



MAGICURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76

FEBRUARY 2018

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President's Message

By Joe "Mystic" McGrievy

We had a good first meeting of 2018.

Some have told me that my lecture was helpful to them. The theme of "Magic That is New to Me" brought a good number of performances.

I am looking forward to the February Close-Up Competition meeting. It is limited to 8 competitors, so let Richard Ustick know if you are going to participate. I have seen a lot of awesome new close-up effects advertised this past year.

I am happy to announce the success of the Magic Monday show at The Lot in La Jolla. There were six performers and a full house of diners. I am sure that Craig Blackwood will let us know the results. I think they will continue the magic night.

It is almost time for us to elect a new Board of Directors (BOD). Think about it and consider running for an office. You have until June to submit your name before we have the elections. If you would like to sample the workings of the board, remember that any member can attend a Board meeting. Your BOD is already making plans for the July banquet.

I am signing off now so I can send this out and let Malcolm do his newsletter MAGIC.



Ring 76 2017-18 Calendar

- Feb 12 Close-Up Competition
 - Feb 26 Board Meeting**
 - Mar 12 No Theme*
Malcolm Campbell Mini-Seminar
 - Mar 26 Board Meeting**
 - Apr 9 Teach-a-Trick
 - Apr 23 Board Meeting**
 - May 14 Stage Competition
 - May 28 Board Meeting**
 - Jun 11 No Theme*
 - Jun 25 Board Meeting**
 - Jul 8 Installation Banquet
- * Opportunity for Members to Perform
** Any Member may attend.

*Our regular monthly meetings are at 7:00 pm
on the second Monday of the month.*

*The next meeting is on Monday, February 12
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,
ru9@ring76.com.

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HONEST SID GERHART RING 76
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER - MALCOLM CAMPBELL, EDITOR@RING76.COM
PROOFREADER - SHERRY LUFT, PHOTOGRAPHER - JAMES THAYER**



Minutes of the Jan 8, 2018, Ring 76 Membership Meeting

The meeting was held at the San Diego Mission Bay Boat and Ski Club.

President **Joe “Mystic” McGrievy** called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. He introduced **Jonathan** who is a magician that Joe knows from KOA, and who is considering joining the ring.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Craig Blackwood announced an upcoming event at 7 pm on January 22 at The Lot in La Jolla, where Craig performs walk around magic at their Sunday brunch. The event is an evening of magic with performances by Ring members **Joe Mystic, Terry Lunceford, Malcolm Campbell, Greg Wauson, Josselin Nespoux** and **Cary Schaffner**.

Cary Schaffner announced that he is organizing a magic event in El Cajon on the third Thursday of every month, and that the event on Jan 18 is a magic lecture and performance by the amazing magician, **Tom Frank** plus performances by Ring 76 Past President **Derek Ostovani, Devious,** and **Cary Schaffner**.

Librarian and past President **Kenny Shelton** announced that he brought a selection of books and DVDs from the Ring 76 library collection, all available for Ring members to borrow. Kenny also encouraged Ring members to look for him busking at Balboa Park on the weekends, and that he would distribute comment cards to encourage feedback on his performance in the competition.

LECTURE

Joe Mystic gave an excellent lecture on his kid’s show routine which we saw at the December Holiday Banquet.

He presented his methods for creating and scripting a show. He covered many specific points including dressing appropriately, having all props fit in an accessible box, getting the audience in the mood to have fun, using high energy music to cut

off initial chatter, having a running gag (e.g. his Lota bowl), how to pick volunteers, keeping the kids well-behaved, and the value of producing a rabbit at the end.

PERFORMANCE COMPETITION

The (suggested) theme for this month was “New to Me”.

VP of entertainment **Richard Ustick** performed the duties of the MC, announcing the performers and filling in with jokes.

Bruce Wollitz performed with a magic picture frame (which he obtained at the Ring auction), using an original script. A picture of Joe Mystic appearing as the final surprise.

Terry Godfrey had volunteer **Sherry Luft** pick a card and, despite the mixing of cards upside down and right side up, Sherry’s card was found to be the only card facing the wrong way when the deck was fanned.

Kenny Shelton performed a cups and balls routine.

Ring Secretary **Ken Intriligator** performed several effects with a ring, a stick, a handkerchief and volunteer **Richard Ustick’s** thumb.

Jeff Marcus performed a mentalism effect where volunteer **Cary Schaffner** thought of a person and looked up their birthdate on his own phone. Jeff then revealed the birthdate and the person (it was Burt Reynolds).

Newsletter Editor and Member-At-Large **Malcolm Campbell** performed an effect called “Three’s a Charm.”

A deck was shown with all cards having different backs. Three different value “prediction” cards were inserted into the deck face up at random positions by volunteers. Each was removed along with the adjoining card it faced and each pair turned out to have matching values. *Then*, although each card in the deck was shown to have a different back, the backs of the pairs matched. *Then* it was shown that the remainder of the deck was all 5S.

Ken Intriligator, Secretary

NEW TO ME



Joe Mystic explains his scripting logic



Bruce Wollitz and the Magic Frame





Terry Godfrey locates chosen card in mixed-up deck



Kenny Shelton presents some cups and balls wizardry

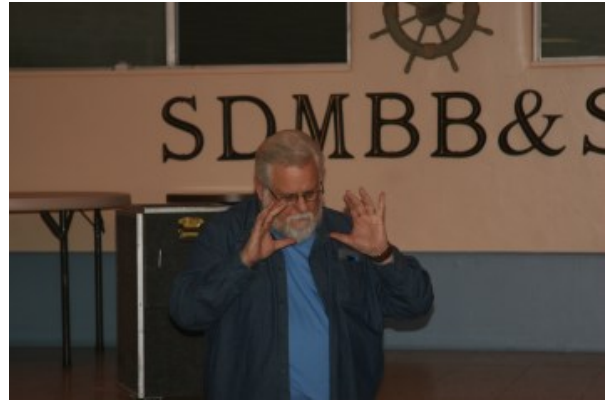




Ken Intriligator with ring that won't stay put



Jeff Marcus mentally identifies celebrity and birth date chosen by volunteer





Malcolm Campbell matches cards
from mixed-back deck



The contestants



SHAVINGS FROM THE BOARD

MINUTES OF RING 76 BOARD MEETING January 29, 2018

The meeting was called to order by President Joe "Mystic" McGrievy at 7:30 pm (dinner started at 7:00pm). Other board members present were First V.P. (Entertainment) Richard Ustick, Secretary Ken Intriligator, Treasurer Bob Meigs, Sergeant-At-Arms John Hunter, and Newsletter Editor and Member-At-Large Malcolm Campbell. Second V.P. (Membership) James Thayer, Member-At-Large Loch David Crane, Member-At-Large Robert Vinson, and Member-At-Large (Past President and current Librarian) Kenny Shelton were absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the November Board meeting (there was no December meeting) were approved.

REPORTS

Treasurer's report - Treasurer **Bob Meigs** presented his report to the board. Our balance was greatly improved by the proceeds from the auction. (Thank you again to the generous donors!) The report was approved by the board.

Library report - None.

Membership report - (Via email) 63 members in good standing.

OLD BUSINESS

January Meeting - All agreed that the meeting went well. Thanks to Joe for the excellent lecture.

The Lot Show - It was reported by those who

performed or attended the show that Craig Blackwood organized at The Lot was a great success.

Ring incorporation - **Malcolm** updated us on the progress on getting the Ring designated as a non-profit 501c8 by the IRS. He was informed by the firm hired to accomplish the incorporation that if we are not covered by the Federal non-profit designation by the end of our fiscal year in July, we will have to pay the Minimum State Franchise Tax of \$800 for 2017-18.

NEW BUSINESS

Raffles - Upcoming meetings, including the upcoming banquet, will feature raffles of some items that the Ring has on hand.

Close-Up Competition - The event will be February 12. It will be limited to eight performers, with a maximum of 10 minutes each. Contact Richard if you would like to perform.

March Meeting - Performance opportunities (open theme), and auditions for new members. Malcolm will give a lecture on developing new magic.

April Meeting - Teach-a-trick theme.

Installation Banquet - There was discussion about entertainment options, including possibly trading with the Orange County Ring, or others from outside the Ring.

NEWSLETTER

Malcolm will assemble the newsletter on the usual schedule and encourages contributions, including any pictures of Ring Members at the January meeting, or at the event at The Lot.

The board meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Ken Intriligator, Secretary

THE LOT MAGIC SHOW IS A SUCCESS



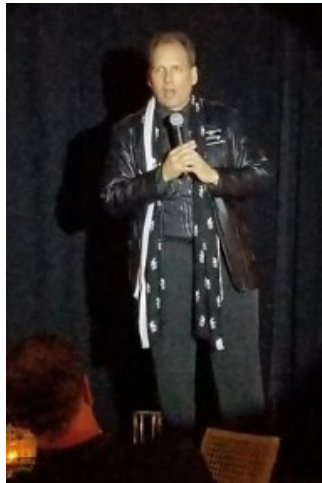
Craig Blackwood who does walk-around at The Lot, a Mediterranean restaurant in La Jolla, invited Ring 76 members to participate in a dinner show on Monday, January 22.

Members Joe Mystic, Terry Lunceford, Malcolm Campbell, Greg Wauson, Joe Nespoux, and Cary Schaffner performed on stage. Joe Mystic also served as MC, performing magic between acts. Tom Lopez, Ken Intriligator, Craig Blackwood, Malcolm Campbell and Jonathan did some table-hopping prior to the show.

The event was a sell-out ahead of time and, judging from the audience's reaction, was a hit. Arrangements are

being made to repeat the event monthly.

The show was coordinated and produced by Craig Blackwood. Brad Short did a video and Randy Bernhagen was in charge of the sound. Thanks to Jeff Marcus for the photos.



Craig Blackwood



Joe Mystic



Terry Lunceford



Malcolm Campbell



Greg Wauson



Joe Nespoux



Cary Schaffner



It's Close-Up Time



Our annual Close-Up Contest will be held at the February meeting. This is often the best night of magic for our organization and I urge all members not to miss it.

We will be setting up four tables and you will be performing at each table with a break between performances to reset. The Board voted to allow TEN minutes for each performance, instead of the usual eight. You do not need to use the full ten minutes. However, if you go over that allotted time you can be disqualified.

The contest is open to all members in good standing. Due to time constraints, we have to limit the contestants to eight. The general rules for the contest are simple and can be found at the Ring 76 website (www.ring76.com) under “Contests”.

If you are interested in competing this year, please contact Richard Ustick at Ring76ibm@yahoo.com as soon as you can.

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



WE WANT YOU!

No, the draft is not back in. Your Ring needs you to participate in the operation of the Ring by volunteering to be involved in this year's election process.

Yes, it is rapidly becoming election season again for Ring 76 and one of the constitutional requirements is the forming of the Election Committee. This is a group of three to five members in good standing who simply oversee the election process to make sure all the rules are followed. They accept the slate of officers from the Board and accept the name of any member who wants to run for office. They then conduct the election at the May meeting.

It is light duty but very important for the integrity of the Ring.

If you are interested or need more information, please contact any member of the Board of Directors.



MORE TO COME

The Holidays are over, the lights have been taken down, the tree is in the trash and Ring 76 has gone CRAZY with some great performances, member lectures and a public show which exceeded all expectations behind us. The remainder of the year will be one of the busiest and most eventful times for Ring 76 in a while and you do not want to miss a single meeting.

First, in February, is the annual Ring 76 Close-up contest. It is probably the best night of magic we have all year. (See Announcement below.)

Next comes March and it will roar like a lion with auditions by several prospective new members, an educational lecture from our own Malcolm Campbell and "Open Mic Night" where you can do any magic you want with no limitations — other than State and Local laws, of course.

We will also be organizing the Ring Election Committee which will be seeking members who would like to be part of the solution, and not just the problem, to volunteer for Board positions. (More on that later).

Finally (for now), comes the April Ring meeting featuring our ever popular "Teach a Trick" night where members of Ring 76 teach you a trick or routine you can incorporate into your own shows. Written instructions will be provided, but be sure to bring a deck of cards and some coins. More information will follow as we get closer to the event.

This is going to be a magical time for all our members and we look forward to seeing you there.

Richard Ustick, V.P. of Entertainment



FOCUS ON THE LINKING RING

Why are you a magician (or want to be)?

Hanna Farquhar, daughter of Past President of The I.B.M., Shawn Farquhar, poses the question in a brief article in the January issue.

The intent is to get you to think about the real reason (other than to become the most recognized magician in the world) so that you can direct your efforts toward accomplishing that goal in an efficient manner.

When I was teaching beginning locksmiths how to properly set up and run a business, my biggest caution was to resist the temptation to take on jobs so small that the overhead precluded

making a profit. I was often countered with "At least I would bring in a few dollars."

I countered with the fact that they were losing sight of their goal of being sufficiently accomplished to make a decent living, or perhaps, just wanting to develop a new skill set (which was my goal in the beginning.).

Instead of using 3 hours to earn \$15, it would be better to use the time reading about and experimenting with an aspect of the trade with which they were not yet familiar.

So with magic. For example, are you attracted to magic because you particularly like inspiring kids? Then reconsider sweating out a parlor show that you'll never use again. Focus on learning everything you can about doing good Kids' Magic and do it!

Editor



A Personal Message from the Editor

As is usually the case in organizations such as the I.B.M., a relatively small number of members shoulder the burden of maintaining an organization that serves the needs of the members and creates an atmosphere which draws and nurtures new members.

I urge you to read the Editor's Column in the November, 2017 The Linking Ring. In that column, written shortly after hurricane Irma slammed into Florida not long before that issue of the magazine was due. It is an honored tradition in the publishing business to consider deadlines to be sacred. (At the top of my father's list of goals to pass on.) Sometimes there are obstacles such as extreme weather, mechanical failures and breaking news, all of which have to be overcome by extraordinary efforts of the personnel involved.

As Editor Sammy Smith related, although evacuated, the storm did not do serious damage to his home. Chief Typesetter and Graphic Artist Tony Dunn was also evacuated but returned to find his home, furniture, books, and equipment under water.

Tony has been with the Linking Ring for over 25 years and the readership and those of us who help put the magazine together marvel at Tony's incredible work. His hand-drawn illustrations prove that one picture is worth 1000 words when presenting a magic effect. He has demonstrated that he can put out extraordinary effort to finalize an edition in the face of impending disaster.

But this was different. Neither Sammy nor Tony had control of the storm's effect but, as Sammy said, "Tony's first thought was his responsibility to TLR." Within 24 hours, he bought a scanner and printer, and a friend gave him some space to use. Then he reported, "I have power, I have Internet, I have Quark, I have Photoshop. So there!" The magazine was published on schedule.

MagiCurrents does not go to thousands of members in 33 countries as TLR does, but it is an important arm of Ring 76 as a source of information, recording activities of the Ring, the Board and individual members. As in our parent organization, it is created by a relatively small handful of members who take their tasks seriously.

It is a relatively painless process but not without obstacles. In the past few months, both my wife and I have had medical problems on top of working through the process of moving from our home of 57 years into a much smaller space and disposing of many, many treasures we've accumulated and become attached to. Time to spend on the newsletter has sometimes been at a premium, but we've managed to fulfill our publication schedules.

For their dedicated help — especially during this time — I would like to acknowledge the timely response of the Board from which I receive committee reports; notices of, and reports on, events: Pres. Joe Mystic, V.P. of Entertainment Richard Ustick, Treas. Bob Meigs, V.P. of Membership James Thayer, Librarian, Kenny Shelton; Sergeant-at Arms Robert Vinson, minutes from our Secretary, Ken Intreligator; members who report on outside events; our photographer, James Thayer and other members who provide photos of meetings and other events; and, especially, our Proofreader, Sherry Luft who is the final link to maintaining the quality of the newsletter you receive each month.

Please follow my lead and personally thank each of them for their service to the Ring.

Malcolm Campbell, Editor



NOTES AND REMINDERS

MagiCurrents offers paid advertising for magic-related items from non-members. The rate is \$60.00 per page per issue.

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.



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