



MAGICURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76 NOVEMBER 2012 VOL. XXVI #11

November Meeting Theme is Music Magic

The theme for the magic at our next Ring meeting will be "Music Magic," and, NO, I did not pick this one out.

What do we mean by "Music Magic"? That we leave up to you. It can mean that you use music in your magical presentation. It can mean that you do magic with a musical instrument of any kind. It can mean that you use records, 45s (look it up if you are under 30 years old), CDs or even music players of any kind. It simply means that you use music in what you perform. That is left up to you.

If you plan on performing at the November meeting please contact Syd so he can get the number of magicians organized and a roster ready. We have had a lot of great performers at the last few meetings as well as many guests and new members. It is good to see some fresh faces up on stage. So contact Syd to be sure your spot is reserved.

— Richard Ustick

Holiday Pot Luck is coming!

The Holiday Pot Luck and party is just a month away and your Board is working hard to make sure that this year's event is as memorable as the last.

As you know, we always have a pot luck for the food and provide first class entertainment for the members and their guests. The entertainment will be announced



Who's been naughty and who's been nice?

at the meeting and in the next newsletter, but for now I need to give the membership their information.

Every member who is coming is encouraged to bring their favorite holiday dish. The Ring will provide the drinks and desserts, so this year all of you can concentrate on the main courses, salads and side dishes. We will not be needing chips and dips nor desserts. **What we will be needing are main courses, side dishes and salads, enough to feed 12 people.** Also, in respect for members with allergies, please make out a card if there are any nuts, or dairy products in your special dishes. If you have any dietary problems, be sure to notify us. We want this to be enjoyable for all our members.

If you have any questions, be sure to contact Richard at the next meeting. Seating is limited, but guests are welcome, so be aware of our limitations and ask before you invite more than a few friends.

— Richard Ustick

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HONEST SID GERHART RING 76
EDITOR JAMES THAYER — EDITOR@RING76.COM



President's Message

Hello members, hope your Halloween was scary, fun, and safe, all at the same time! Last month was another great success with over a dozen performances including some awesome guest performances!!! You all really had the Halloween Spirit!



But next month is creeping up on us already, and we have a really different themed night; Music Magic!!! So that is open to interpretation but I think the act to beat might be Richard Ustick! So singing, lip singing, humming what's it gonna be? Do we have the next Darren Romeo on our hands? I regret to say that I will be out of town that entire week, so unfortunately I will miss out and I am very disappointed because I'm sure you all will come up with great performances!!! Also, I planned on singing my heart out, but oh well; guess I can't do that.

Don't forget about the annual Chargers Blood Drive, Tuesday November 20th at the Town and Country Convention Center in Fashion Valley, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome to come and perform some walk around Magic during that time, we will have a booth to represent our club as well. More information will be announced at the November meeting.

Make room, Monday December 10th for our annual Christmas Banquet, which will be held at the Lions Club, doors open at 6 PM and we'll have our very own member, Mago Ruly playing the piano while you enjoy food, and the company of other members! Our performer this year will be divulged soon! Don't forget to buy your raffle tickets for our give away, as well. Also, the very next day is our first lecture of the year. We are looking at July's performer Dave Cox to do the lecture, which I think will be a well-rounded lecture for those who like a little bit of EVERYTHING! See you all soon!

DEREK OSTOVANI

Chargers Blood Drive

Ring 76 will be very active at the Chargers Blood Drive. The Ring will be presenting a stage show from 12:30pm to 1pm. In addition, we will have a booth from 10am to 6pm. The stage show is covered but we still need volunteers for the booth.

At any given time, we would like to have at least two people at the booth doing close-up magic. There is also ample opportunity to do strolling magic. Or to put it another way, we can use as many volunteers as we can get. We will need to know what hours that you can be there so that we can make sure that the booth is always covered (and also so that we will know what times that we need to fill by doing some arm-twisting...)

Anyone who is interested should contact Bob Meigs at carshows@sbcglobal.net.

— James Thayer

It Was a Dark and Spooky Night. . .

The theme of our October meeting was, what else? HALLOWEEN MAGIC! First Vice President Syd Segal called the meeting to order at 7PM, as President Derek Ostovani had a show and advised us he would be late.

Among the evening's welcome surprises were two new members auditioning on the same evening, and an unusual number of guests attending our gathering. The guests were: Seth Assor, Connor Breen, Jason Allen Burke, David Groves, Armando Gutierrez, Ron Martin, Cynthia Robertson, Crissy Ustick, and Robert Vinson.

Our assemblage began with the announcement of numerous local events. Joe Mystic put out a Conjurers' Casting Call for the October 25 pro-bono show at Father Joe's Village, Toni Perrine will be belly dancing at the Bedouin Bizarre, and James

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Photos from the October Meeting



Bob Meigs



Terry Lunceford



Loch David Crane



Richard Ustick



Photos from the October Meeting



Malcolm Campbell



Chuck Cook



Greg Wauson



Perfessor Howard (I)

Photos from the October Meeting



David Groves



Kenny Shelton



Anthony Mayne



Derek Ostovani



Photos from the October Meeting



Bob Pozner



Elizabeth Kim



Our Cast for Spooky October

The Show Doctor

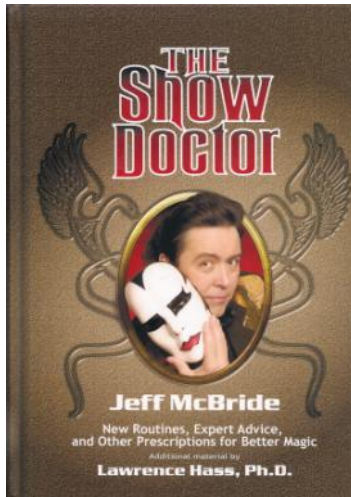
*by Jeff McBride (additional material
by Lawrence Hass PhD)*

*Reviewed by Joel A Moskowitz M D
October 17, 2012*

"The Show Doctor" should be covered by health insurance. Certainly, this learned writing will be therapeutic to all magicians and the glad audiences they amaze. Master magician and stellar teacher, Jeff McBride crafted a series of lessons in MAGIC MAGAZINE (Stan Allen's indisputable monthly artful periodical). Doctor of Philosophy Hass whose focus has been the study of living experience has learned and taught that humans are not only rational but magical as well.

The blend of this academician and reknown magician (Hass and McBride) is for the readers of "The Show Doctor" will be transfused with advice, glee and marvel at the prescribed remedies for mending illnesses, deficiencies, and mishaps for the magical performer of every venue - stage, strolling, sitting, etc etc.

In the mode of Jeff McBride as The Show Doctor, the style and format of the book is true to medical witticisms. Laymen might not appreciate or know that the tongue in cheek clever chapter titles are a take off of medical terminology. Physicians must endure several years of training and The Show Doctor text is divided into First Year (Coursework) Heads Down Syndrome; The Bends; Cerebral Pausy and others - these are cute ways of entitle afflictions to magicians i.e. Heads Down Syndrome is advice for dealing with the posture necessitated by working with cups and balls, coin magic or table top card effects. The Bends refers to when the performer 'bends down' behind his table to search for missing props.... Cerebral Pausey - filling the space with 'umms' and 'ahs'. "Dis-Ease" is the way McBride and Hass call the reader to where performers resort to 'dissing' the audience



member. The authors complete this first section with "Practicum" several choice effects.

Section two is entitled "Rotations". In Medicine training, rotations refers to spending time on obstetrics, pediatrics, surgery etc etc. This book uses this to be in keeping with the theme "The Show Doctor"

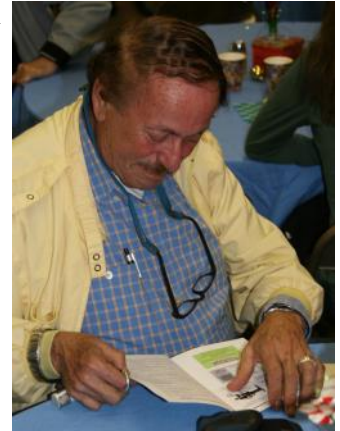
Hot Flashes is not menopausal but the use of fire in magic. The title per se Art Attack doesn't give the reader a clue about the contents. It is actually the art of dealing with 'attacking' audience members.

Can you guess that "A Serious Problem" is about the use of comedy in magic? "Truth Decay" discusses how when performing for friends and/or family you can misdirect and not be accused of lying. You might, having diagnosed the humor of the authors, know that A Sticky Situation deals with sweating on stage and having wet hands. Onward: more stimulating teasing titles followed by hard useful treatments to fix the ailing.

"Residency" is Section Three: Portions begin with a 'letter' which queries on specific topics i.e. where to get gigs. McBride's experience in various venues is enhanced by the information he has gleaned from the teachers in McBride's Magic and Mystery School i.e. Johnny Thompson, Mac King, Lance Burton and Eugene Burger.

The fourth section : "ICU" Has the remainder of the 48 Chapters. "Jabs and Needles" the first chapter in this section, is a tease for the reader. When you discover what the lesson is, I challenge you not to smile.

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(October— Continued from page 2)

Kellogg, III, will be hosting a Mark Mason lecture at his shop, 3 Generations of Magic.

Next, it was time to make way for mysterious moments of magic and mayhem. Nick Benevento, an auditioning applicant for membership, opened the evening with a card trick, and he was unanimously welcomed into the Ring. Then, the lights dimmed, eerie sounds came out of nowhere, and a chill seemed to move through the room. In the Halloween theme, Bob Meigs opened with The Frankenstein Machine, followed by Terry Lunceford, doing a comedy straight-jacket escape. Loch David Crane performed a routine called David Hoy Meets Santa Clause, which blended seasons, a bit like "The Nightmare before Christmas."

Richard Ustick treated us to one of his patented singing routines: The Haunted Hank, to the tune of Monster Mash, with Richard performing in full Vampire drag. Following this tough act, Malcolm Campbell did a comedy sawing, and Chuck Cook performed The Haunted Timber.

"MagiToon"

by Jim Whiting & Ellen Friedman



"He escaped from a milk container? No WAY!"

Next up, Perfesser Howard enacted a Voodoo routine causing a wound (fake, hopefully) to appear on a volunteer's hand. Greg Wauson performed a baffling rice-jar-suspension type effect, using a spoon and a clear glass of water. David Groves, a guest, produced a rose from fire, followed by a full glass of wine. A very hoarse – and horrifying - Kenny Shelton, straight from the Scream Zone, pounded a 4" nail into his nose.

Anthony Mayes performed a horror movie game, along the lines of 7 Keys of Baldpate. Derek

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(Show Doctor — Continued from page 7)

The closing phrase in chapters "Magic is Medicine" would, in the context of this book, should be expanded to "Magic is Medicine and reading/learning from this book is good for your mood, will make you admire the wisdom of the authors and bring a smile to your lips."

But this is not a perfect book. McBride and Hass are very intelligent and diligent in their offering references for further study. When this reviewer was active at The Magic Castle in Hollywood, the Library was well stocked. I doubt that more than a few magicians will have access to the toms and videos and DVDs that McBride and Hass recommend.

"The Show Doctor:" is so strong, even absent that one has a library which contains the listed books, the authors must be congratulated to having crafted an excellent teaching instrument. Short of enrolling into Jeff McBride's school, this is a bargain (\$45.00) and it is available on iPad and videos which supplement.

"The Show Doctor" is prescribed for all classes of magicians: Rx Rx Rx Rx Rx 5/5

N.B. To physicians with an affinity of magic, McBride's Magic Mystery School is offering a course with C.M.E. Continuing Medical Education points - see the website.



Ostovani did no-force, no-board mental epic effect, and Bob Pozner performed a color changing, vanishing knife routine.

Elizabeth Kim closed the evening with her membership audition – a series of effects, including ring on rope, Professor’s Nightmare, and a series of excellent card and coin tricks. Elizabeth also was unanimously welcomed to the Ring.

WOW! Fifteen performers! That gave us plenty to talk about as we adjourned to our "after-meeting meeting" at Rudford’s Coffee Shop.

— Bob Meigs

TRY IT, YOU’LL LIKE IT

Thank You Joe Mystic!

Joe Mystic arranged another show for the Ring’s pro-bono series. This was a return to Father Joe’s Villages, establishing our appearances there as a semi-annual event. Performers included Loch David Crane, Chuck Cook, Toni Perrine, "Perfesser" Howard Robinson, Terry Lunceford, and Bob Meigs. Malcolm Campbell was our most entertaining emcee, performing a bit of magic as he introduced each performer. Toni and Bob both brought "treats" for the kids. Joe was unable to attend because of a schedule conflict, but he deserves all the credit for setting this up!

The magic was quite entertaining, but, from my point of view, that’s not what mattered. What did matter was that a good number of our Ring stepped up to donate their time and talent to an audience – largely children – who don’t experience much magic in their lives. The audience – about 45 kids and more than a dozen adults – couldn’t have been more appreciative. It didn’t matter if the performer flashed – just their being there was real magic. And each of us knew it; we experienced the thrill of being appreciated.

So, congratulations, guys – to all of you who were there. And to everyone else, all I can say is, "Try it, you’ll like it!"

Ring 76 2011-12 Calendar

Nov 12	Music Magic*
Dec. 10	Christmas Pot-Luck*
Dec 11	Lecture (tentative)
Jan. 14	Classic Magic (no card tricks)*
Feb. 11	Close-Up Competition*
Mar. 11	Swap Meet
Apr. 8	Teach-A-Trick Night
May 13	Stand Up Competition*
June 10	Money Magic*
July TBD	Installation Banquet
Aug 12	TBD*

* Opportunity for Members to Perform

Although this was a great event, I’m going to end this recap with a couple of downers. First, this was Perfessor Howard’s last appearance in San Diego. He is moving on to a new home and job in Oregon. We wish him well, and he will be missed.

Second, when we packed up, I forgot a prop, and had to be escorted back to the performance room through the residential area. As I was walking down the hall, a small boy – about 3, I’d guess – came out of the shower area wrapped in a towel. He seemed to be staring down at the floor as he turned down the hall. His mother called out from up the hall that he was going the wrong way, and to come toward her voice. My escort explained that the boy was blind – he had lost both eyes to cancer. Kind of took away my exuberant feelings; actually, it hit me like a truck. But if I didn’t used to have time for places like Father Joe’s, I do now.

— Bob Meigs

