



MAGICCURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76

JULY 2017

VOL. XXXI #7

President's Message

By Joe (Mystic) McGrievy



Greetings to all. During our last meeting I saw the funniest trick with a loaf of bread I have ever seen. I laughed so much I missed the color changing apple. Congratulations to Ken Intriligator.

I have an early alert. Our August meeting's date will change to August 7. That is the 1st Monday in August. That is because Magic Live in Las Vegas will have 6 or so of our members in attendance. August's meeting will have a chance for any members to perform. The theme will be magic with a bag. Get your egg bag, change bag, bag pipes or any trick with a bag out and perform it at the meeting. You are also invited to perform any trick with or without a bag.

We have almost everything planned for our Installation Banquet on July 9. It is going to be a really fun evening. This is a great night to bring a date or your wife (but not both). The entertainment will be outstanding. I have worked with ventriloquist Kevin Johnson many times and have known him for nearly 30 years. He was on Season 1 of America's Got Talent and appeared with David Letterman. He has credits galore. I worked with him weekly at The Lawrence Welk Theater for about a year. Audiences love him. and you will too.

We are looking for donations for the raffle. Bring anything you have to the banquet.

Finally, if you haven't, paid your dues, do so soon. You will have to pay the \$5 late fee but you don't want to miss anything.

Ring 76 2017 Calendar

Jul 9 Installation Banquet
Aug 7 Magic with Bags* **NEW DATE**
*Opportunity for Members to Perform

*Our regular monthly meetings are at 7:00 pm
on the second Monday of the month.
However, our next meeting is our Annual
Banquet and Installation at the San Diego
Mission Bay Boat and Ski Club*

2606 N. Mission Bay Dr, San Diego,
CA 92109

5:00 pm

On SUNDAY July 9, 2017

**The August meeting will be at the
Boat Club on Monday, August 7**

Direct any questions concerning the calendar
to V.P. Entertainment Richard Ustick,
ru9@ring76.com.

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Minutes of the June 12, 2017 Monthly Membership Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President **Joe “Mystic” McGrievy**, at the San Diego Mission Bay Boat and Ski Club.

In attendance were 28 members and 3 guests, one of which successfully auditioned for membership.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joe announced that ring dues of \$30 are due by the end of the month, payable to 2nd V.P. (Membership), James Thayer.

Several guests were introduced to the group: **Dani Love** is a visiting magic enthusiast from Texas, and a guest of Richard Wira. Malcolm Campbell brought guest **Bruce Wollitz**, who auditioned for membership in Ring 76 at the end of the meeting. Dr. Jeff Pearson brought a visiting student, **Alexa**.

Several Ring members (including **Bob Meigs, Kenny Shelton, Terry Godfrey, Jeff Marcus**) are performing at the San Diego County Fair.

Joe is looking for a paid assistant to help him transport and set up the equipment for his performances (mostly on the weekends). He would teach them his act, so they can carry the torch after Joe retires. He also mentioned a group that is looking for someone to join them in doing charity performances at nursing homes.

Joe reminded the members about the upcoming Installation Banquet, on Sunday July 9, at the Boat and Ski Club. There will be a special entertainer: Kevin Johnson. Reservations are mandatory and may be emailed to Richard.

BROKEN WAND CEREMONY

Kenny Shelton conducted a Broken Wand Ceremony for longtime Ring 76 member Bob Ingalls (1932-2017).

Dr. Jeff Pearson told the group that the North

County Ring conducted a Broken Wand Ceremony for Hank Brauman.

OLD BUSINESS

Jeff Marcus, representing the Election Committee, introduced the slate and took a last call for nominees to run for any position. As there were no other nominations, the slate was approved without need for an election.

The 2017 - 2018 Board will be:

President: Joe McGrievy

1st V.P. (Entertainment): Richard Ustick

2nd V.P. (Membership): James Thayer

Secretary: Ken Intriligator

Treasurer: Bob Meigs

Sergeant-at-Arms: John Hunter

Members-at-Large: Loch David Crane, Robert Vinson, and Malcolm Campbell who will continue as Newsletter Editor.

NEW TRICK DEMO AND RAFFLE

Jeff Marcus expertly performed a demo of this month's raffle item: “Out of Sight” by Joshua Jay. Afterwards, raffle tickets were sold, and the item was won by **Ricardo Silva**. The raffle proceeds were more than enough to cover the cost of the item, and will go into the pot for the next raffle item purchase. The Board is open to suggestions for the next raffle item, ideally in the \$50-\$100 range.

NEW MEMBER AUDITION

Bruce Wollitz, an elementary school science teacher, auditioned for Ring membership by demonstrating some of the magic he uses in his teaching. He used a Cartesian Diver and a tube with a rope through it that had a different length when pulled out one end than when pulled out the other. He encouraged the members to try to figure

(Continued on page 3)



from page 2)

out how these worked from what they could see.
His audition was successful. Welcome, Bruce!

PROGRAM

V.P. of Entertainment, **Richard Ustick**, prefaced the program with the next installment of his interesting research on the history of playing cards, dating back to around 1380.

He then introduced the contest theme as being “Food Magic” and started with a demonstration of a magical cooking device, “Magic Chef”, for magicians who are too busy to cook or are away from home. With the help of volunteer **Sherry Luft**, some pasta was put into the device, hot water poured in, and -- magically -- the expected mess disappeared, and turned into a plate of cooked spaghetti and meatballs.

Malcolm Campbell had **Joe McGrievy** select a card from a deck demonstrated to be “normal” then lose it in the deck which was scrambled on the table, face down. Malcolm’s first attempt to locate it with a magic apple pendulum failed as did a second attempt with a magic carrot divining rod. He was finally successful using a fake tongue which he stretched out to retrieve the correct card.

Ken Intriligator used a loaf of bread as a deck

(following Juan Luis Rubiales), with the help of guests **Dani** and **Alexa**. Their “card” bread slice was selected, lost in the deck, and then “disappeared” from the deck and found in a food envelope that had contained some cookies. As an add-on, he performed Ray Kosby’s color changing apple, eating a red apple at the start of the performance, which suddenly changed to a golden apple.

Dr. Jeff Pearson performed a chop cup routine, with **Alexa** as the volunteer, using a martini shaker cup and olive-looking balls. Ultimately, a big lime was discovered under the cup and was followed by a second lime.

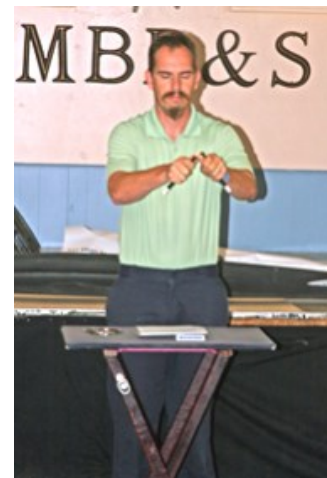
Mago Ruly performed with a small cylinder and two small peas. Volunteer **Dani** checked the peas and the cylinder, and was asked to call for the pea and pea. Suddenly, the peas were gone and, instead, liquid (!) poured from the small cylinder into her hand.

Kenny Shelton performed an effect that was not part of the competition. Helpers **Loch David Crane** and **Richard Ustick** each selected a card from their respective decks. Under cover of a cloth, the cards were exchanged and lost in the decks. When the decks were spread, the correct cards were found turned over in the decks.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45.



Past-President Kenny Shelton conducts I.B.M. Broken Wand Ceremony to honor fellow magician and long-time Ring 76 member Bob Ingalls.





**Jeff Marcus demonstrates
*Out of Sight***



Richard Ustick continues “The History of Playing Cards.”





PROSPECTIVE MEMBER BRUCE WOLLITZ AUDITIONS



CONGRATULATIONS, BRUCE.
Welcome to Ring 76!

FOOD MAGIC COMPETITION



**V.P. of Entertainment Richard Ustick introduces the program with
a non-competing pasta-cooking routine.**



Malcolm Campbell pulls lost card from scattered deck with fake tongue.



Ken Intriligator finds spectator's "card" in sliced bread deck.



Jeff Pearson confuses spectator with cups and olives and a lime finale.



Kenny Shelton working undercover with Richard Ustick and David Loch



Mago Ruly surprises guest Dani



The contestants

AND THE WINNER IS



KEN INTRILIGATOR!



With his Sliced Bread Deck



Focus On **THE LINKING RING**

Do you remember the very first Mentalism trick you learned? Chances are it was a Magic Square and you were proud to have mastered a 4 x 4 or 5x5 matrix.

But how about an 8x8 or ... yes ... a 16x16. The product of a super computer? Hardly. Just a human with a quill pen over 250 years ago.

If you want to know the surprising details, check out the Youth Tricia Contest in the June LR.

..... editor

IBM DUES ARE DUE

You should have already received your notice from The I.B.M. that dues are due in August. If not, you can go to magician.org and pay there.

Dues are still a great bargain at \$80.00 which includes access to information databases such as back issues of The Linking Ring, Ask Alexander, and magic tutorials; hard copies of The Linking Ring every month; group rates for liability insurance; and other member benefits.

Remember, your Ring 76 membership is contingent on maintaining your I.B.M. membership.

If you prefer to not receive a hard copy of the Linking Ring, then you may reduce your payment by \$20 to just \$60 and view the digital version on line.

..... editor



The July Meeting is Our 2017–18 Installation Banquet

This year's **Installation Banquet** will be held on **Sunday, July 9th** at the San Diego Mission Bay Boat and Ski Club, which has been our usual meeting location for the last few months. It will start at 5 pm with a meet and greet, a table-hopper providing some magical entertainment, a catered dinner by The Olive Garden, the presenting of awards, the swearing in of the new Board and, finally, a program which the whole family will enjoy.

The dinner will feature a selection of pasta, sauces, salad and their famous breadsticks. The Ring will provide water and coffee, snacks and dessert. There is a full bar on site for any member to purchase other drinks of their choice.

The cost for this event will be \$20 per person, payable at the door. But we do need to know how much food to provide so please RSVP as soon as you can. Contact Richard Ustick : Ring76ibm@yahoo.com. For reservations. Your family and other guests are welcome.

Please note that this meeting will be on a SUNDAY — not the usual Monday — and will start earlier than normal. This is our biggest event of the year and we look forward to seeing all of you and your families, and friends.

Do you want to help make the Installation Banquet a success? Have a quick strolling or table-hopping routine you'd like to use to impress our members and guests? Great! We could use another performer or two for the meet and greet time.

Contact Richard Ustick: Ring76ibm@yahoo.com to add your name to our prestigious list of entertainers for the big event.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP SET UP FOR THE INSTALLATION BANQUET

If you can arrive at 4:00 to help set up, please email Richard Ustick: Ring76ibm@yahoo.com

HERE'S ANOTHER CHANCE TO HELP MAKE THE BANQUET A SUCCESS

Bring a like-new trick, book or other piece of magic with you to the banquet so we can add it to the other quality items to be raffled off.

VENTRILOQUIST KEVIN JOHNSON WILL ENTERTAIN AT THE INSTALLATION BANQUET

We are in for a real treat with ventriloquist Kevin Johnson providing the entertainment for the banquet. A departure from our usual magic personality, Kevin is a world-recognized master of his art and will keep you spellbound as he displays his unique talents.



Kevin has been a ventriloquist nearly all his life. Having no formal training, he taught himself the art of ventriloquism over a 4 year period. It intrigued him that parrots could speak so clearly without the use of lips. So he re-learned how to speak all together with the use of his tongue and his throat. Is it any wonder that his two closest friends, Clyde and Matilda are birds?



Although you'll never see Kevin's mouth move, the real magic happens with the believability of his characters. You'll fall in love with Matilda, laugh hysterically with Clyde and relate awkwardly with

Harley. Throughout his show you'll see and experience different variations of ventriloquism. From an audience participant becoming one of Kevin's puppets to a magical drawing board coming to life, his show is a hit for every age.

Kevin is mostly recognized from his 2006 appearance on NBC's primetime show America's Got Talent. More than 18 million viewers were amazed by his "Godzilla Theater." Simon Cowell told Kevin, "America loves you."

In February 2007, Kevin achieved one of his lifelong goals when he appeared on The Late Show with David Letterman.

Kevin masterfully honed his skills as a ventriloquist performing nearly 9,000 shows over a 9 year run at San Diego's Legoland California Theme Park. Legoland California nominated him for the Big E Awards through IAAPA (International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions), and won the honor of "Best Male Performer" in 2004 and 2006! Kevin is the only performer to be recognized twice. IAAPA includes attractions from over 90 countries.

From corporate events to cruise ships, Kevin has always been known for his "clean comedy" and is loved and appreciated by audiences of all ages.





SHAVINGS FROM THE BOARD



Minutes of the June 26, 2017 Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President **Joe Mystic McGrievy** at 7:22pm. The meeting was held at Joe's home.

Present were President McGrievy, 2nd V.P. of Membership, James Thayer, Treasurer Bob Meigs, Sergeant-at-Arms Sherry Luft, Member-at-Large Malcolm Campbell and Past President Kenny Shelton. Absent were 1st V.P. of Entertainment Richard Ustick and Secretary Ken Intriligator. Malcolm filled in for the Secretary.

REPORTS

Minutes of previous meeting - The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report - The Treasurer's Report submitted by **Bob Meigs** was approved.

Library Report - **Kenny Shelton** reported that transfer of the video tapes we have to DVD will begin soon.

Membership Report - **James Thayer** reported that we have 46 paid members including 10 life members. Approximately 4 who have not renewed probably will not. The last date to pay dues without penalty is June 30.

OLD BUSINESS

June Membership meeting - It was agreed that there was good material presented in the Food Magic competition.

July Awards Banquet - The banquet will be held at the SDMBBSC on Sunday, July 9 at 5:00pm. Olive garden will cater the food, we will supply utensils, napkins, cups, plates, water and coffee, there will be donated raffle prizes, Kenny Shelton (and possibly others) will do some table

hopping during the Meet and Greet time. The entertainment will be ventriloquist Kevin Johnson.

Joe will check on tablecloths and sound system. Volunteers are needed to help set up.

Incorporation - Malcolm reported that the attorney is ready to start the process on receipt of an \$800 check and completed data sheet from the Ring. They will be mailed tomorrow. It is expected that it will take at least 6 months to establish the 501C6 Non-Profit Corporation.

NEWSLETTER

Malcolm reviewed the Newsletter assignments

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30

Add-on - Following the meeting, an email vote was taken to establish the date of the August membership meeting which would normally occur on August 14 when a group of members will be attending Magic Live. It was agreed to move the meeting to August 21.

..... Malcolm Campbell, acting Secretary.

Congratulations to Marion Campbell for Winning Awards at the Fair

My talented wife, Marion Campbell, won 3 First Place, 2 Second Place and 2 Third Place awards for her jams and jellies at this year's San Diego Fair. Her Orange Marmalade won Best of Division.



Entering the Craft Competitions for the first time, she won Third Places for her much-sought-after crocheted nylon scrubbers and reusable fabric grocery bag sets.



..... editor



August Membership Meeting Moved to Monday, August 7

To accommodate those members who will be attending Magic Live, the August meeting has been moved up a week to August 7. It will be held at our current regular location, the San Diego Mission Bay Boat and Ski Club at the usual time of 7:00pm.

Richard Ustick will continue his "History of Playing Cards" which is bound to bring a few laughs.

The competition theme of the night will be "Bag Magic." Any trick using a bag of any kind qualifies.



Members are encouraged to use their ingenuity and follow the theme but that is not necessary for the competition.

In addition, we will Resume our New Trick Demonstration and Raffle. If you've run across

something spectacular in the \$75 - \$100 range, please let Jeff Marcus know. He will demonstrate it at a future meeting and everyone who buys a raffle ticket will have a chance to own it.



A new membership year started June 30, the deadline for renewing your membership without penalty. If you haven't paid your dues, you may still remain on the membership roll by paying the \$30 annual dues for 2017-18 plus a \$5.00 late fee. Dues may be mailed to "Ring76; c/o James Thayer; 9556 Babauta Road, San Diego 92129"; paid by PayPal or paid in person at a Ring meeting. Cash is accepted but, for tracking purposes, other forms of payment are preferred.

Make checks out to "IBM Ring 76". If you desire to pay by PayPal, please contact me first <jt4@ring76.com> for details.

James Thayer, Ring 76

THE AUGUST MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS MOVED TO MONDAY, AUGUST 7 AT THE BOAT CLUB.

REPEAT: THE AUGUST MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS MOVED TO MONDAY, AUGUST 7 AT THE BOAT CLUB.

Got the message?



BROKEN WAND CEREMONY HELD FOR I.B.M. MEMBER HANK BRAUMANN



A Broken Wand Ceremony for Hank Braumann was held at the Coco's in Vista by the North County Magic Club.

Henry “Hank” Braumann was born in 1921. Hank first found magic in his school library as a 12-year-old kid, and then discovered the local magic store on Green Street in Pasadena, owned by Bill Larsen, Sr, father of Milt and Bill Larsen (the founders of the Magic Castle), who became Hank’s first mentor.

The first trick that he purchased was a flash gimmick. He recalled the second trick was called “Squash” which was an in-the-hands vanish of a filled shot glass. Bill Sr. encouraged Hank to join the Magician’s Guild and the Pacific Association of Magicians. The former’s ranks included the likes of Harry Blackstone Jr. The group put on shows at the Boys and Girls Club in Pasadena.

Hank built fighter planes for Lockheed during WWII and also served a stint as a Private in the Army, during which time he entertained his fellow soldiers with magic. He started doing memory work at this time. After the war, Hank worked as a radio announcer in Amarillo, Texas, and then earned his teaching credentials, courtesy of the Army GI Bill. He taught at both elementary and high schools, often incorporating magic into his teaching. He retired from teaching in 1975.



His wife of 47 years passed away in 2006. In his later years, Hank occupied his time by attending local magic club meetings and creating art in various mediums, including paint and organic sculpture. Hank passed away in the morning of May 25, 2017, at age 97. He was under the exceptional care in the home run by our good friends John & Anna Wilson. They helped to keep him comfortable through some difficult times over the past 3 years. Folgers and I are most appreciative of the care that they provided to our good friend.

Laurie & Jeff Pearson

Advertisement

Whew. THAT was close...



Some people will do anything to avoid a discussion about death. But, not talking about it can cost a whole lot more than that root canal.

The average cost of a funeral has risen from \$708 in 1960 to over \$12,000 today.

- This includes costs for disposition permits, death certificates, some form of container for either burial or cremation, embalming or refrigeration, optional viewing/memorial services, flowers, etc.
- These costs go up every year.

The best time to plan a funeral is *not at the last minute* when surviving family members are grieving.

- *No one wants to go price shopping on the worst day of their lives.*

Pre-planning a funeral is smart and shows your family that you care for them!

In California, contact Laurie at LEP Professional Services to learn about pre-need funeral insurance and lock in to cheaper costs today.

LEPearson2@gmail.com [CA License OE63039]

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Ring 76 members are welcome to submit advertising for publication in MagiCurrents at no cost. Ads may be for services offered, services needed, items for sale, items wanted, announcements of events and anything else of benefit to the member. MagiCurrents reserves the right to reject a submitted item for inappropriate content. No ads benefiting non-members will be accepted.



NOTES AND REMINDERS



July meeting is the Installation Banquet on **SUNDAY, July 9.** August Membership Meeting is Monday, August. 7

Remember, we are looking for product reviews. It doesn't matter if you liked what you paid for or not, we want your opinion for the benefit of the rest of the members. If you're not a writer, we can arrange a short sit-down to gather the facts and write the review.

Have magic to sell, stage equipment to rent? Looking for something to buy or rent? Need a ride or have room for a passenger to an out of town event such as the Magic Castle?

Have a special skill or service another member might use? Need a temporary assistant?

Advertise it at no cost to Ring 76 members in MagiCurrents

LIBRARY REMINDER

Ring 76 has a large library of books DVD's, even VHS tapes covering every phase of magic. All of the Materials are available for members to check out and use at home.

Kenny Shelton, our Librarian, regularly brings a sampling to our meetings and those are available for immediate check out. You may not know that the "Library" link on our website leads you to a complete list. If you find something there that you would like to use, contact Kenny at magicjugglerks@gmail.com. Tell him what you want and he will bring it to the next meeting.

The intended publication date of each issue of MagiCurrents is the Friday 9 days before the monthly meeting. Sub-



missions from officers, reporters and other members are due the Wednesday before the publication date. If you want *your* newsletter on time, please be prompt!!

Thanks to all who contributed to this issue of MagiCurrents!

..... editor