristic) presentation to an old classic? Contact Syd and sign up to perform at the June meeting ([btl6380@aol.com](mailto:btl6380@aol.com)). And while we recommend that you stick to the theme, we are also going to accommodate any performers of the Ring who want to get up there and share, theme related or not! So do not be shy and contact Syd today to sign up for our June meeting!

— Syd Segal

## Member of the Year

As we get into the swing of paying our dues and electing our new Board of Officers, another vote is upon us. At the June meeting, each Ring 76 member in good standing will be asked to cast their vote for "Member of the Year". This is a one-time vote, so if you miss out on this meeting, too bad. When voting for who you think should be the "Member of the Year", please keep in mind your vote should be for someone that you feel has gone "above and beyond" the call of duty as a committed Ring 76 member, not necessarily a person who has performed the most from month to month.

Good luck to all Ring 76 members!

— Syd Segal



2011 Member of the Year  
Richard Ustick

## Dues are Due

Besides the start of summer, the end of the school year for those of us with children, and the beginning of the last cool month for a while in San Diego, June also brings the Annual elections and dues.

This month's meeting will not only feature an election of the next Board of Directors, but the collection of membership dues for Ring 76. As with last year, Dues for your local Ring are still only \$25, IF paid by the 30th of the month. If you wait and pay in July, there is a late penalty of \$5.

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HONEST SID GERHART RING 76  
EDITOR JAMES THAYER — [EDITOR@RING76.COM](mailto:EDITOR@RING76.COM)



If you are not going to be at the June Meeting, please mail your Dues to Richard Ustick, Treasurer, Ring 76, 251 Thrasher Way, El Cajon, CA 92020. Make your check out to Ring 76.

If you have any questions please contact Richard or any Board Member.

— Richard Ustick

## ***Annual Election of Officers***

We are rapidly coming up on June, when we elect a new board of officers for the Ring.

The candidates for office are as follows:

President — Derek Ostovani  
1st VP (Entertainment) — Syd Segal  
2nd VP (Membership) — James Thayer  
Secretary — Bob Meigs  
Treasurer — Richard Ustick  
Sergeant-At-Arms — Donna Greenbaum  
Members-At-Large — Sherry Luft, Joe  
Mystic, Toni Perrine

The only office that is contested this year is that of Member-At-Large where we have three candidates to fill two positions. The uncontested offices will not be voted upon. We will have an ballots for the member-at-large position. All members in good standing (meaning, among other things, that you have paid your dues!) are eligible to vote.

Although not a candidate, Kenny Shelton, our Immediate Past-President, will also serve as a Member-At-Large as set forth in the Ring Constitution.

— James Thayer

## ***The Stage Competition***

The May meeting was our annual Stage Competition. President Kenny Shelton called the meeting to order at 7PM. He opened the meeting announcing that the Williams Mobile Magic Shop

would be making two stops in the San Diego area on Thursday, May 17.

Joe Mystic announced the May 24 pro-bono show at Father Joe's Villages, which is discussed elsewhere in this newsletter. Kenny then explained the nature of next month's meeting, which includes high-tech magic, election of officers, and annual dues.

Next came the much-awaited Stage Competition. Each performer was limited to eight minutes. This year, we had only five contestants, which was about half the typical number.

Bob Meigs opened with Okito's Bewildering Blocks, and closed with Tony Clark's Gypsy Balloon. The

(Continued on page 6)

## ***All It Could Have Been?***

### ***An Editorial by Bob Meigs***

I'd like to say a few words about this year's Stage Competition. Many members found the Stage Competition a bit disappointing. There were only about half as many performers as usual – and way fewer than in our Close-Up Competition. As a result, the Stage Competition was our shortest meeting of the year – by 8:20, we were done and out.

The problems started with people who might have performed, but didn't. Our stage competition usually draws some of our most polished performers. This year, several people we expected to see sat it out.

Second, stage magic lends itself to "pomp and circumstance" - music, costumes, props, assistants, and the unexpected. The competition, which should stand out in this regard, played more like an ordinary "trick night." The Close-Up Competition in March was over-the-top; the Stage Competition didn't reach the same level.

So, you stage performers (and I include myself in this), let this be a challenge! Next year, let's have a "Standing-O Show" and whup those close-up guys!



## *Photos from the May Meeting*



Bob Meigs



Loch David Cran



Toni Perrine



## *Photos from the May Meeting*



Alex Greenbaum



Donna Greenbaum



2012 Stage Competition Contests



## *Stop Me Anywhere*

### *RSVP Presents '24 SEVEN'*

#### *By John Carey*

#### *Reviewed by Joel A Moskowitz*

#### *May 23 2012*

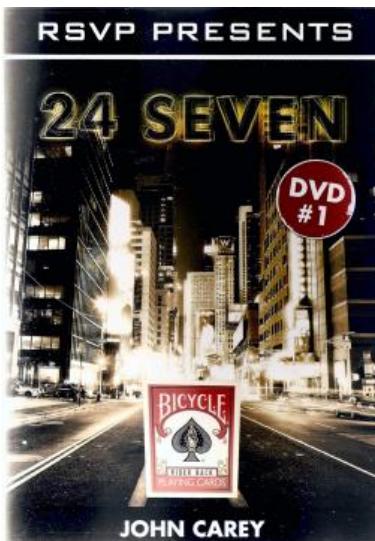
John Carey is a cardician's idol. He is familiar and gives credit to many great pasteboard shufflers. Fascinated with "Do as I Do", Carey presents and teaches variations on that theme. In the British Isles, he is revered for his skill. He is classed among the underground wonders. If you want to learn stage craft, these selections are not for you. To a member of the 'colonies' perhaps this reviewer has a need for a style which astonishes with humor. I didn't find it in these effects. Humility and a dedication to teach will be your reward. The doctor prescribes this collection for the compulsive card enthusiast (Rx Rx Rx Rx 4/5) Available from RSVP and dealers should contact Murphys Magic Supplies.

Simplex Transpo A Tamariz idea to transpose two signed bank notes. This is a dexterous switch of the folded money by body language head turning away from the note which is in the left pocket while you dig in the right jacket pocket for a lighter. It also utilizes a plastic medicine bottle which has the advantage of the note which has been inserted in there expands somewhat and there is no need for glue. When you dump the note in the bottle, it actually does not come out and you show the previously palmed note in your right hand.

Gemini Reflections: Karl Fulves idea Gemini Twins. Apparently the spectator has a free choice of a card and the magician does likewise. Using two plastic 'cut' cards used in casinos to enhance no cheating, these plastic cards come to be next to the choices. Lots of shuffling and it use some entertaining patter.

CoinKidinky : Four of a kind (bow to Alan Ackerman} Set up Q X X Q Q Q secretly on the

top. A nifty force (Kaps?) spreading the first several cards face up and ask the S how many cards are there. Whatever they say, you proceed to count the cards in your left hand face down but after one card (a Q) you show that there are indifferent cards (X and X) face up but this allows you to add the Q Q Q to your face down count. This kind of casual slight is pursued to a clever revelation of the 4 Qs. Including a cross cut force of the last Q.



Oil and Water (six card) Pinky and thumb breaks and Biddle steals allow you to demonstrate O and W interdigitated and then separated. Dave Solomon is credited for a nifty revelation scheme.

Table top card control (ala Bernard Billis) You spread half or so of the pack on the table, the top half in your left hand. Show the top card of the left hand pack by pushing it out to the right by your thumb and secretly retract it at the same time hitting the top card of the tabled half; simulating that you have just placed the 'chosen' card onto the table. Next take that card and insert it face down into the remaining tabled half pack. When you scoop the tabled half deck place the left hand pack above. Wallah, you have the 'chosen' card on the top of the assembled deck.

Interlocking Flyer : A selection vanishes and is located elsewhere. Cervon and Jenning were inspirations. How the magician handles the selected card depends on secretly lining up the choice with a card below the deck being stepped. As the magician gives the lower half of the deck, he is able to move the card below the chosen onto the section given to the spectator.

(Continued on page 6)



(Stage Competition—Continued from page 2)

second performer was Loch David Crane, who performed a school-show routine he is developing, called The Mysteries of DNA. Our third performer was Toni Perrine, who performed a succession of colorful productions with a circus theme.

Our final two performers were our mother-and-son members, Donna and Alex Greenbaum. Alex opened with an original routine he calls Chaos at the Zoo, and closed with The Zodiac Effect. Donna wrapped up the competition with a couple "out-of-this-world" routines called Do Aliens Exist? (Do you suppose that Donna is practicing for the upcoming San Diego County Fair, which has Out-of-this-World as its theme?)

— Bob Meigs

## "MagiToon"

by Jim Whiting & Ellen Friedman



"And do you, Magic Marvin, take Alice Allure to be your beautiful and capable assistant?"

(24 Seven — Continued from page 5)

Subsequently he gets a double card which is counted as one as he counts them down on the table.

Eventually, he is prepared to show the chosen card has miraculously jumped from the area in front of the spectator to the pile which the magician is using.

Kick - 4 Queens: Walk around signed card effect.

Imaginary Reality: Vernon idea for "Do as I Do" one deck is real and one is imaginary.

Conscious/Subconscious: Another "Do as I Do"

Two to Tango: Two spectators join a selection number and one in the mind.

Crystal Transposition: Recommended for bar and restaurant performers

12. Shh Its a mystery: Compliments to Brother John Hammon.

## Installation Banquet

This year the Board of Directors decided to try something different for the Annual Installation Banquet. Rather than a catered affair like last year, we decided to return to a restaurant.

Keeping in mind the poor economy and the fact that our members have been tightening their belts, the Board strived to have a nice setting, and good food that all our members could enjoy.

It was decided to have this year's Banquet at the New East Buffet, in El Cajon. More details will follow, but for now you can look up the venue at <http://neweastbuffet.ambz.com/>

The address is 555 Montrose Ct. El Cajon, 92020, 619-588-5988. It is just west of Magnolia on Madison avenue, next to the Motel Six.

The price will only be \$10.99 for dinner with Senior and small child discounts. Besides traditional Chinese food, the restaurant also has a Sushi and Sashimi bar and a Mongolian BBQ so all dietary needs will easily be handled.

(Continued on page 7)



(Installation Banquet — Continued from page 6)

The entertainment is still to be announced and there will be more details at the next Ring Meeting

— Richard Ustick

## "The Joe Show"

Ring 76 has been soliciting volunteers and venues for pro-bono "public service" shows for several months. Joe Mystic produced in spades by arranging a family show at Father Joe's Village, which I call "The Joe Show." The Joe Show took place at Father Joe's Village on Thursday evening, May 24. Joe Mystic, Loch David Crane, Bob Meigs, and new member Matthew King performed, and Malcolm Campbell expertly emceed. The show ran about an hour and a half, and an audience of about thirty kids and a dozen adults loved it! Father Joe's wants us back — and

"The Joe Show" may well become an annual or semi-annual event.

It was a blast! The Ring is indebted to Joe - Mystic, that is - for setting up this wonderful event. The



## ***Ring 76 2011-12 Calendar***

June 11 Hi-Tech Magic\*

July 15 Installation Banquet

Aug 13 Mentalism\*

\* Opportunity for Members to Perform

excitement of those kids was something to behold, and the magic was — and this is not exaggerating — SOMETHING SPECIAL! Loch and Matt are kids' performers extraordinaire! Joe Mystic shined as he previewed his Del Mar Fair show and introduced his new assistant, an attractive young lady named Arden. And thanks to Joe coming up with a much-needed 9-volt battery, my own routines went without a hitch! Magic!

For anyone who would like to participate in such events in the future, we'll be doing The Joe Show again, and we're open to other venues as well.

—Bob Meigs

## ***Flying Monkeys Falter, But Shows Flying High***

I want to keep everyone up-to-date on the status of our public-service show efforts. In the last newsletter, I suggested "The Flying Monkeys" as working title for the yet-to-be-identified participants in these shows. Several of you commented that this name lacks dignity, doesn't describe the event, and brings no recognition of the Ring. I agree — so at present, we aren't using a working title for these pro-bono shows.

We have already done three successful shows this year and expect to do several more. The biggest show to date was The Joe Show. In April, Kenny Shelton and I did a show for Planned Parenthood in Santa Barbara. And on March 30, Kenny, Terry Godfrey, Syd Segal and I put on a show for a Lions Club's fundraiser. (That show, described in the April

(Continued on page 8)



(*Pro-Bono — Continued from page 7*)

newsletter, may serve as the show required by or lease, or, if we again entertain at the Lions Club's Holiday Banquet, the March show will fall into the pro-bono category.)

In organizing our pro-bono shows, we try not to compete with our pros. We look for venues not likely to hire professional entertainment, but where entertainment will serve the community. From the performers' point of view, these shows provide a great opportunity to try out new routines – or fine-tune old ones – before an appreciative audience.

Anyone interested in participating in these shows, or with venues to suggest, should contact Bob Meigs, Joe Mystic, Syd Segal, Derek Ostovani, or Kenny Shelton.

— *Bob Meigs*

## ***The San Diego County Fair***

Ring 76 will again have a major presence at the San Diego County Fair. When visiting the Fair, be sure to catch our performers!

Terry Godfrey will again be the Fair's "resident magician." He will be featured in pre-fair publicity with straight jacket escape, while hanging upside down from a crane, suspended by a burning rope. He also performs daily at opening ceremonies, and at 1PM and 3PM on the Wild West Stage.

Bob Meigs will be performing daily in the "Do-It-Yourself Magic Show" at 11:30AM on the Plaza Stage. Bob also hosts the daily "Car Shows at the Fair," at the Arena Gate entrance.

Bob and Terry will again host their Abra-Kid-Abra Magic Camp in the Kids' Best Tent at 1PM on Tuesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays.

A new feature of the 2012 Fair will be the "24-Minute Magic Show," daily at 6:24PM on the Showcase Stage (on Thursday evenings, the 24-Minute Magic Show moves to the Infield Stage). The 24-Minute Magic Show is sandwiched between

Mark Yuzik's 5PM and 7PM stage hypnosis shows on the same stage. The scheduled performers, Ring members all, are:

June	8	Joe Mystic
June	9-10	Terry Lunceford
June	12	Bob Meigs
June	13-17	Joe Mystic
June	19-23	Jeff Marcus
June	24-27	Kenny Shelton
June	28-30	Michael E. Johnson
July	1-3	Derek Ostovani
July	4	To Be Announced

— *Bob Meigs*

## ***Those Who Stepped Boldly into the Abyss***

Our fastidious (but not infallible) records indict that 32 of our intrepid members ventured into our theme nights, contests, the teach-in, membership auditions, and/or pro-bono shows during the 2011-12 year. We express our sincere appreciation for your dramaturgy and fortitude.

These "Magnificent 32" are listed below, in alphabetical order by last name. If you answered the call, but are not listed, please enlighten Bob Meigs at <mailto:carshows@sbcglobal.net>, so we may acknowledge your deeds and devotion .

1. Nick Brown
2. Malcolm Campbell
3. Chuck Cook
4. John Coulter
5. Loch David Crane
6. Gary Dismukes
7. Robin Freeland
8. Donald Holcomb
9. John Hunter
10. Terry Godfrey
11. Laurie Gordon
12. Robert Gordon
13. Charlie Gott
14. Alex Greenbaum



(Performers — Continued from page 8)

15. Donna Greenbaum
16. James Kellogg, Jr.
17. Matthew King
18. Jeff Marcus
19. Tom McCarthy
20. Bob Meigs
21. Joe Mystic
22. Derek Ostovani
23. Toni Perrine
24. Bob Pozner
25. Robert Reidy
26. Mago Ruly
27. Larry Samuels
28. Syd Segal
29. Kenny Shelton
30. Jim Sloan
31. Leo Sy
32. Alfonso Vasquez

Again, our thanks to these 32 plenipotentiaries of the magical arts. As a token of our appreciation, we would like to provide each of you with two complimentary tickets to the San Diego County Fair, where, among innumerable attractions, members of Ring 76 perform daily. You may pick these tickets up at the June Ring meeting, or, if you would like them sooner, email your snail-mail address to Bob Meigs.

— Bob Meigs

## Magic Notes

Coming up, on Wednesday June 13th, Francis Menotti will be on hand presenting his unique lecture on magic and creativity! Francis is quickly making a name for himself amongst his peers with his very creative methods and presentations. Join Francis as he teaches, entertains and provokes you into realizing that you are capable of inventing new ideas and ways of performing your magic. In the just-over-two-hour lecture, the effects that Francis teaches range in difficulty from “very easy” to “significant skill required,” so there is something for all levels of magical proficiency.



The lecture will be on Wednesday, June 13th and start at 7:00pm. I will be having the lecture at the North Park Lions Club (same venue as our Ring 76 meetings). Cost to attend the lecture is \$20 per person. The address of the Lions Club is:

3927 Utah Street  
San Diego, CA 92104

If you are interested in reserving your seats, please call Syd Segal at 619-300-1344.

