



MAGICURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76

APRIL 2019

VOL. XXXIV #4

President's Message

What a month.

First was the performance panel at the monthly meeting. The pros that were on the panel were Bob Meigs, Mike Stillwell, Joe Mystic, Terry Lunsford, and Kenny Shelton. Each gave advice and stories from their personal experiences. Then Mike taught the classic force to all that were interested.

This was just one more of the unique meetings that we have planned and has been very successful.

And as a bonus we had IBM International President Michael Finney in town, and he gave an excellent lecture for us along with a lot of gems of wisdom from his career in magic.

Next month is "Original Magic". Share your creative additions, Any original routine and/or effect counts. It should be very interesting and entertaining. Anyone is welcome to perform and share their magic with the club. We have one member that is unable to attend the meeting, but he is sending in a video of what he has created for this meeting.

Don't forget, but we have the stage competition in May. Please sign up early and good luck. I'll see you all at the April meeting,

— Robert Vinson



Ring 76 2018-19 Calendar

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, April 8th, at the Senior Center in Clairemont
4425 Bannock Ave.
San Diego, CA 92117*

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

ru9@ring76.com

Minutes of the March 11 Ring76 Meeting

Clairemont Senior Center

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Richard Ustick announced that I.B.M. president Michael Finney will be giving a lecture for the Ring on Wednesday, March 13th, also at the Clairemont Center. The fee for non-members is \$20, which can

PUBLISHED BY THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS

HONEST SID GERHART RING 76

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER - MALCOLM CAMPBELL, EDITOR@RING76.COM

ACTING EDITOR & PHOTOGRAPHER - JAMES THAYER



be applied to the annual membership dues for those who afterwards decide to join Ring 76. The April meeting theme will be Original Magic, and **Greg Wauson** will give a lecture. The May meeting will be the annual stand up competition. The June meeting will include the election for next year's Board officers. The Board strongly encourages members to join, and those possibly interested are invited to attend a Board meeting — they are on the 4th Monday of the month, at Bob Meigs' house. Richard also announced that Cathy Hooper, who does the scheduling for us at the Claremont Senior Center (and is giving us a good price for meeting there) is looking for volunteers to perform magic for the Senior's Friday luncheons, which are on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month. **Kenny Shelton** noted that Johnny Thompson had passed away the past Saturday.

PANEL DISCUSSION AND WORKSHOP

Bob Meigs introduced the panel participants, and then had each introduce themselves and discuss how they got started in magic and what advice they would give to others.



Mike Stillwell is one of the longest and most performing magicians in San Diego. He authored the *Entertainer's Handbook*. Among other things, he discussed his long-term employment at various

local restaurants, including the Corvette Diner in the



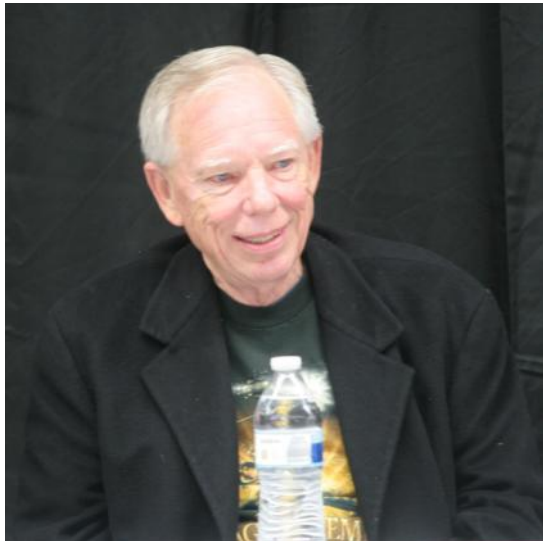
past and, currently and for many years, every Wednesday night at Dave and Busters. He discussed how a large fraction of his livelihood as a magician came from his mastery of about five different utility slights with cards. Some that he particularly discussed including the classic force, the “think of a card” variant of the classic force, and the top change. During a break, Mike demonstrated and taught his phenomenal handling of some of these slights.

Joe “Mystic” McGrievy discussed his start in magic, and working as a magician bartender together with Bob Sheets and with lessons from JC Wagner.



He discussed how important the personality of the magician is, and how in many ways that matters more than the specific tricks. He discussed the bartending style of doing short pieces at the table or bar so as to not interfere with selling drinks. He impressed Mary Martinez at the San Diego Magic Shop with his reliability in accepting every gig or performing opportunity that she found. He did trade shows, including with major illusions, on tour in Europe.

Terry Lunceford started out by hanging out with Mike Stillwell and Joe Mystic in the early days,



when they were doing magic at the Magic Bar. He said that he was still very inexperienced when he first met Mike and Joe, and he did not make a good initial impression on them. But he was persistent with getting better, and Mike and Joe noticed the improvement with time, and then started to help him out with pointers. Now Terry is well known, he is a regular performer on the playbill at the Magic Castle, he gives lectures and shows for other magicians, and he just recently performed at Milt Larson's new Magic Cabaret in Santa Barbara. He gave some advice about routining: your best effect should go last; your second best should go first; your third best should go in the middle.

Kenny Shelton talked about his 4-5 years now of doing busking magic at Balboa Park. He discussed about how he went through a period when he did

not want to use any gimmicks, just pure slight of hand. He focussed for a while on Daryl's Ambitious



Card. His membership in Ring 76 gave him access to performing opportunities and advice from more experienced magicians. He went to magic conventions with Bob Ingalls and Jack White. He was surprised and grateful when Bob Meigs invited him to perform magic at the San Diego County Fair. For busking, he recommended "To Lure with Spectacle" by Jimmy Talksalot.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00, and many of us went to the nearby Denny's for dinner, dessert, and camaraderie.

— Ken Intriligator, Secretary





Shavings from the Board

Minutes of the Ring 76 Board Meeting

March 25, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President **Robert Vinson** at 6:58 pm. The board members present were: First V.P. (entertainment) **Richard Ustick**, Second V.P. (membership) **James Thayer**, Treasurer **Bob Meigs**, Sargent-at-Arms **John Hunter**, Secretary **Ken Intriligator**, Member-at-Large **Rich Robertson**, and Member-at-Large **Joe “Mystic” McGrievy**. **Jeff Marcus** was also present. Newsletter Editor / Member-at-large **Malcolm Campbell** was absent (he had surgery and is in acute care - best wishes to him for a speedy recovery), as was librarian **Kenny Shelton**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the February board meeting were approved. Mr. Rich Robertson seconded the motion!

REPORTS

Treasurer’s report: Treasurer Bob Meigs presented his March report to the board.

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

Membership report: There are currently 59 members in good standing.

OLD BUSINESS

March meeting recap: The panel discussion meeting was seen as overall a success, though some came expecting more of a performance workshop. If there is such a panel again, some tweaks would be made, such as having a moderator. There was also discussion about how to do a performance workshop in the future

Library discussion: There was more discussion about having Gary Salisbury take over the library, to help make it more available to our members and to update the list of Ring items.

Clairemont Senior Center: The board is very happy with meeting there. Ring members can perform at their Friday luncheon, which happens every other week - please consider doing this. There is also a possibility that this will result in a discount in the fees for use of the center.

NEW BUSINESS

April Meeting: Greg Wauson will give a lecture. Then Josselin “Joe” Nespoux will give a farewell performance (he is moving to Scotland for graduate school). The “original magic” theme performances (including Malcolm, via video recording) will be at the end of the meeting.

Meeting Sales Tables: The ring will charge \$10 for a table to those who want to sell stuff.

Meeting Suggestions: Richard read the member’s responses on ideas for meeting improvements, and the ring discussed them. There were several suggestions about having magic jam sessioning. There was discussion about getting more members to actively participate and perform. Another suggestion is to have a 20 minute teach-a-trick session in each meeting.

May Meeting: This is the stand-up competition meeting. The board will work on a scoring rubric.

Installation Banquet: There was discussion about BBQ catering, and Western themed locations, and also entertainment options.

Board Elections: Board members confirmed if they are willing to serve on the board next year. The Ring will need a new Sargent-of-arms. There will be a nominating committee, including Joe McGrievy and Jeff Marcus.

NEWSLETTER

James Thayer is willing to fill in temporarily for Malcolm Campbell for the Newsletter.



The board meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm. Mr. Rich Robertson (member-at-large) seconded the motion - again!

— Ken Intriligator, Secretary



April Meeting

April 8th at the Clairemont Senior Center

April is one of the most exciting months in the Ring 76 Calendar.

First up, we are having an informative presentation by **Greg Wauson**. This is the continuation of the Ring Lecture series the Board instituted in response to your request for more information on how to be a better magician.

Next, we have a special presentation of magic by our own **Josselin Nespoux**. Josselin will be leaving the San Diego area soon and this will be the last chance you have to see this talented Ring member.

Finally, we have the theme of the night, “Original” magic. Not necessarily an original trick, though it can be, but the theme refers to original ways you have come up to present tried and true magic. This includes original props you have devised, original gimmicks (exposure not required, but welcomed), original patter, or original character. We have all seen it before, you just do it in a new way, and that is what we want to see.

Contact [Richard Ustick at Ring76ibm@yahoo.com](mailto:Richard.Ustick@Ring76ibm@yahoo.com) to get your name on performers list for our April 8th meeting.

— Richard Ustick



Ring 76 Elections

April is the start of Spring and the start of the Ring 76 election season. As per Article VI sections 1 and 2, the Board needs an Election Committee to oversee the process, and to present the slate of candidates to the Ring. It is also a time when members in good standing can declare their desire to be on the Board and serve the Ring.

The Ring does not run itself and there are many positions on the Board of Directors where you can help make the Ring what you want it to be. The Board meets every fourth Monday of the month (except in December) and plans the events and direction of the Ring. Besides the officers with specific tasks, like Vice President of Membership, Vice President of Entertainment, and Secretary, there are Members at Large. All important to the Ring.

IF you are interested in being on the election committee or would like more information on the Board of Directors, contact any Board member or email the Ring at Ring76ibm@yahoo.com.

— Richard Ustick



Dues (Not Yet But Soon!)

As we approach the end of this membership year, it's time to start thinking about the next one. Part of this is electing a new Board. Another part of this is paying dues for the coming year.

Dues are due at the end of June, 2019 so there is no rush, but if you want get them in early and avoid the rush, you can do so now. Dues continue to be \$30 for adult members and \$15 for junior members. Payment can be made a any Ring meeting, sending payment to Ring 76; c/o James Thayer; 9556 Babauta Road; San Diego CA 92129 or you can make arrangements to pay by PayPal (contact James at jt4@ring76.com for details.)

— James Thayer

Pre-Meeting Swap Sale

Are you doing some Spring Cleaning right now and have come across a host of magical treasures you want to share with other magicians in the Ring? If so, here is your chance. Ring 76 is reintroducing the pre-meeting swap-meet. Before each meeting (when appropriate) you can buy a table and sell your wares. For just \$10 you can offer fellow magicians great prices on classic magic, clean out your closet, and put a few dollars back into your bank account. We will be limiting this to two or three tables a month starting in April so sign up by contacting Richard Ustick at Ring76IBM@yahoo.com.



Kenny Shelton talks about his Balboa Park show.



Mike Stillwell teaches the Classic Force



Michael Finney shares his thoughts on life, magic and the Professor's Nightmare (with Laurie Pearson.)



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!!

.... editor