



MAGICURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76 SEPTEMBER, 2018 VOL. XXXII #9

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY ROBERT VINSON



Hello Members,

We had a great meeting in August; I was very pleased with the turnout and seeing all the members as well as some former members who attended.

As my main focus is on increasing membership, we seem to be moving in the right direction. If you have friends who are not attending the meetings, or if you know someone who is interested in our art, please invite them to the next meeting. The Ring's existence depends on the efforts of all of its members.

I would like to thank Jack White for the magic products he has given to us to sell at the meetings to raise money for the Ring and its events. This was a very generous offer and we are thankful for his friendship to the Ring, to its members and to the art of magic. Thank you, Jack.

We have a lot of great things planned for the rest of this year, September's meeting is coming up quickly and the theme is *Oddball Magic*. The October meeting is going to be a fun and unusual night. You can expect there to be some Spooky Magic going on. Dig out your unique offerings and present them to the Ring.

Although the Board is always looking for challenging themes, you are still welcome to perform any effect you like. Please contact Richard Ustick and have him put you on the performance list for any upcoming meeting.

The holidays are sneaking up on us and it's going to be an exciting season taking us into the New Year.

Robert Vinson

Ring 76 2018-19 Calendar

September 10 - Oddball Magic*. Anything unusual. Performance instruction continued.

October 8 - Halloween/ Spooky magic*. Performance instruction continued.

November 12 - Bi-annual Swap meet.

December 10 - Holiday Pot-Luck (Entertainer TBA)

January 14 - Open Mic night*. Performance instruction continued.

February 11 - Close-Up Contest*.

March 11 - No Props Night*.

April 8 - Original effects and/or routines*.

May 13 - Stand-Up Contest*.

June 10 - Story Magic/ Historical Magic*. Dues due. Election night.

July 14 - 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 Monday, Sept 10 at 7:00 at the Mission Bay Boat and Ski Club, 2606 N. Mission Bay Dr, San Diego

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

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Minutes of Ring 76

August 13, 2018 General Meeting

at the San Diego Mission Bay Boat and Ski Club.

President **Robert Vinson** called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and turned it over to our V.P. of Entertainment, **Richard Ustick**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Richard reviewed the performance themes for the upcoming meetings and explained the “Open Mic” theme of tonight’s meeting. Kid’s Magic, originally scheduled for this meeting, was deferred to a later date. Next month’s theme is “Oddball Magic.” See the newsletter or the website for details.

Treasurer **Bob Meigs** announced that he has arranged to entertain in the month of October at the **Haunted Hotel** in Olivenhain, east of Encinitas, in conjunction with the Boy Scouts. He is inviting Ring 76 members to contribute to some of the performances. Contact Bob if you are interested.

Jeff Marcus and **Gary Salisbury** announced that they brought a few large boxes of magic that **Jack White** donated to the Ring. The items will be sold after the meeting, at whatever price the buyer thinks is fair, and all proceeds will go to the the Ring.

There were some great finds in there of old, and now hard-to-find items. Jeff and Gary have many more boxes that they will be bringing to upcoming meetings this year.

Among the many guests at the meeting was **Sebastian Figueroa**, magician and owner-operator of the Red Spade Theater. Sebastian announced that he is offering a 10% discount to all Ring 76 members for all ticket purchases - just use the promo code “Ring76”.

Dana Daniels (and Luigi the bird) will appear at the Red Spade on September 22.

Other guests at the meeting included **Derek**

Ostovani, Seth Asher, Winton and Ian Gibbons, Larry Shaw from Indianapolis, **Craig Stone** and **Josh Sherwin**.

AUDITION

Josh successfully auditioned to join the Ring with an excellent performance of close up card magic. He was assisted by **Sherry Luft, Malcolm Campbell, and Craig Stone**. Despite thorough shuffling and mixing by the assistants, there was a perfect red/black separation at the end.

FUTURE MEETING CONTENT

Richard Ustick announced that the Board will continue to try to find new ways to make our monthly meetings fun and informative.

To begin with, a series of mini lectures containing instructions for improving the “Entertainment Value” of a performance will be presented by various members, starting tonight.

Richard gave a lecture on the value of presenting a magic effect in an entertaining way. He showed how the entertainment component is the most important aspect of a magic performance, and how the buildup and reveal of the surprise can completely change the audience’s experience.

He illustrated his points with two mentalism performances. In the first, **Ian Gibbons** chose a card, lost it in the deck, and Richard revealed what it was in a matter-of-fact manner. In the second, Richard had lights and music and had **Sherry Luft** draw anything on a sketch pad. Then, after more entertaining buildup and interaction, Richard revealed that he and Sherry both drew a horse. Great start for this series. Lectures by other Ring members will follow in the months to come.

MAGIC LIVE

Jeff Marcus, Greg Wauson, Rich Robertson,

(Continued on page 3)



(Continued from page 2)

Sherry Luft, Jim Sloan, Bob Meigs and Gary Salisbury gave recaps of their experiences at Magic Live. Everyone said great things about it, and mentioned some of their favorite performances and lectures.

OPEN MIC COMPETITION

Last on the agenda were the “Open Mic” performances.

Bruce Wollitz did a science-magic performance with a candle, a pan of colored liquid, and an Erlenmeyer flask. He cleverly demonstrated the conservation of energy (or was it conservation of matter??)

Malcolm Campbell, took the “Open Mic” theme literally and started off with some funny open mic jokes. He then switched to magic and had **Laurie Pearson** and **Jeff Marcus** assist him. Laurie adjusted the time on a pocket watch with the lid closed and the face out of view. Malcolm then adjusted the time on Jeff’s watch.

When the faces of both watches were revealed, the times agreed.

Ken Intriligator presented three card effects assisted by **Sherry Luft**. First, Sherry cut the deck and Ken correctly guessed how many cards she cut off.

Ken and Sherry then performed a pair of card effects which Ken learned from lecture notes by Boris Wild. He found the assistant’s chosen card from a face-down spread. The effect was repeated with the assistant and performer changing roles.

Alfonso Vasquez performed a Jerry Andrus optical illusion demonstration with a swirling pattern attached to a drill. Then he had assistant **Sherry Luft**, think of a U.S. President and the correct president’s picture was indeed predicted in Alfonso’s phone’s photo collection.

Matt King did a pair of effects assisted by **Laurie Pearson**. First, a chosen card was found

remaining with cards in a pocket and was replaced with a deck in the pocket.

Next Laurie was aided in being the world’s second-greatest magician by a stack of cue cards. Assisted by **Sherry Luft**, the cue cards eventually lead to Sherry’s chosen card being found inside an envelope on the cue card.

Dr. Jeff Pearson, assisted by **Malcolm Campbell** and **Sherry Luft**, did an effect with an 8-ball (“new medical device mind-reading technology”) which gave humorous answers to questions leading up to its correct naming of the cards that Malcolm and Sherry selected.

Mago Ruly did some card tricks with Uno cards, assisted by **Ian Gibbons**. The cards were mixed, and then separated. Ian’s chosen card seemed to jump out of a deck.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50.

..... Ken Intriligator, Secretary

SEPTEMBER MEETING THEME

This month's Ring meeting will be September 10th and the theme of the night is "Oddball Magic."

Bring any trick, effect, or routine that you think is odd or even a little off the standard path.

Do you do a card trick that is a bit skewed? We want to see it. How about a coin routine that would make the Mad Hatter scratch his head? We are all interested.

A rope routine with shoelaces? Mentalism with a coloring book? A parlor act done backwards? That is what we are looking for.

As always, any magic will do in September, but if you have something standard that you do in an amazing way, we want to see it. See you there.

Richard Ustick, V.P. Entertainment, Ring 76



PRELIMINARY BUSINESS



Jeff Marcus describes material from Jack White which will be available after the meeting



Richard Ustick begins lecture series on improving entertainment value of performances



Illustrating impact of delivery method



JOSH SHERWIN AUDITION



Successful audition makes Josh our newest member

MAGIC LIVE 2018 REVIEW



Greg Wauson , Sherry Luft, jim Sloan, Rich Robertson, Jeff Marcus, Bob Meigs and Gary Salsbury speak about their experiences at this year's Magic Live



Some familiar faces at Magic Live



Bruce Wollitz repeals several major laws of Physics while the astonished audience looks on



**Taking advantage of the
Open Mic time**



**WATCH this! Laurie sets watch by blindly turning hands.
It agrees with Jeff's watch set by Malcolm**



**Improbable location of Laurie's chosen card
by Ken**

**Alfonso demonstrates
optical illusion**



Mago Ruly makes Ian's card jump out of deck



Jeff's Magic Ball identifies chosen cards



COMING ATTRACTIONS

Look for some different magic on our stage in **September**. The never-before presented theme of **Odd Ball Magic** may draw some pretty strange stuff out of our performing members.

Our **October** meeting is the perfect time to show our best creepy Halloween (or Seasonal) magic. (Your choice.) You will also have an opportunity to perform at the **Haunted Hotel** (See below).

Our bi-annual Swap Meet in **November** will feature well-priced props and effects from members' inventories. It is a good opportunity to invite your friends or relatives with an interest in magic to go home with new material to learn and to see the Ring in action.

December will feature our Annual Holiday Pot-Luck, a time for celebration, good food and quality entertainment. There is no cost for anyone you bring (except a contribution to the pot-luck.)

Watch future MagiCurrents for details.

..... Richard Ustick

Halloween Magic at the Haunted Hotel

Our monthly membership meeting in October will be at the regular time, 7PM, 2nd Monday, at the Mission Bay Boathouse. But *in addition*, the **Haunted Hotel** has invited us to perform on the six Friday and Saturday nights of **October 12 & 13, 19 & 20, and 26 & 27**.

The **Haunted Hotel** is a haunted house and carnival, put on by BSA Troop 2,000. It is located at **423 Rancho Santa Rd.** and 7th St., in Olivenhain, a neighborhood just east of Encinitas.

We will have two show times every evening, 7 and **8PM**, and shows will be from **15-20 minutes** in length. We will have sound, capacity for music, and prop and performing tables on site.

We already have 3 or 4 performers, but we can use a whole bunch more! This is a very friendly and forgiving audience, so you're welcome to try out new stuff (it doesn't have to be Halloween stuff), but there will be little ones present, so don't be **too** spooky, and *please* don't go "**blue**."

You don't have to do a whole show – you're welcome to do from just a couple of minutes, right up to our 15-20 minute limit. But please call Bob at **619-742-1499**, so he can put together some kind of schedule.

Happy Halloween!!

.... Bob Meigs



Shavings from the Board

MINUTES OF RING 76 BOARD MEETING

August 27, 2018



The meeting was called to order by **President Robert Vinson** at 7:25 pm. All of the Board members were present: First V.P. (Entertainment) **Richard Ustick**, Second V.P. (Membership) **James Thayer**, Treasurer **Bob Meigs**, Sergeant-at-Arms **John Hunter**, Secretary **Ken Intriligator**, Newsletter Editor and Member-at-Large **Malcolm Campbell**, Member-at-Large and Past President **Joe “Mystic” McGrievy**, and Member-at-Large **Rich Robertson**.

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. There was an increase in the balance thanks to dues remitted. There will be further additions from the August ring meeting sale of Jack White’s donations. Future meetings will have more sales. The Treasurer’s report was approved by the Board.

Library report - Kenny Shelton was absent, so there was no library report.

Membership report - There are currently 53 members in good standing, and 7 more who might renew but have not yet paid their dues.

OLD BUSINESS

August meeting recap - The meeting was seen as a success. Richard Ustick’s lecture was much appreciated.

Incorporation - **Malcolm** reported on the status of a typo where the IRS listed the Ring as Ring 75. Malcolm has initiated a correction. There was discussion about the benefits, in addition to the tax benefit, of being a non-profit organization.

Public Shows at the Olivenhain Haunted Hotel for the Boy Scouts in October - The performances will be on the Friday and Saturday nights every weekend leading up to Halloween. Bob Meigs is organizing this and is looking for performer volunteers.

NEW BUSINESS

Sound systems - The Ring has two sound systems, the second recently donated by President Vinson, which are available for use at meetings and other Ring activities.

September Ring Meeting Lecture - Bob Meigs will give a lecture on performance techniques.

December Holiday Potluck entertainment - **Bob Meigs** suggested that the Ring members entertain, perhaps with a theme similar to Penn and Teller’s “Fool Us”. The Board very much liked the idea of this theme, but suggested that we could also instead try it at the January Ring meeting. There was an extended discussion of the idea. There was also a suggestion of a possible paid local performer for the December meeting.

NEWSLETTER

Malcolm Campbell recapped what was needed for the Newsletter.

The board meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.



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!!