



# MAGICURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76

JULY, 2018

VOL. XXXII #7

## President's Message

By Joe (Mystic) McGrievy



This will be my final President's Message. I have served two terms as your President and I am stepping down to become a Member-at-Large. The older I get, the more time I need for myself.

The last two years have gone well and I think we have some good highlights to point to. I will remember the performance at last year's banquet by a friend of mine, Kevin Johnson. I first met Kevin when he was performing as a magician, not as a ventriloquist.

I was happy we got established at the SDMBB&SC for our meetings. That was through Tony, one of my Santa group friends.

I look forward to a new vision from our President-Elect, Robert Vinson, as he leads the Board in the coming year.

..... Joe Mystic

## PRO EXPERIENCES

By Joe Mystic

Those of us who have magic as our full-time profession often have experiences that the average hobbyist does not (at least not as often.) In this issue of Magicurrents, I've started what I hope will be an on-going means of sharing information which will help non-pros to take advantage of, or avoid some of, these issues.

I'm starting with a recent experience of purchasing magic effects on line. I purchase a lot

of magic online so that I can keep up with what is new, and have found some good sources and some bad. This uncovered what I would consider to be a bad one.

I saw an item I wanted for sale by Magic Depot. It was a close-up pad on which my logo could be placed. On 1/19/18, I ordered it (\$50) and immediately sent them my logo which was to be printed on the pad.

I also ordered one other item: a silk-vanishing wand (\$30). The order was to include a free item (Flight-Force Five by Aaron Smith.)

This was about 5½ months ago. Two months later I ordered 200 imprinted magic wand scrolls (\$50) to use as giveaways. When neither order had arrived in a timely manner, I corresponded with Magic Depot via email. At first, they answered my emails and continually put me off with a variety of excuses..

As of today, I have received nothing. They are no longer returning my emails and they don't answer the phone.

For the above reasons, I will not deal with the Magic Depot in Oklahoma again. There are many reliable on-line sources where my experiences have always been positive. I will tell you about them in future articles. Also, there is something to be said about seeing, touching and taking your magic props with you from a brick and mortar shop, and we do have a good one here in San Diego.

..... Joe

PUBLISHED BY THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS  
HONEST SID GERHART RING 76

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PROOFREADER - SHERRY LUFT, PHOTOGRAPHER - JAMES THAYER



## Minutes of the June 11, 2018, Meeting of Ring 76 of the International Brotherhood of Magicians

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

President **Joe "Mystic" McGrievy** and V.P. of Entertainment, **Richard Ustick**, called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

There were 28 members and 7 guests in attendance. Guests included **Winton** and **Ian Gibbons**, who have attended several meetings.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Ken Intriligator** noted that day, June 11, was the 124th anniversary of Dai Vernon's birthday.

**Joe** mentioned that **David Hirata** is having a charity magic show with online tickets available.

**Greg Wauson** highly recommended the series of articles on scripting magic that have recently appeared in *The Linking Ring*.

**Kenny Shelton** announced that he is performing regularly in Balboa Park, near the lily pond, and encouraged members to go see him there. During the Summer Nights event, there will be food trucks on Friday evenings.

### BROKEN WAND CEREMONY

**Jeff Marcus** conducted a broken wand ceremony for **Loch David Crane**, including reading a bio of Loch that was written by his friend **Steiff**.

Among other facts about Loch, it was interesting to learn that he was a descendant of Buffalo Bill Cody. **Joe** noted that Loch was the best supporter of magic events, regularly showing up where friends and Ring members were performing. He could be counted on to be cheering the performer on and creating a festive

atmosphere. Aloha Loch!

### ELECTIONS

The next order of business was the election of next year's Board. The election committee, **Jeff Marcus, Greg Wauson, and Rich Robertson**, announced the slate and made final call for nominations from the floor. Since there were none, the slate was approved by the Ring by a hand vote. The new **President** will be **Robert Vinson**. The other members are:

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

V.P. of Membership, **James Thayer**

Treasurer, **Bob Meigs**

Secretary, **Ken Intriligator**

Sergeant-at-Arms, **John Hunter**

Member-at-Large, **Malcolm Campbell**

Member-at-Large and Immediate Past

President, **Joe McGrievy**.

### AUDITIONS

Next on the agenda was the audition of applicant **David Chiu**. The effect was Copycat, by David Parr. Parr used it to fool Penn and Teller. David saw him perform the effect, and that inspired David to learn it.

David and a volunteer, **Sherry Luft**, each had a deck of cards. Sherry was instructed to follow David's actions with the completion of each signified by the ring of a bellhop bell. Despite various shuffles and seemingly random moving of cards, both ended up with the same card reversed in their deck.

Welcome to the Ring, David. Your performance was excellent!

The next audition was by **Gary Salisbury** who was a longtime member, but whose membership had lapsed for a few years, so he

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was asked to audition again. Gary also asked **Sherry Luft** to volunteer, and to think of a color and a number. Sherry thought of red and 48. Gary explained that red means right pocket and that he bought a coffee at Starbucks and had the change in his right pocket. He took out the change and gave it to Sherry to count; sure enough, it was 48 cents. Welcome back to the Ring, Gary!

### NO-THEME COMPETITION

Next and last on the agenda were the performances with no set theme.

First came **Kenny Shelton** who, with the help of assistants **Greg Wauson** and **Dr. Jeff Pearson**, performed several effects with a genuine Dean Dill box and with linking ropes. A stick was placed through the center, and rings were put in the box. Miraculous linking effects were demonstrated.

Next came **Nick Benevento** who cut a single rope into three segments. A knot was tied and then pulled off of the rope. The rope was cut and restored several times.

**Malcolm Campbell** presented an effect where one person called out a card suit, another person called out the card, and then two others called out numbers which were added to determine the position.

The deck was shuffled by several people.

Then the cards were dealt singularly from the top of the deck and the called out card was shown to indeed be at the called out position; ACAN from a shuffled deck!

**Ken Intriligator** performed Kainoa Harbottle's Victorian coins in glass, with the magic related (as usual) to the fact that matter is but an excitation of quantum fields. Coins were counted, placed into the glass, and then ended up somewhere else, including the hands of two volunteers.

**Jeff Marcus** demonstrated an effect in which those with smart phones were asked to type in a web address. Doing so opened an image of Harry Houdini holding up a card (with only the back of the card visible). **Rich Robertson** was asked to name a card. Then we were asked to zoom into Harry's eyes. There, reflected in Harry's pupils, was indeed the card that Rich named!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44, and many went to Buddy's Diner in Pacific Beach for dinner, dessert, and camaraderie.

..... Ken Intriligator, Secretary

### SHAVINGS FROM THE BOARD



### MINUTES OF RING 76 BOARD MEETING June 25, 2018

The meeting was called to order by President **Joe "Mystic" McGrievy** at 7:25 pm. The other board members present were First V.P. of Entertainment, **Richard Ustick**, Treasurer **Bob Meigs**, Sergeant-at-Arms **John Hunter**, Second V.P. of Membership **James Thayer** and Newsletter Editor and Member-at-Large **Malcolm Campbell**. Absent were Secretary **Ken Intriligator**, and Member-at-Large **Robert Vinson**.

**Richard Ustick** was acting Secretary.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the June Board meeting were

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approved.

**REPORTS**

**Treasurer’s report** - Treasurer **Bob Meigs** presented his report to the Board. There was a net reduction of the cash balance. The report was approved by the board.

**Library report** - None.

**Membership report** - The Ring currently has 65 members of which 43 have paid their dues, 10 are Life Members, and 18 have yet to pay.

**June Meeting report** - The June Ring meeting was reviewed and all agreed that all facets — including election of the new Board of Directors, the auditioning of two new members, the Broken Wand Ceremony for Loch Crane, and the “No Theme in Particular” competition — went well.

**OLD BUSINESS**

The Installation Banquet is proceeding on schedule for July 15th. President **Joe McGrievy** confirmed that the entertainment will be provided by Tim Wise and will consist of a jugler, a belly dancer, and Tim doing his magic.

The food will be provided by Olive Garden and the Ring will provide coffee, water and dessert. All other drinks can be purchased at the No Host Bar. The price will be \$20 per person. A No Host Meet and Greet will start at 5:00 pm with dinner at 6:00pm.

The Awards Presentations and Installation Ceremony will start at 7:00. The Entertainment will follow.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Richard Ustick** has ordered the plaques, awards, and date plates from Awards By Navajo, in El Cajon, CA. He also has the additional medals for the Close-up and Stand-up contests. Treasurer

**Bob Meigs** will provide the cash awards for said contests. **Malcolm Campbell** will be notifying Awards by Navajo of the name of the Member of the Year.

**Malcolm** would like to make the Installation Banquet a Ring Event for the I.B.M. Linking Ring and would like a lot of pictures and specific notes taken to aide in this. He will put it together and submit it to the Linking Ring for publication. The Board agreed this was a good idea and will assist.

**Joe McGrievy** drew the Board’s attention to an article in the recent Linking Ring discussing the problem with attracting and maintaining younger members into Rings. As this was the last meeting of the current Board it was suggested he obtain a copy of the article and that the matter be given to the new Board for review

**NEWSLETTER**

Malcolm Campbell reviewed what would be needed for the Newsletter.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

..... Richard Ustick, Acting Secretary

***Ring 76 2017-18 Calendar***

Jul 15 Installation Banquet  
Jul 31 Fiscal Year ends

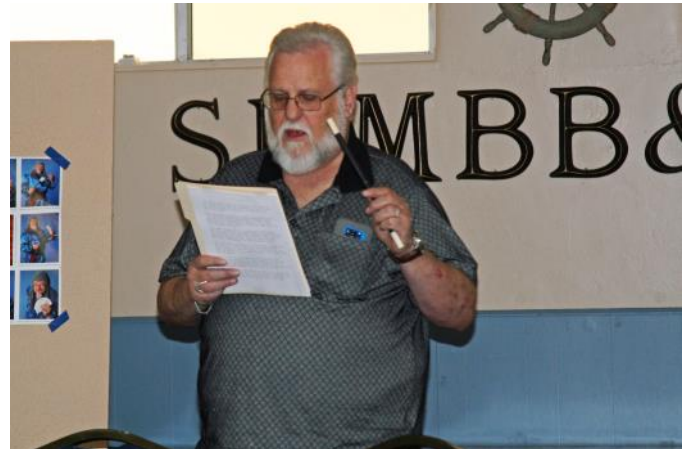
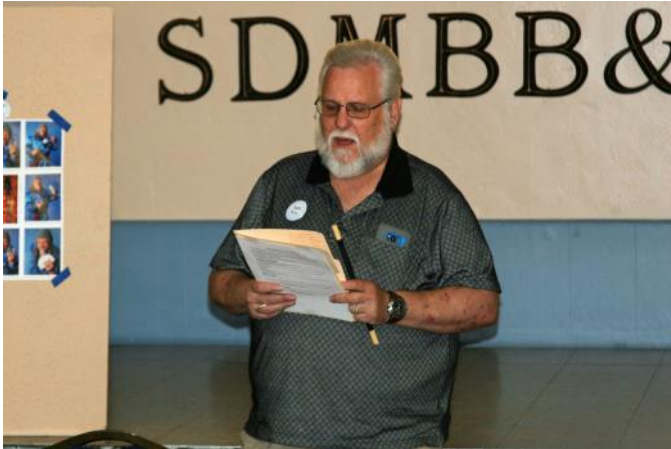
***Our regular monthly meetings are at 7:00 pm on the second Monday of the month. The next meeting is our Installation and Awards Banquet on Sunday, July 15 at 5:00 at the Mission Bay Boat and Ski Club.***

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

Direct any questions concerning the calendar to V.P. Entertainment Richard Ustick, [ru9@ring76.com](mailto:ru9@ring76.com).



## BROKEN WAND CEREMONY



**Jeff Marcus, Territorial V.P., Performs Broken Wand Ceremony  
for Loch David Crane**

## AUDITIONS



**Congratulations to David Chiu for a Successful Audition**



**And to Gary Salibury for His Equally Successful Performance**

## NO-THEME COMPETITION



**Kenny Shelton**



**Nick Benevento**



Malcolm Campbell



Ken Intriligator





## FOCUS ON THE LINKING RING

In his column for June, **MAGIC WORDS MATTER**, Lynn Miner continues his presentation on the ins and outs of scripting magic performance.

Although we can astound an audience with incredible visual effects, what they see is only a part of their experience; What they hear from our lips may well be far more significant as we lead them through our execution of each “miracle.”

His emphasis this month is a comparison of magic scripting with theatrical scripting. Can you imagine the loss of audience impact if a play were presented with no audio? Do you verbally address your audience with a word -for-word script or do you compose it as you go along each time? If the latter, how do you evaluate and improve the effect of your dialog?

It's well worth the time to digest what he has to say.

..... editor

## INSTALLATION AND AWARDS BANQUET REPLACES JULY MEETING

### The facts:

**Date:** Sunday, July 15, 2018, 5:00 pm

**Location:** Our regular meeting place, San Diego Mission Bay Boat and Ski Club

**Activities:** Olive Garden buffet, prize raffle, entertainment, member awards, new Board installation, no-host bar and soft drinks.

The cost is \$20 per person including guests. You may bring as many guests as you like but we need a firm head count as soon as possible. We have a great entertainment program which you will not want to miss.

Email your reservation to Richard Ustick, [ru9@ring76.com](mailto:ru9@ring76.com).



## 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](mailto: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!!

Thanks to all who submitted photos of this month's meeting in James' absence

