



MAGICURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76

JUNE 2019

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President's Message

What a wonderful meeting and the competition was great. If you missed the meeting you missed a lot of excellent magic. The competition was a close one and I am looking forward to seeing who won. The competitors brought their A-Game this year.

A special thank you is owed to Rich for being the MC and doing an amazing job.

We, (the board), have been working on the Installation Banquet details and we will continue to move forward and do our best to make this an event to remember.

Please RSVP as soon as you can as we need solid numbers to order the meals for you and your guest.

Remember elections are coming up, if you want to contribute to the Ring please consider being on the board. It is a great way to bond with your fellow magicians and help to raise the bar for the Ring.

It has been an honor for me to have served as president of Ring 76 this past year. It is very satisfying to know I had a hand on the wheel, while driving the Ring forward and into the future, but without my back-seat drivers, (the rest of the board), nothing could have made this past year so special to me and I want to thank you for your support.

For our June meeting the theme is Historical or Story magic.

If you have a trick or routine that is special to you and from many years ago, please come and share it and the history of it even if you don't perform it.

Ring 76 2018-19 Calendar

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

July 7 - Installation Banquet.

(Please note that this date has changed!)

- 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

If you want to do a story telling routine bring it and tell us a good story.

Performers let Richard Ustick know as soon as possible so we can put you on the performance list.

I'll see you there. And thanks to all members for your support.

— Robert Vinson



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EDITOR AND PUBLISHER - MALCOLM CAMPBELL, EDITOR@RING76.COM
ACTING EDITOR & PHOTOGRAPHER - JAMES THAYER**



Minutes of the May 13th Ring76 Meeting

Clairemont Senior Center

President **Robert Vinson** and Member at Large **Rich Robertson** called the meeting to order at 7:00pm (Rich was the MC for the evening, since Entertainment VP **Richard Ustick** was out-of-town). Treasurer **Bob Meigs** had brought many DVDs, which he was giving away before the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rich started with a few announcements: the suggested performance theme for the June meeting



Rich Robertson

is historical / story magic; the Ring dues will be due at the June meeting, and cash is OK but checks are preferred by Membership VP **James Thayer**. There will be a benefit magic show at the Senior Center on June 15, with performances by **Joe Mystic**, Magic **Mike Stillwell**, and others, and members are were encouraged to pick up and sell tickets (if there are sufficient proceeds, the Senior Center will reduce or eliminate our Club's monthly fee for using their meeting space). Robert Vinson

Mike Stillwell teaches the Classic Force

announced that there will be a BBQ food / Western theme for the installation banquet. There were a few guests: **Ernie Morgenson**, who has been into magic since the age of 12, and **Winnie** who is **David Chui's** wife. The election committee members **David Chui**, **Jeff Marcus**, and **Greg Wauson** announced that all positions are open for the Board, with the exception of President which is open to any member who served on the Board in the past. If there are no other members willing to run, the Board will be mostly the same as this year, with **David Chui** replacing **John Hunter** as Sergeant-of-Arms. Rich handed out the scoring sheets and pens and pencils for the annual Stage Competition, announced the lineup of performances, and explained the four scoring categories.

PERFORMANCES

Secretary **Ken Intriligator** (that's me) did a routine that started with a pen production, rubber illusion, vanish, production, and then a coin production, followed by some routines involving the pen and the coin (with a theme based on analogies with quantum field theory physics), done to music. After a quick



Ken Intriligator

rope-through-neck and thimble vanish, he did a hindu thread routine with the help of **Laurie Pearson** shredding the thread, and rolling it into a ball, and then Ken showed that the thread was indeed restored.

Member-at-large and newsletter editor **Malcolm Campbell** did a routine assisted by **Tom Owen-Towle** and **Dr. Jeff Pearson**. Malcolm started off by having Tom lie on three chairs, and then had



Malcolm Cambell (r) with Tom Owen-Towle

Jeff remove the middle chair. After some medical prop gags, Malcolm went to the sidelines and returned with an enormous saw blade. After sufficient suspense for Tom, Malcolm had him pick a card instead of being cut in half and restored. The chosen card indeed matched Malcolm's prediction.

Gary Dismukes started off with a torn-and-restored newspaper routine. Next, with the help of Laurie Pearson and also **Sherry Luft** and Tom Owen-Towle, Gary did an very entertaining routine (Gaetan Bloom) where an assistant, in this case Laurie, plays a horse and gallops on stage while shuffling a deck, starting when Sherry says go and stopping when Tom says stop, and then showing



Gary Dismukes (l) with Laurie Pearson

which card number happens to be at the top. Gary then attaches each card to a slate with clothespins. After five sets of entertaining galloping by Laurie (who noted some leg soreness afterwards, but it was well worth it for everyone's entertainment), Gary removed the prediction cover on the slate to

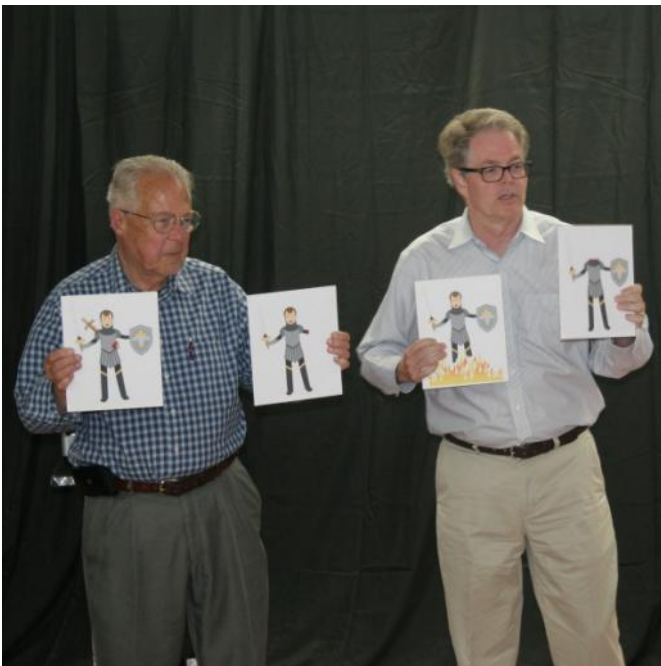


Mago Ruby

reveal five drawn numbers that perfectly matched the ordered sequence of five cards that Laurie had galloped to pick. For the finale, Gary produced a Coke bottle from the torn newspaper.

Mago Ruly started off with a music and manipulation routine, with a scarf, diminishing cards, producing cards, and a cut rope that is restored on a fan. Next, with the help of David Chui and Winnie, they checked and each selected a card from two piles. The cards were replaced and the piles were shuffled, and each was placed in one of Mago's pockets. He then reached into each pocket and produced the two chosen cards.

Winton Gibbons mentioned Game of Thrones as his thematic inspiration. With the help of Tom Owen-Towle, Laurie Pearson, and guest Ernie, pictures of knights were shown with an assortment of "just a flesh wounds" including missing leg, missing arm, etc. One of the pictures was chosen,



Winton Gibbons (r) with Ernie Morgenson

and it was revealed that the remedy in the prediction envelope indeed matched the knight's injury. Next Sherry Luft was asked to help by examining the sewing needles in a pin cushion, verifying that they are dangerous, and putting them

into a small shot glass of liquid. Winton then gulped down the liquid, ate some thread, had Sherry verify with a flashlight that his mouth was empty, with nothing hiding in the corners. Winton then proceeded to regurgitate and pull out the thread from his throat, with the needles attached.

Joe Mystic started with music, and appearing and color changing scarves and canes. He cut a rope in



Joe Mystic

the middle, tied the ends together, and then moved the knot up and down and finally removing the rope, with the rest of the rope restored. Then with the help of Ernie and Winnie, Joe brought out a longer and thicker rope, which he cut in the middle and then tied the pieces together. Then he slid the knot up and down the length of the rope, and untied the knot in other places to show that the rope was now cut there.

Kenny Shelton (who was not one of the contest performers) did a Woody Aragon effect with the help of Winnie. Winnie picked either a red or blue deck, and chose a card. The cards were counted into two piles until finally one card remained. Sure enough, it was Winnie's selected card. Nicely done.



Kenny Shelton

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*

The Next Ring Meeting will be Historic !!

Well, the magic will be anyway.

The theme of the next meeting will be old fashioned, or historic, magic. The fun stuff we use to see all of the time when we were kids and just getting into the art. Great tricks and routines the youngsters just don't do anymore.

— Or —

It can be routines and effects YOU use to do but just have not done in a while because you are trying new things lately. There are no restrictions or proof of dates or anything along those lines.

So, let's all get up and do the type of magic that was popular before your mother was born, even though she was born a long long time ago, your mother should know . . .

Contact Richard Ustick at Ring76ibm@yahoo.com and get on the performer's list for the June meeting.

— *Richard Ustick*

Dues!

In short, Ring 76 Dues for the coming year (2019-2020) are now due. (Don't be caught out by having 2020 hindsight!) The amount remains \$30 for regular members and \$15 for Junior Members. And once June 31st (also known as July 1st) rolls around, Dues will be overdue and the cost goes up by \$5.

Dues may be paid by mail by check), online via PayPal or at the June meeting (by check or cash). In general, check or PayPal is preferred as there is an independent record of the transaction. If paying by mail, please send them to Ring 76 c/o James Thayer' 9556 Babauta Road; San Diego, CA 92129. If you wish to pay by PayPal, please contact James Thayer at [<jt4@ring76.com>](mailto:jt4@ring76.com)

— *James Thayer, VP Membership*

Sales Start Monday!

Starting with the next Ring 76 meeting, Monday June 10th, you can sell your valued treasures to other Ring members by reserving a table. For \$10 you can sell your seldom and gently used magic before and after the meeting. Due to space limitations, we have to restrict the number of sellers and it is first reserve first served. Simply contact me at [<Ring76ibm@yahoo.com>](mailto:Ring76ibm@yahoo.com) and I will let you know if a table is available for the next meeting. When possible you can post pictures of your items in the Newsletter before the next meeting.

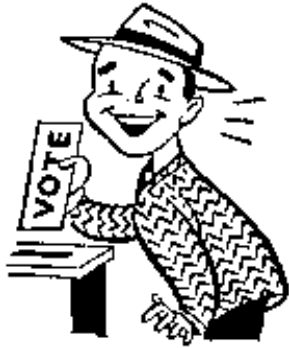
— *Richard Ustick*

Editors Note: The Newsletter deadline is 10 days before the next Ring 76 Meeting. If you would like to post photos of your items, please submit them before the deadline to be certain of having them appear in MagiCurrents.



Elections !!!

No, not that one. That is still well over a year and a half away (whew).



I am talking about the Ring 76 Board elections which will be held at the next meeting.

We have a full slate of officers, however, nominations from the floor can be made by the the membership at the June meeting.

In the event of no further floor nomination, we will conduct a Ya or Nay vote from the members at the meeting to accept the slate of officers as presented.

This is your Ring, your Board, and your voice matters.

— *Richard Ustick*

Seeking a New Editor

Ring 76 is seeking a new Editor for its newsletter *MagiCurrents* (the very newsletter that you are reading now.) The current Editor, Malcolm Campbell, has served with distinction since taking over the role in December 2014. Unfortunately, Malcolm has had to scale back his activities due to health issues. James Thayer (the previous Editor) has stepped in to keep *MagiCurrents* coming to the membership in the interim, but in the long term, the Ring 76 Board is seeking a new Editor to take over this responsibility. Anyone interested in taking on this role is encouraged to contact any member of the Board. For those who might wish to know what they are getting into before taking the leap, they may contact Malcolm or James and we will happily make up answers to your questions.

— *James Thayer*

Shavings from the Board

Minutes of the Ring 76 Board Meeting

May 27, 2019



The meeting was called to order by President **Robert Vinson** at 7:36 pm. The board members present were: First V.P. (entertainment) **Richard Ustick**, Second V.P. (membership)

James Thayer, 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 Newsletter Editor / Member-at-large **Malcolm Campbell**, and librarian **Kenny Shelton**. The guests present were **Mark Booth**, **Jeff Marcus**, **Josh Sherwin**, **Gary Salisbury**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the April board meeting were approved.

REPORTS

Treasurer’s report: Treasurer Bob Meigs presented his May report to the board. There were a few questions, which were answered, and the report was accepted.

Library report and discussion: Kenny Shelton was absent, so there was no library report. Gary Salisbury discussed taking over the library, and his suggestions for making it more accessible to members. Gary also discussed increasing the library’s collection, both via donations and possibly making some purchases. Electronic dissemination of books and DVDs was discussed. Gary will investigate what can and cannot be done, and Josh offered to help Gary and Richard Ustick (who has been working on digitizing the Ring’s VHS tapes). There was extensive discussion about the Library collection. The Board voted to approve Gary taking over the library.

Membership report: James informed the board that the year closed with 59 members in good



standing. There are currently three members who paid up for next year. Dues are \$30 until June 30. Starting July 1 they are \$35.

OLD BUSINESS

May meeting recap: The meeting and standup competition was discussed, and seen as a success.

NEW BUSINESS

Installation Banquet (Sunday July 7): Robert got bids from both Porters and Bekker's. The board decided to go with Porters. The cost per head was discussed. Randy Kappe the Hypnotist will perform (Randy has generously offered to do the performance gratis). There was a discussion of the need to lock in RSVPs in advance, to plan for the food amount. The suggestion was that the cost will be \$25 per head before June 30, and after June 30 it will increase to \$35. Bob Meigs will look into bringing a Square device to the June meeting to allow for credit card payments. There was some discussion about using Square. Joe offered to look into getting a Square Account for Ring 76, and link to the account. It was also suggested to get a new Square reader, for credit cards with chips. Bob will bring regular coffee and Jeff will bring decaf. There was a discussion about drinks. Water and coffee will be provided. If others want other drinks, they should BYOD. There was more discussion about contacting and inviting Jack White; Robert Vinson will do that.

June Meeting: The theme will be story / historical magic.

Board Business: Josh Sherwin is willing to serve on the Board (except as secretary). There was discussion of the Board's email distribution list, and some snafus with receiving emails. Gary will be added to the Board's list as Librarian. Joe pointed out the requirement that all member's should be able to get a membership list and contact info for other members; security issues, and secure ways to set that up were discussed. There was also discussion about how to document the passwords etc that James has for the website, in case, anything

unexpected happens to James. Robert will look into helping with that.

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. RSVP to Richard Ustick.

NEWSLETTER

James Thayer is again willing to fill in temporarily for Malcolm Campbell for the Newsletter. Member contributions were discussed.

The board meeting adjourned at 8:41 pm.

— Ken Intriligator, Secretary



Ring 76 Library

As mentioned in the Board Meeting Report, Gary Salisbury has been appointed at the new Ring Librarian. Here is his introduction and ideas he has about moving the Library more accessible to the membership.

My name is Gary Salisbury and I am your new IBM Ring 76 Librarian. I bring to you 40 years of customer service experience from a Fortune 500 company and I am looking forward to serving you. I would like to thank the Board for putting their faith in me to serve in this position and I understand I serve at the Board's discretion since I was not elected by the membership.

My vision is to make our Ring 76 library the best magic library throughout the entire IBM organization. I want to improve your ease of access to the library by being more available to serve you. I want to emulate some of the new features that the San Diego City and County libraries have such as electronic access to media. I want to increase the size of our library and will do that by soliciting donations and purchasing new material. I also want to improve



communications to you with book and video reviews on a monthly basis in the news letter.

So how can we do all that? We will digitize what products we can and make them available for you to download from our website however, we must abide by any rules and regulation pertaining to copyrights.

The mechanism for this will be our Ring 76 web site. <http://www.ring76.com> We will be providing a new secret area called ARCANUM that will only be available to members in good standing that will be under password control. (ARCANUM means a secret accessible to only a few; a mystery)

The library currently has several types of media:

Books:

We currently have 181 books. There is no easy way to convert out current books inventory to electronic media so for now those will remain in the same paper format. What we can do is to make it easier for you to get a book when you want it. The Ring 76 library will be stored at my home in Blossom Valley and I will be posting my email and phone numbers for you to contact me if you need anything. I can then deliver it to the next ring meeting or you can pick it up at my home.

In addition to that, I have secured an anonymous donor who will donate over 400 copies of non-copyrighted and expired copyrighted books to us in PDF format. These will be available for checkout in the new ARCANUM section.

Videos (DVD):

We currently have 231 DVDs. We are evaluating how we could digitize these DVDs and make them available electronically. We are legally allowed to make one back-up of copyrighted media and it can be on any other media as long as we retain the original media.

Videos (VHS):

We currently have 156 VHS tapes. Not many people have VHS players any more but these are still perfectly good and contain many worthy

performance. Again, we are legally allowed to make one back-up of copyrighted media so we will convert the VHS library to MP4 format and make them available once again. We would still have to maintain the original media as proof of ownership.

Audio Cassette Tapes:

We currently have 6 audio cassettes. These again can be converted to MP3 format available for check out or downloading from the ARCANUM section.

Documents in PDF format:

We currently have 6 documents in PDF format. These will be available in ARCANUM and available for downloading.

NEW! Videos in MP4 format:

We are purchasing the Tarbell Video series, lesson 1 to 103. These will be available for checkout on either a thumb drive or an external hard drive. We will be evaluating having them available for on-line streaming.

I have also requested that the Board consider a format library budget. My suggestion was to allocate \$200 for 2019 for library needs.

I would like to start a regular monthly column in the newsletter called Ex Libris where we do book and video reviews. Volunteers will also be requested to help provide reviews and let others know what you think. So join me in the fun.

—Gary Salisbury





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.

Currently the Library is in transition, but if you have an interest in borrowing a book or DVD, please contact the Ring Librarian at <librarian@ring76.com>. The contents of the Library can be found on the Ring76 website.

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