



# MAGICURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76

JANUARY 2014

VOL. XXVIII # 1

## *A.B.C. Magic Night (Anything But Cards)*

The New Year is just around the corner and January is the perfect time to show off that special magic trick of yours that is NOT A CARD TRICK. Here are some ideas.

- ◆ Asra
- ◆ Balloon to Live Stock
- ◆ Candle Magic
- ◆ Doves
- ◆ Egg Bag
- ◆ Feather Magic
- ◆ Glorpy
- ◆ Hat Tear
- ◆ Invisible Thread
- ◆ Kids Magic
- ◆ Linking Rings
- ◆ Money (Paper & Coins)
- ◆ Newspaper Tear
- ◆ Rope Magic
- ◆ Silk Magic
- ◆ Torn & Restored
- ◆ Vanishing Vase
- ◆ Wands
- ◆ Zombie

To sign up please contact  
[salomonbarajas@yahoo.com](mailto:salomonbarajas@yahoo.com)

Please let me know what type of effect you are doing to make sure that no two acts are the same.

—*Salomon Barajas*

## *The Holiday Spirit Came, Saw, and Conquered*

Monday, December 9, was our annual Holiday Banquet, and it was a good one! But I was just there for the food, entertainment, and camaraderie, and didn't take any notes! So this recap is going to be short, and we won't have our December meeting in Linking Ring.

Set up began at 5:30PM. Mago Ruly set up for live music, Richard handled most of the food set up, and Bob Meigs set up beverages and table decorations.

Doors officially opened at 6, although many of us were there before then. Mago provided musical entertainment, complete with the Family and Friends band. The bar was open for a variety of beverages, including beer and wine, and there were a variety of hors d'oeuvres available.

Dinner began at 6:45, including turkey, ham, and an incredible selection of side dishes and desserts.



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**HONEST SID GERHART RING 76**

**EDITOR JAMES THAYER — [EDITOR@RING76.COM](mailto:EDITOR@RING76.COM)**



## President's Message

Welcome to the 2014 and Happy New Year to you all!!! Hope you all had a wonderful end of the year filled with friends, families, and loved ones. I'm sure some of you went away on vacation, hopefully you all were safe and came back with a hunger to do some great Magic! So we had a GREAT year so far at the Ring and everybody has done terrific in participating and performing at the meetings. Let's keep that up! And I think it is safe to say we all had a terrific time at the Banquet, thank you to our performer Johnny Ace Palmer who did an outstanding job and received a standing ovation (rightfully so)! It was fantastic to see both new and old faces!



So this will be the 1st month's meeting of the New Year and we have our classic theme, ABC Magic Anything But Cards! So come prepared to do some great ball, and dove manipulation!!! Ok, just kidding this can be open to your interpretation of what type of Magic you do. We encourage no cards. but as always ALL magic is welcome! In addition, this month, we also have our swearing-in ceremony to celebrate all our new members who have joined Ring 76! Lets all work together and make them feel really welcome and part of our club!

Moreover, coming up in February will be our annual Close-up Contest! So bring your greatest bits of Magic, presentation, and style, it should be a great competition!!!

The last thing I wanted to mention is about our second lecturer of the fiscal year! He comes all the way from New Orleans and his name is Steve Reynolds. He is a GREAT Card man. And before you get discouraged about the cards, first of all, know that it will include non-effects such as cups and balls too! Also this is more than just card tricks, its a learning experience. And lastly, the card effects he DOES do is very commercial, straight forward, and hard hitting with

minimal/basic sleights! Steve is a huge fan of Brother John Hammond, and if you dont know his Magic, you should! I highly encourage this lecture. After all, thats part of what your dues go towards, right?! The lecture will be held Sunday, January 19th at 7 PM at the Lions Club. Prior to the lecture, Steve will hold a \$50 workshop at Rudfords right near the Lions Club. The only thing we ask, is if you order something from the restaurant so it will be worth it to them to save us the space. The workshop is an hour and a half long and will include material. Its mainly on the Zarrow shuffle. Its not exactly HOW to do it, but its Steve's way of doing it, which I believe to be very good and deceptive. So bring your close-up pads. So look for VP Sal Barajas email which gives many specifics about Steve Reynolds! Well see you there!

*DEREK OSTOVANI*



Richard served as our master carver, seemingly manning a several stations at once.

At 7:45, Derek Ostovani introduced Johnny Ace Palmer, our entertainment for the evening. Johnny performed a wide variety of classic routines, including cups and balls, and – YES – the often said, but seldom seen, rabbit from a hat! Not things we hadn't seen before, but all done with STYLE, proving the old adage, "It's not the trick, it's the presentation." That man can put on a SHOW! Good choice, Derek!

So that's it, folks – my highly abbreviated Merry Christmas coverage, to which I want to add, HAPPY NEW YEAR to all.

*— Bob Meigs*

## *Photos from the December Meeting*





## *Photos from the December Meeting*





## *Photos from the December Meeting*



**SAN DIEGO RING 76, INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS**

## A Magician's Philosophy

### "Connection 3 DVD set"

Reviewed by Joel A Moskowitz M D  
December 19, 2013

Whats the most important letter of the alphabet? Jon Allen says Y. Or why? In 6.5 hrs, with 23 effects, this thinking magician stresses the value of not having spectators or audiences but involved partners in the phenomenon of magical entertainment. This three DVD set named CONNECTION is a Penguin Magic offering.

He eschews having magic miracle with no point. In conjoint discussions with Dan Harlan, he explains why he believes knowing the why of every aspect of the magical performance is better. Contrast with just juggling the cards, coins, ropes, rings, rubber bands and striving to induce a weary appreciation in spectator.

DFKDFC is an abbreviated Jon Allen theme: DFKDFC ( Don't \$%# Know, Don't \$%# Care )

Allen emphasizes the necessity of shunning the passive spectator who is frequently disinterested in the intrusive walk about magish. First priority is not to do tricks but find out about the spectators and make them care. Thereby you achieve a CONNECTION, hence the name of this three DVD offering.

Not only a psychology discourse, Jon Allen instructs the viewer how he maximizes effects. For example, in his High Society he gives his method for throwing and attaching the card to the ceiling. This is a practiced performer giving his tried and true methods for doing known effects.

"How do you know to set the level of connection?" asks Dan Harlan. Allens response, "It took me nine years to find an opening line. 'Are you a fun table?' Should one person say, No thank you. I wanted to entertain you but one vetoed it. One was against it, is that the vote for you all?" By this strategy, you will determine if they are interested and not experience your performance as an invasion. Dan

Harlan praises You are connecting on a human level.

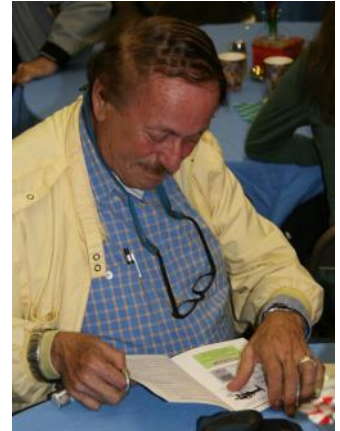
Allen searches for Creativity. He thinks, "Wouldn't it be good, if.... " Magicians are limited to the physical world but that shouldn't block you from invention. If it aint broke....break it! Can you conceive where we would be if black TV is good enough. The three excellently filmed DVDs will give you multiple examples of Jon Allens wonderment.

In his display of card to box (named Destination Box), he inquires "Who is the most trusted person?" If someone exclaims "Me", he says that he never trusts a person who volunteers. The audience involvement often leads to them entertaining themselves - not just passively watching. Sometimes, Allen predicts, they can provide the best lines.

Not a graduate psychologist or psychiatrist, Jon Allens educated attention to subtle behavioral elements increases audience appreciation of his intriguing illusions. His aptitude of manipulating peoples expectations, misdirecting their attention and influencing their decision making maximizes their enjoyment.

Jon Allen demonstrates his art on stage, on the street and close up, The DVD student will have an ample selection of a variety of effects and the actual reactions of connected real people. The viewer will be fascinated by the novel intelligence. This reviewer predicts you would like to have a mentor such as Jon Allen. The discourse with Dan Harlan, in his own right, master of creativity, is flavoring to the feast. He gives you 6.5 hours of his/your time but you will thirst for more. What follows is a selection of the menu

*(Continued on page 7)*





# Steve Reynolds

## (The Monks Way)

### A Magic Lecture

Sunday, January 19th, 2013 at the Lions Club, 7:00pm

**Subject Matter:** Presentation - Coins - Cups & Balls - Cards

To become a good teacher one first must be a good student. Steve Reynolds has spent over twenty years diligently studying the art of close-up magic. He is highly regarded as being a refined technician of the devilish details that secretly nourish his artistry and creates spontaneous and seemingly effortless mysteries—mysteries that emotionally connect while satisfying audiences of every pedigree. Over the years he has developed and honed a philosophy of performance he calls The Monk’s Way.

Steve teaches and illustrates with examples The Monk’s Way during his lecture sessions. In a step-by-step fashion he drills down to the gold and platinum, to a mother lode of what really counts. He highlights differences that make a difference. He shows you

## "MagiToon"

by Jim Whiting & Ellen Friedman



“This compact carpet gets GREAT mileage!”

how to infuse subtleties into your simplifications. He will purify your methodologies and will clarify your presentations.

*“We had Steve lecture for our Ring with a great response to his innovative card and cup and ball routines. Steve’s handling and presentation provide individual ideas that any magician can use and appreciate. Steve’s presentations, useful information on magic, and his ease of use was fabulous.*

— Jim Henson Mr. Magic-Shop, Little Rock, Arkansas

— Salomon Barajas

(Connections — Continued from page 6)

which includes cards, coins, bills, rubber bands, books etc etc.

Dr. Moskowitz prescribes that you dont attempt to ingest all the Discs at one sitting. It is more healthy to appreciate them slowly. There is much quality and so doing you will benefit more. For the thinking performing magician who wants to CONNECT with his audience, it is prescribed Rx Rx Rx Rx Rx (5/5) Penguin Magic will ship this for free. It is a bargain at \$59.95.

The therapeutic contents follow:

Disc One

Forced Improve ,High Society , Connection ,1709 Walkabout ,DFKDFC ,Unique Coin Bend Learning About People , One Trick Two Names , Ghost , The Creative Process , Palm Up Bill Switch ,Signal Strength

Disc Two

Asking "Why?" ,Grabbit Production , Adlibitious Card ,Ring Off String Move , Coming Full Circle , Lucky Card , Executive Decision , Burning Rubber , True Lies ,Spielbergism , Citizen Cane

Disc Three

What's the Point? ,The World's Funniest Joke , Oralgami , (untitled) Book Test Introduction to Heroes , Heroes , The Problem with Business Cards



*(Steve Reynolds — Continued from page 7)*

*Editors Note: By coincidence, I was just reading Jason England's comments about Steve Reynolds and his work with the Zarrow Shuffle. An excerpt: "It was eye-opening to say the least. He's not just doing the move better than everyone else, he's actually doing it differently than everyone else." If you have any interest in card work, this will be a lecture not to miss — and you may especially want to catch the extra workshop mentioned in Derek's presidential message on Page 2.*

## ***Close-Up Competition***

### ***Coming Up in February***

Fellow Magicians it is time to get ready for the Ring 76 Annual Close-up Competition coming this February. The format will be like last year. There will be several tables and each contestant will perform at each table. Contestants will have eight minutes to perform their routine with 2 minutes to set up and 1 minute to strike their equipment. Contestants will have at least eight minutes between performances for reset.

Official Rules can be found at: <http://www.ring76.com/html/contest>

To sign up please contact Sal at [salomonbarajas@yahoo.com](mailto:salomonbarajas@yahoo.com)

— *Sal Barajas*



## ***Magic Notes***

The Union-Tribune had a nice retrospective of Jack White's career in broadcasting. The article can be found here: <http://www.utsandiego.com/news/2013/Dec/05/jack-white-was-san-diegos-anchorman/> It is well worth the time to look it up!



Steve Valentine will be present his social style of fast paced and mind blowing sleight of hand and street magic at the the Red Spade Theater on Saturday, January 18th (Saturday) at 2:00pm. More information can be found at <http://www.redspadetheater.com/>



Syd Segal has announced the Magic-Con will be returning in 2014. This conference, organized by Syd and Dan and Dave Buck, seeks to be different than the traditional magic convention by exploring the art, business, science and technology of magic. This year, Magic-Con will take place from April 10th-13th at the Mission Valley Double Tree Hotel. More information about the conference will be released as it becomes available on the website: <http://magic-con.org/>. Contact Syd at [bt16380@aol.com](mailto:bt16380@aol.com) for information about a special rate for local magicians.

### ***Ring 76 2013-14 Calendar***

Jan	13	Anything But Cards (ABC)*
Feb	10	Close-Up Competition*
Mar	10	Mentalism*
Apr	14	Teach-A-Trick Night
May	12	Stand-Up Competition*
Jun	9	Money Magic*
Jul	TBD	Installation Banquet

\* Opportunity for Members to Perform