



MAGICURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76 SEPTEMBER 2017 VOL. XXXI #9

President's Message

By Joe (Mystic) McGrievy

I want to urge all of you to make sure your email addresses are up to date. I received a call from one of our members who wondered why we weren't at the Boat Club on Monday, 8/14/17. Because he hadn't updated his email address with us, he had not received the emails or the MagiCurrents newsletter which announced the change from the 14th to the 7th to accommodate those who were attending Magic Live.



Don't let this happen to you. Inform us of changes in your contact information so you won't miss important communications or the informative newsletter.

September's meeting is "Open Mic" (no theme) night. This is the first of three "Open Mic" Nights scheduled for the upcoming year. It means performing magic of any kind. No theme is suggested. I look forward to seeing many of you perform at the next meeting. I would love to see some creative magic and routines.

Since we don't patronize the bar enough to make using the facility worthwhile to the Boat Club, we will have to start paying them \$60 for each meeting we hold there. But that's one expense our dues are meant to cover, so we should have no problem with that.

I put out a request for strolling magicians to perform at my Santa Club's charity dinner. Thank you to Terry Lunceford and Ken

Intriligator for answering my plea. Our dinner makes a profit of nearly \$3,000 that will go to help provide a Merry Christmas to some needy families. Santa will deliver some wants and some needs to children that would otherwise have a meager Christmas'

Ring 76 2017-18 Calendar

- Sep 11 No theme*
 - Oct 9 Halloween Magic*
 - Nov 13 Auction
 - Dec 10 Holiday Party, potluck
 - Jan 8 New to Me*
 - Feb 12 Close-Up Competition
 - Mar 12 No Theme*
 - Apr 9 Teach-a-Trick
 - May 14 Stage Competition
 - Jun 11 No Theme*
 - Jul 8 Installation Banquet
- *Opportunity for Members to Perform

*Our regular monthly meetings are at 7:00 pm
on the second Monday of the month.
The next meeting is on September 11 at 7:00
at the Mission Bay Boat and Ski Club*

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

Direct any questions concerning the calendar to V.P. Entertainment Richard Ustick,

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No-Theme Night in September

September 11 brings an opportunity for you to perform an outstanding effect of your choice for the Ring with no restrictions on the theme. It may be something you just developed or learned, something you've not had an opportunity to perform before a live audience before, something you'd like to have critiqued, or something you've done very well for years.



No themes, no suggestions, just the magic you may have always wanted to present, learned over your summer vacation, or just picked up over the Labor Day Weekend.

The membership will vote for their favorite and points toward the Performer of the Year Award at the end of the year will be awarded.

The meeting will start with the normal business, then members who went to Magic Live will have a chance to relate any stories of their experiences. That will be followed by the final chapter of Richard's "History of Playing Cards." This lecture will include the contributions the United States made to the rich history of this everyday object.



After all that, it will be your turn to shine as "any magic will do." If you plan on participating, please make sure you notify Richard Ustick, V.P. of Entertainment, at Ring76ibm@yahoo.com prior to the meeting.

See you in September.



..... Richard Ustick, V.P. of Entertainment





Minutes of the Ring 76 August 7, 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. The meeting was held a week earlier than normal to accommodate those members who would be attending Magic Live on the 14th.

There were twenty-four members and one guest in attendance.

The guest was **Boyd Goldwynn**, from New York City, who learned about the ring from Magic Mike Stilwell.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joe declared that the July Installation Banquet was one of the best ever, with terrific food and entertainment.

He told the Ring that the Boat and Ski Club was disappointed with the bar revenue generated by the Ring members, and would start charging the Ring \$60 a night to hold our meeting there. The board feels that this is fair, and we will continue to meet there and to negotiate the cost.

In response to the discussion at an earlier ring meeting, there will be a new philosophy for the monthly performances: The suggested themes will be optional, and to make it less competitive, no monthly winner will be announced. There will still be a vote for the favorite performance, with the votes for each participant counting towards the Entertainer-of-the-Year award.

Joe also announced that he is also the president of the San Diego Real-Bearded Santas, and that they are having a charity fundraiser dinner on Sunday, August 13, (5:00-9:00 pm at the El Cajon Elks Lodge). They raise money for adopting needy families, buying food and toys for their kids which are delivered by a Santa on Christmas. He encouraged ring members to come to the event and perform walk-around magic for the guests. Several Ring members have done this in past years.

Kenny Shelton (Librarian) announced that he created a Facebook page for IBM Ring 76.

Jeff Marcus and **Dr. Jeff Pearson** mentioned that the North County magicians’ group meets on the first Thursday of every month at Cocos.

Richard Ustick (V.P. of Entertainment) presented **Mago Ruly**, who had missed the banquet, with his award for Second Place in the Close-Up contest.

He then reviewed the contents of the upcoming meetings as scheduled by the Board.

Richard continued by presenting the next (and penultimate) installment of his research into the History of Playing Cards. In the upcoming—and last—installment, Richard will detail aspects of playing cards that were established by card manufacturers in the USA.

PROGRAM

The suggested optional theme for this month’s contest was “Bag Magic.”

Gary Dismukes brought out a bag, and retrieved a deck of cards from it. One spectator (**Joe Mystic**) touched a card, and another (**Boyd Goldwynn**) selected another card. Both were returned to the card case, and put into the bag. One side of the bag had a vertical, double-ended arrow, so Gary moved the bag up and down. He then removed from the bag a tall, elongated, card case and a deck of cards with matching dimensions. From this deck, a stretched version of Joe’s card was produced.

Gary returned this deck to the bag, and turned the bag around to reveal a horizontal, double-ended arrow. He moved the bag side-to-side, and produced a wide, squashed case and deck of cards from which he produced a corresponding version of Boyd’s card.

Ken Intriligator brought a backpack, and illustrated elementary particle physics, going to smaller and smaller building blocks of matter, by removing a series of bags within bags, finally ending with an egg-bag to represent the nucleus, and then Ziplock bags to represent protons and neutrons.

Each of these bags contained a red, a green, and

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a blue die, corresponding to the so-called “colors” of quarks in the theory of the strong force (quantum chromodynamics, with the dice representing quantum).

Three volunteers were selected: **Joe Mystic** with a red shirt, **Jim Sloan** with a green shirt, and **Jeff Marcus** with a blue shirt. Each was given a brown paper bag, and a Ziplock bag containing a red, a green and a blue die, and were asked to dump their dice out of their bag onto the table.

The dice were then inter-mixed to represent the quark-gluon plasma of the early Universe.

Ken then picked up the dice, one-by-one, and placed them into the volunteers’ bags, matching the color of the dice to the color of their shirts.

Then, there was some magic representing the confinement phase transition of the Early Universe, where the quarks have to bind into neutral objects containing one red, one green, and one blue color.

Each volunteer then removed their dice to reveal that they had indeed rearranged themselves, so that each had one of all three colors, rather than three of the same color.

Charlie Gott took a poll of Ring members about the old question of which came first, the chicken or the egg. He explained that, in accord with the teaching of the Bible, he believes that the chicken came first.

He had volunteer **Lupe Shelton** come up, and did an egg bag routine with a bag that was first turned inside out to show a Scottish Tartan design on the inside. Lupe confirmed that the egg disappeared from the bag, and then reappeared several times. Finally, the bag was turned inside out and shown to now look like a chicken, which, then, produced the egg.

Malcolm Campbell brought out a brown paper bag and had a volunteer (**Ken Intriligator**) put his hand through it to show that it was empty and, in fact, was missing its bottom.

Malcolm gave the volunteer a half-dollar coin and asked him to mark it with some colored dot stickers, to be able to identify it later. The

volunteer then dropped the coin through the bag, and confirmed that the coin that came through was also a half-dollar, but it was missing the identifying stickers.

A small, brass Okito box, which was on the table the whole time, was opened to reveal that it contained a half dollar which changed to a Chinese coin when dumped into Ken’s hand.

The apparently empty coin box was turned over again and another coin fell into Ken’s hand. It was confirmed to be the original half-dollar, with the identifying colored dot stickers in place.

Kenny Shelton had volunteer **Laurie Pearson** select three cards. She was asked to then deal additional cards on each of the three, stopping when she chose, forming three piles. The number of cards in each pile matched the corresponding card, and the total of all of the numbers would be counted off to reveal the final selection.

Joe Mystic had a volunteer couple, **Kenny and Lupe Shelton**, come up and he discussed how often, in a couple, one person gets things right more than the other person.

Some jumbo cards were brought out of a bag, and it was demonstrated that they could be counted to spell the numbers: “Counting “O-N-E”, cycling the three cards to the bottom, produced an ace, etc. Lupe and Kenny alternated, and Lupe was always successful, but Kenny kept coming up with the Ten of Clubs. Each time Lupe was successful, her cards were eliminated from the pile until, finally, Kenny counted off “T-E-N” cycling a single card and revealing that it was again the Ten of Clubs - right at last.

Joe Nespoux brought a deck of cards out of a bag. For the first effect, a spectator selected a card from the face-up deck. It was then revealed to be the only red-backed card in a blue-backed deck.

The red-back card was put aside and another card was selected by another spectator. The original red-backed card was then revealed to be that card.

For the second effect, volunteer **Rich Robertson** selected a card and wrote “dream” on it

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to represent his dreams. He was asked to put the card under his foot. Another card was selected and Joe wrote “obstacle” on it to represent the obstacles to Rich’s dreams. Magically, the two cards then switched places, so Rich was stepping on his obstacles, with his dreams in hand.

Bob Meigs demonstrated magic that he is teaching to kids, with a Time-Traveler theme based on H.G. Wells’ Time Machine.

For the first effect, he had volunteer **John Hunter** attempt to follow Bob with putting his arm on the table and then twisting his hand completely around in a 360 degree circle — which was impossible for John.

Bob explained how it worked and John was then able to do it.

The next effect was a picture that initially had ten leprechauns, but upon rearranging the pieces of

the picture it had only nine. Bob explained that this is self-working and that the needed pattern can be printed from pictures on the internet.

The third effect was to wager that the performer could step through a hole cut in a standard-sized sheet of paper.

The fourth effect was one that Bob also taught at the “Teach-a-Trick” meeting, where a spectator is asked to secretly total the amount of change in their pocket and then the performer claims he has enough in his pocket to match that and have enough left to total some specific amount. (It is claimed that this had actually fooled Einstein.)

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00, after which many went to Buddy’s Diner in Pacific Beach for dinner, dessert, and camaraderie.

..... Ken Intriligator, Secretary

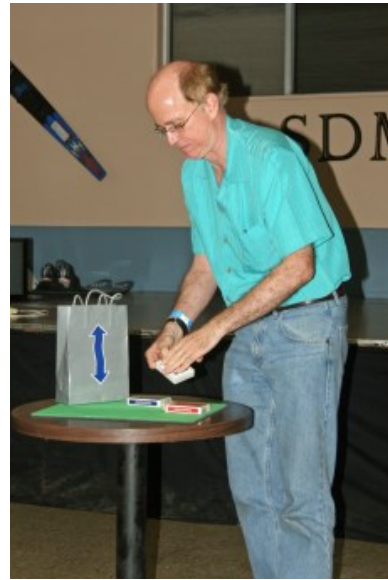
Let the Show Begin!



Richard Ustick continues his History of Cards lecture



Gary Dismukes finds chosen cards in strange decks in bag



Ken Intriligator uses the Nuclear Option to transport colored dice



Charlie Gott finds a chicken in a bag





Malcolm Campbell demonstrates bag with magical properties



Kenny Shelton finally finds chosen card in “impossible” location



Joe Mystic’s “Spelling” card location process works for Lupe but not for Kenny







Bob Meigs demonstrates and teaches kids tricks

NEW TRICK RAFFLE



At the September meeting, Jeff Marcus will demonstrate the penetration effect *Unbroken* by Codie Nottingham.

The holder of the winning raffle ticket will win this exciting effect.



***Focus On* THE LINKING RING**

There is an interesting article in the August issue in a column called Mister Manners by Mac King.

The author gives magicians some good tips on how to behave when attending another magician's performance. Although more aimed at an individual attending a public show, there are some good points relevant to Ring performances.



Shavings from the Board

Minutes of the Ring 76
Board Meeting
August 28, 2017



The meeting was called to order by President Joe "Mystic" McGrievy at 7:30 pm following the usual delicious meal served by Mary Meigs. The other board members present were First V.P. (Entertainment) Richard Ustick, Second V.P. (Membership) James Thayer, Secretary Ken Intriligator, Treasurer Bob Meigs, Sergeant-at-Arms John Hunter, Member-at-Large Loch David Crane and Member-at-Large and Newsletter Editor Malcolm Campbell. Member-at-Large and Past President and Librarian Kenny Shelton was absent, as was Member-at-Large Robert Vinson. Past President Sal Barajas was also present as a guest.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the July Board meeting were approved.

REPORTS

Treasurer's report Treasurer **Bob Meigs** presented his report to the board. As approved by the Board, there were significant expenses for the legal fees for the Ring's incorporation. The report was approved by the board.

Membership report **James Thayer** reported that the Ring now has 54 members in good standing, including 11 Life Members. Those who have not paid by September will go into lapsed status. James will send reminders.

OLD BUSINESS

August Meeting report All agreed that the meeting went well, with many good performances, most on the "bag" theme (one way or another.)

Ring incorporation **Malcolm** updated us on the progress of getting the ring incorporated as a 501c6. The Ring could have an answer from the IRS within 90 days regarding the filing.

Library VHS Conversions: **Richard Ustick** reported that there has been no progress in converting the library's VHS tapes to DVDs.

NEW BUSINESS

Raffle Items **Sal Barajas** presented a variety of items that were acquired by the Ring for raffles at future meetings.

New Member Recruiting There was discussion of bringing a stack of Ring 76 flyers to the Red Spade Theater and other magic venues to try to attract new members. **Malcolm** will look into sources and costs.

New Meeting Ideas. Bob presented a number of ideas to shake things up at the meetings and get more members involved. A subcommittee headed by Richard will be formed to consider the ideas further.

NEWSLETTER

Malcolm encourages member contributions, including product reviews.

The Board meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Ken Intriligator, Secretary

MARKET PLACE

For Sale, Wanted, Trade, Free Stuff
Free Listings For Members Only



FOR SALE

Collectibles

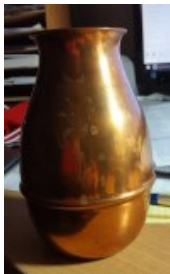
After over 60 years of accumulating and collecting we're making a serious effort to scale down as we look at more manageable housing options. We have collectible vintage kitchen and household items, text books prior to 1900, cook books covering the past century and a half, musical instruments, phonograph records, souvenirs, tools, toys, gas-powered R/C airplanes and more.

Most of all is my collection of 1500 film cameras, parts, accessories and documentation library.

We're just starting to sort things out but, if you collect anything in particular, I can see what we have that you might be interested in.

Talk to me at a Ring meeting or email me at timeformagic@att.net. Malcolm Campbell

Magic



Copper Foo Vase. Small dents but otherwise in great, working shape.
Real treasure. \$12

Joe McGrievy. joemystic@san.rr.com.

From Ex-Member Jacques Lord

Dale Lorzo and Josh Ray (IBM and SAM Sacramento chapters, respectively) asked me to represent Sacramento at an interclub stage magic competition covering Northern California held by the Oakland Magic Club next Tuesday. Of course I am honored and I also know it is because the guys that took first and second in the Sacramento stage competition a few weeks ago can't go (I got 3rd), but hey, I am going!

I will be in LA over the Labor Day weekend and may end up at the Castle on Sunday night.

Then next weekend, (Sept 9th) I start my 8-day, 560-mile, bicycle ride from SF to LA. This is a fundraiser for Arthritis Foundation research, and I am excited and apprehensive at the same time. I have been training, but my goal is not to ride every mile, but to not injure myself!

My act for the competition will be my Harmonica routine followed by the Card in the Orange/eggbeater mind reading and then the newspaper tear. We get 8-12 minutes AND a free spaghetti dinner. Winner gets \$100 and is invited to be the paid performer for their inauguration banquet in Feb.



NOTES AND REMINDERS



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