



MAGICURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76

MAY 2019

VOL. XXXIV #5

President's Message

Hello again,

April's meeting was fun but also sad at the same time.

The Fun:

David Chui brought in a Zodiac placemat from a Chinese restaurant and used it to perform a routine that involved sniffing out a selected card.

Jeff Marcus performed beautiful ambitious card routine.

Mark Booth did a routine with a padlock and several keys where the last key is the only one that worked.

Ken Intriligator did a unique version of the three-shell game.

Greg Wauson gave a mini lecture discussing some very good information he got from reading Maximum Entertainment by Ken Weber. I liked Greg's perspective on the information he passed on from the book. I highly recommend that you get this book if you can, I know it helped me with my shows.

We Have been fortunate to have a lot of great talent in our Ring.

The Sad:

Josselin Nespoux, our member from France, gave a very nice goodbye performance. He has moved to Scotland.

He was the winner of the close-up competition in both 2017 and 2018 and he has a great deal of talent and we will miss him and his magic.

Josselin, I wish you the best and hope you will return to San Diego one day.

Ring 76 2018-19 Calendar

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

Malcolm Campbell is still recovering, and we hope to see him soon.

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 May meeting,

— Robert Vinson



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



Minutes of the April 9th Ring76 Meeting

Clairemont Senior Center

President **Robert Vinson** and Entertainment VP **Richard Ustick** called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Prior to the meeting, raffle tickets were being sold for \$5/ticket for a 50/50 raffle. J.C.



Richard Ustick

Wagner’s widow had donated a large box of DVDs (7 More Secrets by J.C. Wagner) and each \$5 raffle ticket included a copy of the DVD. The membership signed a thank you card to J.C. Wagner’s widow, and also a get-well-soon card for **Malcolm Campbell**. There were 23 ring members attending and 3 guests. The guests were **Ron Zimmer** (a magician from Florida and friend of Jeff Marcus), **Diane Wollan** (from San Diego and Apple Valley, who was a guest of Sargent-of-arms **John Hunter**), and **Katrina Dismukes** (magician, frequent raffle winner, and daughter of **Gary Dismukes**). The raffle winner this time was **Gary Salisbury**.

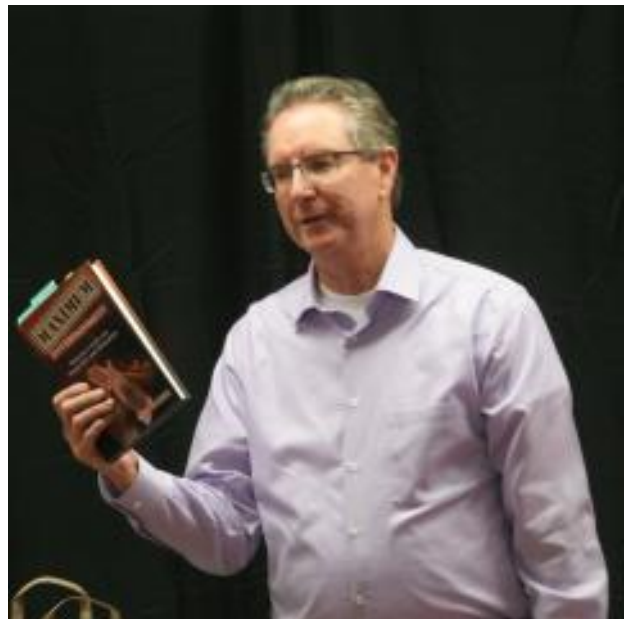
Mike Stillwell teaches the Classic Force

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Richard Ustick announced the names of the election committee (including **Greg Wauson** and **Dave Chui**) and that every position (aside from the President) is up for grabs if anyone wants to contribute in this way to the ring. The current members would be happy to pass the torch, and that would help to bring fresh ideas to the ring for next year. The May meeting will include the annual Stand-up competition - see the website for the performance time limit and other rules, and email Richard if you would like to enter. The June meeting will include the election for next year’s Board, dues will be due, and the performance theme will be story and historical magic. Also, starting next month, members can “rent” a table for a minimal fee to the ring (I think \$10) and sell magic items before the meeting starts. Finally, ring Secretary **Ken Intriligator** announced that he met up with past Ring Secretary **Jacques Lord** at the Magic Castle the day before.

SHORT LECTURE

Greg Wauson discussed some very helpful insights that he got from reading the book Maximum



Greg Wauson

Entertainment by Ken Weber. This included an interesting definition of entertainment, and several “director’s notes” advice for performers.

PERFORMANCES

Josselin Nespoux gave a very nice goodbye performance. Josselin came to San Diego from France a little over two years ago (as a researcher at UCSD), and has been a wonderful addition to our Ring for that time. He is a talented performer, and indeed he is on our Ring’s Hall of Fame as the winner of the close up competition in both 2018 and 2017. Josselin performed a version of a Boris Wild effect called perfect open prediction: the



Josselin Nespoux

prediction card card is shown (9S, with blue back) and then Joe Mystic was invited to deal cards face up from a red-backed deck until he wanted to stop. The next card was kept upside down and then all other cards were turned right-side up, and it was noted that none were the 9S. It was then shown that the card that Joe stopped at indeed matched the prediction. Josselin also performed a one-coin routine. Josselin also performed a beautiful routine (I think based on Osmosis by Slyvain Mirouf) to music where the middle is cut out of two cards, transforming them into linking



rings that were linked and unlinked with four phases of interesting twists and turns.

“Original Magic” theme performances:

David Chui brought in a placement from a Chinese restaurant that listed the twelve animals of the Chinese Zodiac, and the described a bit about the characteristics of people born in the year of the



David Chui

various animals. He explained that he was born in the year of the dog, so he has an acute sense of smell. **Ron Zimmer** selected a card, which was then lost in the deck. David then found the correct card from the smell of Ron's touch.

Jeff Marcus performed his handlings of the ambitious card, with card selection (and signed) made by **Diane Wollan**. The card went to the top,



Jeff Marcus

the bottom, to any number called for from the top. Finally, it went to Jeff's wallet, which was in view on the tabletop the whole time.

Mark Booth did a routine with a small padlock and many similar-looking keys. Greg Wauson assisted, putting his wallet in a lockbox and verifying that a none of the keys opened the padlock, except for one. Greg then padlocked his wallet into the lockbox and mixed the keys. He showed them to Mark, who eliminated each by intuition. The last remaining key was verified to open the padlock, and Greg's wallet was safely returned.

Ken Intriligator did a version of the three shell game (inspired by Bob Sheet's routine from the



Mark Booth (left) with Greg Wauson

School of Scoundrels), presented with a "kid's magic" theme. Diane Wollan was asked to play the part of a kid (with John Hunter as her dad). First a Minecraft Creeper doll was shown to sneeze, producing a baby creeper pea. Diane was given the opportunity to put it under the shell incubators and slide them



Ken Intriligator



around. Then the baby creeper played games with Diane and her dad, where whichever shell dad thought it was under was wrong and whichever one Diane thought it was under was correct. Finally, Diane put the baby creeper pea under one shell, covered it with a bowl, and an empty shell was covered with a glass. The creeper pea still went from one to the other shell.

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

April 22, 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**, Treasurer **Bob Meigs**, Sargent-of-arms **John Hunter**, Secretary **Ken Intriligator**, Member-at-Large **Rich Robertson**, and Member-at-Large Joe **"Mystic" McGrievy**. Absent were Second V.P. (membership) **James Thayer**, Newsletter Editor / Member-at-large **Malcolm Campbell**, and librarian **Kenny Shelton**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the March board meeting were approved.

REPORTS

Treasurer's report Treasurer Bob Meigs presented his April report to the board. There was a question about some additional cash from a few members who have already paid their dues.

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

Membership report James informed the board via email that there is no change in the membership roster: there are currently 59 members in good standing.

OLD BUSINESS

April meeting recap: The meeting was discussed and seen as a success. Greg's presentation on Maximum Entertainment was great, and very informative. Josselin gave a wonderful goodbye performance, and several members performed. There was some debate about if the lectures are useful for the majority of members, who are hobbyists and might not want to develop shows.

NEW BUSINESS

May Meeting: The stand-up competition meeting. The board extensively discussed and debated the scoring rubric, and settled on one with four categories. One member suggested eliminating this competition in future years, given that there tend to be few performers. It was also suggested that the time limit (10 minutes) could be dropped if there are few performers. Currently, three members have told Richard that they will perform. Robert will have the performers contact him, so he can arrange for things to go smoothly with whatever needs they might have (music etc). Rich Robertson will be the Master of Ceremonies, since Richard Ustick will be out of town.

Board Elections: The nominating committee is David Chui, Jeff Marcus, and Greg Wauson. The Ring will need a new Sargent-of-arms, and a possibility for that position was discussed, and will be contacted by Richard or Robert.

June Meeting: The election meeting. The \$30 dues will be due, and the theme is history or story magic.

Meeting Sales Tables: The Ring will charge \$10 for a table to those who want to sell magic items before the meetings. There was discussion about accessing the meeting room starting at 6pm, to allow for an hour of sales and socializing before the meeting

starts. Also, the Ring will sell donated items, and Bob Meigs will bring a Square or other credit card payment system. This will start at the June meeting.

Installation Banquet: Robert got bids from both Porters and Bekker's - both were over the \$20 per person price point. The board is leaning toward going with Porters, but will further consider other options, given the cost. The board decided to have Randy Kappe the Hypnotist perform, which Jeff Marcus has arranged for the Ring. Randy has generously offered to make the performance gratis. The board will reach out to Jack White, to invite him to attend the Banquet as a guest of honor, if he is able to do so.

NEWSLETTER

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

The board meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm. Rich Robertson seconded the motion.

— Ken Intriligator, Secretary

Stand Up Contest in May

It is Showtime!

The May Ring 76 meeting will be our annual Stand Up Contest. The chance for you for dazzle fellow Ring members with your magical abilities on the big stage. (Or at least the state at our usual meeting place).

Performers will have 10 minutes to entertain the audience and compete to win cash prizes and Victor's medals.

The official rules and regulations are posted at Ring76.com and if you have any questions please contact Richard Ustick at Ring76ibm@yahoo.com.

Due to our overall time constraints, we have to limit the number of contestants so if you plan to perform, please contact Richard as soon as possible.



You Are The Judge

For our annual Stand Up Contest this year we are going to continue to use the judging scoresheet that we introduced at the Closeup Contest. Rather than just having a popular vote, we are asking the members to think about the performers they are watching and judging them on a small number of professional standards. This is, after all, a contest and not just another performance night. We, the audience, expect the performers to have a higher degree of polish in these shows and so they deserve a higher degree of scrutiny when being judged.

As you see from the picture (Page 7), there are four categories you will be expected to review when casting your ballot for Standup Performer of the Year. These are the Originality of the performance, the Poise, and Presentation of the material, the overall technical skills or ease of presentation, and the Crow appeal. How did the act go over with you and the rest of the audience?

The Board understands that we are asking a little more of the membership on these entertaining nights, but the contests ask a little more of the performer, does it not? If the member is going to go up to the stage and give us a professional quality show then do



IBM Ring 76
Stand Up Contest Score Sheet

| | Performer | Originality, Creativity (0 – 10) | Poise, Presentation (0 – 10) | Technical Skills (0 – 10) | Crowd Appeal (0 – 10) | Total Score (Max 40) |
|----|-----------|--|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 | | | | | | |
| 2 | | | | | | |
| 3 | | | | | | |
| 4 | | | | | | |
| 5 | | | | | | |
| 6 | | | | | | |
| 7 | | | | | | |
| 8 | | | | | | |
| 9 | | | | | | |
| 10 | | | | | | |



they not deserve to be judged in a more professional way?

As always, your judging is subjective. This Contest Score Sheet is to help you come to a more textured choice as to who did the best job that night. Something a little more than just yes or no. The sheets are anonymous and used for scoring only. It is simply a way for us to better determine who the best Magicians were that night.

Please take a moment to look over the score sheet and if you have any questions please email Richard at Ring76ibm@yahoo.com.

— *Richard Ustick*

Ring 76 Elections

Ring 76 is managed by a Board of Directors and that Board is elected by you, the member in good standing of Ring 76. As per our contituion, we have a committee who will oversee the election and the Board has given them their recommendations for the next term. However, the Board is opened to any member who wishes to serve on it.

Are you happy with the new directions the Ring has gone in the last year or so? Do you want to see a different approach to the meetings and guests? Do you want to shape the modern course of a Ring that is over 70 years old? Or do you just want a chance to serve the organization that has brought you so much knowledge and pleasure over the last few years? Now is your chance.

Any member in good standing can run for any office (except president where a prior position on the Board is required). The Board meets on the fourth Monday of the month to plan Ring events and organize the newsletter and other business. It is a chance for you to influence the magic community here in San Diego and to get your ideas heard.

The Election Committee will be accepting floor nominations for the June election at the May and June meetings. If you are interested, or have any questions as to what is involved with being a Board

member, contact the Board at Ring76ibm@yahoo.com.

— *Richard Ustick*

Dues (Due 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 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.)

Any dues payments not received by June 30th are subject to a \$5 penalty.

— *James Thayer*

Pre-Meeting Swap Sale

Starting with the June meeting the Ring will reintroduce our Meeting Night Swap Meet.

For the small price of \$10 a limited number of members can set up tables before and after the meeting to offer bargains on the magical treasures they have but may not use any longer. It is a chance for you to clean out your closets and a chance for our members to pick up fabulous magic and bargain prices.

We will limit the number of tables to three each meeting where it is feasible, and you simply have to contact Richard at Ring76ibm@yahoo.com to reserve your table. We open the doors to our meeting hall at 6:30 pm and you have a good half hour to sell. If the meeting runs short you can also sell afterward.

This will all start at the June meeting so we will see you there.





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