



# MAGICURRENTS

San Diego Ring 76

October 2019

VOLUME XXXIV #10

## President's Message

Summer is officially over and Autumn is here and that is the best time to be a member of Ring 76.

Each month will feature an exciting host of events guaranteed to fortify you against what passes for brisk Fall nights in Southern California.

First off is our traditional Halloween themed meeting in October. Members are encouraged to dress for the occasion and present their version of tricks and routines guaranteed to treat all the little tricksters in the audience. If you find the macabre is not to your style then present any effect that you use during this festive season. All are welcome.

*continued on next page*

## Notes on Entertainment

It's October, so you know what that means. That's right -- it's just six months until tax day. And more importantly, it's time to start counting the days on your bloody, severed fingers until the spooky magic theme at our Monday, October 14th meeting. If you've been waiting to use that orange and black box of pumpkin hat tears you were convinced you wasted your money on, not to worry – drag it out and amaze your fellow Ring 76ers with your Halloween magic. All things ghostly, gruesome, startling, or just plain creepy are fair game. Please RSVP at least one day before the meeting by emailing Greg Wauson at

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**Next meeting (October)** bring your phones or old fashion video recorder. **Mike Stillwell** promises to provide more teaching on the one handed shuffle.

## Ring 76 2019-20 Calendar

Oct 14	<b>Halloween Magic*</b>
Nov 11	<b>Swap Meet</b>
Dec 9	<b>Banquet and Fool-Us Contest*</b>
Jan 13	<b>Food Magic*</b>
Feb 10	<b>Close-up Contest*</b>
Mar 9	<b>Panel Discussion</b>
Apr 13	<b>Teach-a-Trick</b>
May 11	TBA
Jun 8	<b>Election, Dues, and Money Magic*</b>
Jul 12	<b>Installation Banquet</b>
Aug 10	<b>Kid's magic / TBA*</b>

\*Opportunity for Members to Perform

Direct any questions concerning the calendar to **V.P. of Entertainment Greg Wauson**, ru9@ring76.com

Our regular monthly meetings are at 7:00 pm on the second Monday of the month.

**Senior Center in Clairemont**  
4425 Bannock Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92117



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In November the Ring will be hosting the annual Swap Meet when you get a chance to sell your treasures and anyone can find fantastic magic and breathtaking prices. Tables will be going for \$10 and \$20 for non-members who wish to sell. We encourage you to invite friends to the event as the more people who come then the more chances you have to make a sale.

Finally, as the coldness of winter descends upon us we will have one of the highlights of the Ring 76 year, the Holiday Potluck. This year along with a host of great food and family, we will be having our Fool Us contest as entertainment. This was a rousing success last year and we hope for as much fun this time around.

So there you have it. Pleasures and excitement to cut the frost of the Autumn air. Mark your calendar for the second Monday of every month this season and I will see you at the next meeting.

**Richard Ustick**

President

**IBM Ring 76**

*Notes on Entertainment continued from prior page*

gw83@ring76.com and include an estimate of how much time you'll need. Those who RSVP will be on the schedule; others will be allowed to perform if time permits. The performer with the most votes from our members will earn the title of the October entertainer of the month and those votes will count towards the coveted entertainer of the year award.

Thanks to Tom Owen-Towle and Nick Benevento, who emailed me the idea to set up some tables and chairs where we could swap magic effect ideas and demonstrations, before the formal meeting

starts at 7:00 p.m. I think this fits well with our goal to further the art of magic and give us opportunities to learn and improve our performances. We'll do this before the November meeting; it's not as practical for our October swap-meet meeting.

**Greg Wauson**

First V.P. (entertainment)

**IBM Ring 76**

Kudos to **Matthew King**, our September Entertainer of the Month!



Member **Malcolm Campbell** enjoys opening older dial-lock safes and padlocks and would give one you might have a try. He would not drill or mutilate it in any way. It would be strictly a manipulation attempt (unless you say otherwise) There would be no charge and he would come to where the safe is if it can't easily be moved. He also helped develop opening techniques for locks with tubular keys. Malcolm is a former President of the California Locksmith Association.



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## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Monday September 9, 2019  
North Clairemont Recreation Center

President, **Richard Ustick** called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Members showed up starting at 6:30, and there was an incredible collection of bargains for sale from the Ring library (duplicates), with the proceeds benefitting the library. There was a lot of pre-meeting excitement and chatting, with an excellent turnout. Richard had the guests introduce themselves. One guest was **Elisa Melor** (a guest of **Craig Blackwood**); Elisa is herself a magician, attended MagicLive, and was at our last meeting, and the ring gave an encouraging round of applause when she mentioned that she is considering joining. Another guest was **Eli Sanchez**, who is a visiting member of the Twin-Cities IBM Ring, and who performed at last month's meeting.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Richard outlined the meetings for the next couple of months. October will be Halloween themed, broadly interpreted (including mysterious and not necessarily scary). November was originally going to be "food magic," but based on member input the board decided to defer that theme to January and instead have a swap meet in November. Please see the newsletter for details and updates. Speaking of the newsletter, Richard congratulated Membership V.P. **James Thayer** for producing another excellent (and long) newsletter, and thanked our incoming newsletter editor, **Winton Gibbons**. Thank you, Winton! Also, Richard stressed that members should always feel free to present ideas or make suggestions to Board members.

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## MINUTES OF RING 76 BOARD MEETING

September 23, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Richard Ustick at 6:56 pm. The board members present were: First V.P. (entertainment) Greg Wauson, Second V.P. (membership) James Thayer, Treasurer Joe "Mystic" McGrievy, Secretary Ken Intriligator, Member-at-Large Rich Robertson, Librarian and Member-at-Large Gary Salisbury, and Member-at-Large and past president Robert Vinson. Sargent-of-arms David Chiu was absent. Also present were North County and Military Liaison Josh Sherwin, IBM Territorial Vice President Jeff Marcus, Host Bob Meigs, and guest Mark Booth.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the August board meeting were approved.

## REPORTS

*September meeting report:* First VP of Entertainment Greg Wauson gave a recap of the September meeting, which was successful. There were fewer performers than the previous month. This allowed for time for a special chat with Mike Stillwell, and story about a tuxedo, which was especially appreciated.

*Membership and Newsletter:* James Thayer's update: there are 48 paid members and 10 life members (down 1 member from last year). James has handed over the Newsletter responsibility to Winton Gibbons. There was a discussion of software and templates.

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*General Membership Meeting Minutes continued from prior page*

Also, Richard noted that members are welcome to attend Board meetings (4th Monday of the month, at **Bob Meigs'** house), but that visitors are expected to RSVP by the Friday before so that Bob and Mary can have a headcount for dinner. VP for Entertainment **Greg Wauson** told the ring about his recent trip to the Magic Castle, where he saw the amazing Armando Lucero, and he especially enjoyed the performance of Danny Ray.

Our new treasurer, **Joe "Mystic" McGrievy** sold tickets for a 50-50 raffle and explained that the 50% winnings will be divided between two winners, with the first drawn ticket getting 2/3 (congratulations, Robert Vinson) and the second getting 1/3 (congratulations, Charlie Gott).

### PERFORMANCES

Entertainment VP Greg Wauson did a great job as the MC, including sharing a little bit about each performer (how they got their start in magic, and some of their favorite magicians and influences).

The first performance was the audition of **Miguel Garcia**. Greg relayed that Miguel was from Texas and was inspired by the magic of Oscar Munoz. Another influence is Bill Malone. Miguel has been a magic hobbyist for nineteen years, since the time he was seven. Miguel's performance was fantastic, with so many effects (indeed, I might have missed some of the fast-paced effects, as I was multitasking with taking notes and enjoying the performance). It started with four aces, that were counted and shown to be face-up, and one-by-one

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*Minutes of Ring 76 Board meeting continued from prior page*

*Treasurer's report:* Joe went over the month's check register and other charges.

*Sergeant of Arms:* David Chiu emailed the attendance count from September's Ring meeting. There was a good turnout: 27 members and 2 guests.

*Library report and discussion:* Gary Salisbury presented his report. There were several donations, including from Mike Stillwell, Richard Ustick, David Chiu, David Lane, Gary Salisbury, Phil the magnificent (RIP), and substantial donations from anonymous "Dr. X". Library extra sales generated funds for library supplies. The Board agreed to keep the library funds separate from the general treasury funds.

### NEW BUSINESS

*Library hardware needs:* The immediate use for the library funds will be to buy a hard drive. Robert Vinson generously offered to pay for the difference, so the drive can be purchased now.

*Non-profit status:* James filed form 990 e-postcard with the IRS and form 199n with the CA state FTB. There was a discussion of the benefits of the non-profit status.

*Ring 76 Facebook Group:* Mark Booth offered to set up a private, members-only Facebook group, in addition to the public group. The board voted to approve. James will be co-moderator.

*Ring 76 Donations:* The Ring is getting many donations, and inquiries about donations, recently. There was discussion about what to do with the donations. Gary suggested that donations could go to the

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*General Membership Meeting Minutes continued from prior page*

magically turned face down upon re-counting. Next, the four aces became four indifferent cards. Then the four aces were individually and impressively produced from the deck: one as a color change, one flying out of the deck and being caught, then one of the indifferent cards on the table was magically split into the remaining two aces. Wow! The ring (obviously) voted Miguel in. Welcome to Ring 76, Miguel!

Next came the member's performances (and competition) with the theme "New to me magic". Greg passed out ballots for members to vote for their favorite performer, and announced that the votes will be tallied, and the winner will be announced each month.

The first performer was **Winton Gibbons**. Winton's performance was inspired by UK Magician Anthony. With assistants **Tom Owen-Towle** and **Ken Intriligator** an envelope was shown and verified by Tom to contain two cards, each with large holes in their center. Ken was given a deck of cards, and asked to pick one (KH). The envelope was opened and now the KH was seen (through the view holes) to have appeared between the two cards. Then the KH vanished. Ken was asked to look through the cards that he was holding and the KH was found to have returned to the deck, reversed!

The next performer was **Ian Gibbons**, who had a card version of the fortune-telling magic 8 ball. Assistant **Sherry Luft** was asked to choose a card. Sherry was asked to put her hand on the card and say "magic 8-ball, what is my card?". Then the card

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*Minutes of Ring 76 Board meeting continued from prior page*

library and be sold at Ring meetings. Those which do not sell at the Ring meeting could be sold in other venues. Robert Vinson offered to help value the material. Jeff Marcus has received donations of some books, props, some huge speakers, and amps which could be sold at the swap meet.

*October meeting:* Greg has a speaker lined up, and Robert offered to bring his backdrop for the performances. Jeff will bring a card for us to sign, to thank Ken Dear for his donations. Greg will encourage new people to perform.

*November meeting:* The swap meet will be advertised on Facebook, and in other venues. Tables will be \$10 for members and \$20 for non-members.

*December meeting:* Potluck and Fool-us competition. Gary agreed to make the awards again.

"A Philanthropic Hook Up?:" Bob Meigs presented the question of if Ring 76 should seek to affiliate with a child-oriented charity, such as the Boys or Girls Club. There was discussion about finding organizations that would not otherwise pay for magicians. The Board agreed to support Bob's proposal. Jeff suggested looking into insurance requirements at different venues. Josh suggested also looking into doing such performances on military bases.

*Missing funds from the dues and banquet:* Bob went over the estimates and it seems that payment for 14 people is unaccounted for. The board agreed to close the issue and, since it is in the board meeting

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*General Membership Meeting Minutes continued from prior page*

was revealed. Sherry peeled two cards and, inside was indeed Sherry's choice, the 8H!

The next performer was **Magic Mike Stillwell** also known as the busiest magician in San Diego. Mike did a fun, interactive demonstration: everyone in the room was asked to stand arm's distance to a wall, so that their fingertips would just graze the wall when their arm is fully extended. Then everyone was asked to raise their right hand, like they are being sworn in, put the left hand on the right elbow and rub while saying "shrink, shrink, shrink." Then everyone was asked to extend the arm toward the wall and, sure enough, the fingers were now a few inches from the wall, as if the arm had shrunk by a few inches. Next, everyone was told to let the arm hand down and say "grow, grow, grow" and now, when the arm was measured up against the wall again, the fingers now brushed up against the wall, as if the arm had grown by a few inches!

Next up was **Jeff Marcus**, who first showed a postcard from the Kimberly Crest House in Redlands CA, which is the house that the Lane Mansion — now the Magic Castle — was modeled after. Jeff asked Tom Owen-Towle to help, verifying that a deck of cards is in no particular order, and then shuffling. Tom was asked to touch a card from the spread, and Jeff immediately called that it was the 17th card, and then counted to verify that. Tom shuffled again and Jeff put on a blindfold. First he correctly called the color, red or black, of a few face-down cards, then he correctly called the suit of a few, then he correctly

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*Minutes of Ring 76 Board meeting continued from prior page*

minutes, there is no need to discuss it at the general membership meeting. There was discussion about how to better control payment at future banquets.

### NEWSLETTER

Richard will send his President's report. Greg will write about the October meeting, and try to get new faces up there performing. Richard will write about the swap meet, and trying to bring in buyers. Greg will write about the December potluck and Fool-Us contest. Gary will write about funny things that happened at MagicLive. The contributions should be ready by October 4, and sent to editor@ring76.com.

The board meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

### Ken Intriligator

Secretary

The editors extend a special thanks to **Gary Salisbury** who provided half the content for this newsletter.

We challenge other members to also provide articles, reviews, stories, photos, or magic related comics.



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*General Membership Meeting Minutes continued from  
prior page*

called the card and suit of a few. Wow! Jeff shared that is a Henry Evans effect.

Next performer was **Matt King** who again called on Tom Owen-Towle to assist. Tom shuffled a deck of cards and picked 5 more helpers (Elisa, Robert, Ian, Gary, and Ken). Everyone was asked to walk past a spread of face-up cards and just remember a card that they see. Matt named off a few cards, and had everyone who's card was named sit down in their chair — and all were correct. Next he explained that he had earlier had Sherry to choose a word on a newspaper and write it down and put it in an envelope. Then he ripped the newspaper repeatedly in half, each time asking the audience which have to keep vs eliminate. Finally there was one small piece of paper and Ian was asked to hold his finger up and let it land on the small piece, to determine one word ("reinforce"). This was indeed the word that Sherry had chosen! This was the winning performance — congratulations and great job, Matt!

The final performer was **Ken Intriligator** (me), who demonstrated an effect ("The Devil Makes Three") that Mike Pisciotta performers in the Hat and Hare Pub at the Magic Castle. Two old silver dollars were shown and inspected. They did a coins across, first with the hands closed, and then visibly. Then a third coin appeared. The three coins became two, then one, and then none, and then back to one, then two, and finally three.

## SPECIAL CHAT

Magic Mike Stillwell talked about practice vs rehearsing. To illustrate, he discussed his practice exercises with cards: opening the pack (the challenge, and some humorous stories), breaking the pack in, and then some shuffling and coin drills. Mike then taught his one-handed shuffle.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm, and many of us then went to Dennys for dinner, dessert, and camaraderie.





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## September Performances







# MAGICCURRENTS

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## This month's Performers



## Who did it Best?





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## Ex Libris

By Gary D. Salisbury



**Welcome to Ex Libris, a monthly newsletter article about the IBM Ring 76 Library in San Diego, CA.**

### OBJECTIVES OF THE LIBRARY

The library's primary objective is to support the Art of Magic by providing the best reference library in the entire IBM organization for members to learn from.

We will make it the best by:

- Increasing quantity and quality of materials available to members.
- Implementing easier methods to check materials out.
- Improving communications to members about library issues.
- Implementing record-keeping and other methods to minimize loss
- Developing a standardized set of policies & procedures on how the library will operate.

### SEPTEMBER Donations

Thanks to the generosity of a few, we have a few more items that we can all share. Thanks again for your generosity and setting an example for others to (hopefully) follow. **Thank you, Gracias, Grazie, Merci, Danke, Arigato, 谢谢, 감사합니다, спасибо!**

- **Dr. X (anonymous donor)**  
**300 magic videos (retail price of \$11,537)**
- Gary Salisbury:
  - Audio Book—Carter Beats the Devil
  - Audio Book—The Magician's Assistant
  - Several Books for the Book Sale
  - Computer Server for PLEX project
- Mike Stilwell:
  - DVDS
- Richard Ustick:
  - Empty DVD Cases
- Davis Chiu:
  - Blank DVDs
- Jack White:
  - Magazines
- David Lane
  - Two books from Magic Live!
- Robert Vinson:
  - \$56.00 toward the purchase of a back-up disk drive for the new PLEX server

### Donations WANTED

- Tarbell #2 Hardback Book. Donation or purchase?
- We need more books and videos to build the library. Those have to come from donations because there are no funds earmarked for library acquisitions this year.
- We are still looking for a VHS/DVD recorder to replace the club's broken unit.



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- And of course, we would welcome any financial donations ear-marked for the Ring 76 Library so we can purchase much needed supplies. It is hard to run this like a business without a budget.



### AUDIO BOOK REVIEWS

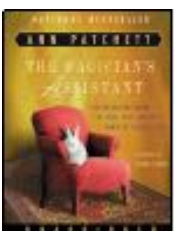
#### Carter Beats the Devil by Glen David Gold (Novel)



Charles Carter (a.k.a. Carter the Great) is a young master performer whose skill as an illusionist exceeds even that of the great Houdini. But nothing in his career has prepared Carter for the greatest stunt of all, which stars none other than President Warren G. Harding and which could end up costing Carter the reputation he has worked so hard to create. Filled with historical references that evoke the excesses and exuberance of Roaring Twenties, pre-Depression America, *Carter Beats the Devil* is a complex and illuminating story of one man's journey through a magical—and sometimes dangerous—world, where illusion is everything.

If you like magic oriented novels, you will certainly enjoy listening to these one. It is available on audio CD or USB thumb drive (MP3 format) from your library.

#### The Magician's Assistant by Ann Patchett (Novel)



A secretive magician's death becomes the catalyst for his partner's journey of self-discovery in this "enchancing" book (San Francisco Chronicle) "that is something of a magic trick in itself—a 1990s love story

with the grace and charm of a nineteenth-century novel" (Newsweek).

This excellent book is available on audio CD or USB thumb drive (MP3 format) from your library.

### BOOK REVIEWS

#### Best of Friends by Harry Lorayne



These 560 pages are crammed full of good to great to terrific magic by great people. Over 120 card effects, routines, ideas—including Ace Sandwich, Future Change, Fast Stack, Sum Hummer, Fascinating Pair, Sweet Four-Card Change, Vanishing Aces, Strategy,

Unshuffled, Reversatility, That`s Incredible, Miracle Time, Force Feed...from people like Tom Mullica, Martin Nash, Larry Jennings, Charles Hudson, Terry Lagerould, Tom Craven, Ed Marlo, Allan Ackerman, Ken Krenzel, Phil Goldstein, Herb Zarrow, J.K. Hartman, Jim Swain, Paul Gertner, Jon Racherbaumer, Bob Farmer, Bernard Bilis, and many more. You`ll even find some effects and routines of my own. And you`ll enjoy the short biographies of some of your favorite people. - Harry Lorayne

"Quite frankly, I believe that if you can do a good card control, one good palm, and one good double lift, you can do miracles for laymen" - Harry Lorayne

*-Available from your library-*

#### Mark Wilson's Course in Magic by Mark Wilson



Master illusionist Mark Wilson has compiled the most comprehensive magic "teach-in" ever assembled. The secrets to more than 300 classic tricks—from sleight of hand to



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levitation-are carefully explained in this 503-page volume. It's all here: Card Magic, Coin Magic, Rope Magic, Mental Magic, Make-at-Home Magic, Sponge Ball Magic, Billiard Ball Magic, Cups and Balls Magic, and Magical Illusions. Mark Wilson devoted more than two years of research, writing, and technical preparation to this book. More than 50,000 still photographs were taken of the detailed execution of the tricks considered worthy to include in this course, and these photographs were edited and converted into hundreds of simplified line drawings. The straightforward text follows Mark Wilson's "step method" of magic instruction, the same method he has used to teach magic to Tony Curtis, Telly Savalas, Bill Bixby, Dick Van Dyke, Peter Faulk, Bernadette Peters, John Denver, and other professional entertainers. It's thoroughness makes *Mark Wilson's Course In Magic* especially recommended for the beginner with absolutely no experience in magic. At the same time, its scope and depth has earned this book a place in the libraries of many of today's most accomplished magicians, professional and amateur alike!

*-Available from your library-*

## REVIEWS REVIEWS

### **Royal Road to Card Magic with Rudy Hunter**



This DVD series is based upon the classic course in card magic, The Royal Road To Card Magic, and comes to you in a 4 DVD Set! You will learn the basics and then get into the advanced moves and tricks making you a Royal Card Performer!

Over 100 Card Tricks From Beginner to Expert

It is the Classic Course In Card Magic

Have Total Control Of A Deck Of Cards

Learn False Shuffles

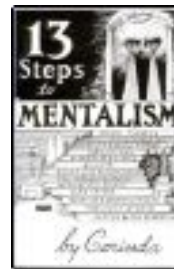
Learn The Glide Card Move

Learn Top Changes

Everything Is Explained In Step By Step Detail By The Master Rudy Hunter.

*-Available from your library-*

### **13 Steps to Mentalism by Richard Osterlind**



Tony Corinda's landmark work, *13 Steps To Mentalism*, is widely considered to be the mentalist's bible. In this comprehensive DVD series, modern-day master Richard Osterlind performs dynamic effects from each step of Corinda's seminal work in front of a live audience. Then, along with co-host Jim Sisti, digs deep into the principles and concepts that make this material so strong and timeless. This six DVD set ably demonstrates why Corinda's *13 Steps To Mentalism* will always be a fundamental and substantial part of any mentalist's education.

*-Available from your library-*

## Reviews Wanted

If you have watched a magic video or read a magic book (good or bad), please drop me an email telling me what you thought of it so I can include your comments in the next issue of Ex Libris.





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## WHAT'S NEW

### **Tarbell Video Course in Magic (all 103 Lessons)**



Ask ANY group of professional magicians how they got started in magic, the most common answer you'll get is one word: **TARBELL**.

So for the last few years we've been busy filming the most ambitious, largest, longest and most comprehensive video magic course in history. With master magician Dan Harlan we embarked on a monumental project: Teaching "every trick in the book" through live performances and in-depth video tutorials with modernized props, updated handlings, presentations and **TONS OF BONUS MATERIAL**.

*"Together, you and I are about to embark upon a monumental journey. It's actually a continuation of a remarkable project started in 1926 by Dr. Harlan Tarbell. What began as a mail-order course for magicians has since been expanded and republished in 8 volumes that cover all aspects of our fascinating art. "The Tarbell Course in Magic." These books form the foundation of any well-rounded magic library and are often the reference of choice for the serious magic student. Now, I'm taking the next exciting step... bringing every trick in the book to life through video instruction. That's right, I'm going to teach you every trick in every lesson so you can see exactly how they're supposed to look. I'll dissect every trick and tell you what's good, what's bad, what works and what doesn't. I'll revise, update and modernize all of the routines. I'll give you my ideas and help you to develop your own. Harlan Tarbell stated his goal was simply "making magicians." By the time we're done, you will not only be a much better magician,*

*you'll also have a lot of fun on the journey. So please join me as I teach you Every Trick in the Book." -Dan Harlan*

This collection of 103 video lessons is currently available for checkout on a USB disk drive and can be reserved at [librarian@ring76.com](mailto:librarian@ring76.com). It will also be available on our new streaming PLEX server when that is up and running.

### **Ring 76 Video Streaming Server**

We are currently working on the new Ring 76 Streaming Server for our video library. This will enable you to "view" a magic video, that we currently have in the library, from any location on a number of different devices (TVs, computers, phones, etc.). It will operate much like our own "private" Netflix server. You won't be able to copy the video, only view it just like Netflix.

I have donated a computer system that we will use for this project and we are in process of re-building it to meet our needs, licensing the proper software, and developing a process for this project.



If you have a 4TB or larger SATA disk drive you could donate, it would

Have magic to sell, stage equipment to rent? Looking for something to buy or rent? MagiCurrents offers paid advertising for magic-related items from non-members. The rate is \$60.00 per page per issue. Advertise it at no cost to Ring 76 members in MagiCurrents.



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### LIBRARY BOOK SALE



Our last library sale on 9/09/19 generated over **\$120** in much needed revenue for the library. We had four tables of books, pamphlets, and lecture notes for great deals! Thanks to all who bought.

be appreciated. If we have to purchase one, it will cost from \$150-\$250. Also, we will be running PLEX streaming software so if you have any experience with PLEX and would like to help out, just contact me.

### Ring 76 Library, Command Center



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



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We will hold another sale at the next meeting on 10/14/19. The books will only be available for sale from 6:00PM to 9:00PM. We can not hold items for you so first come, first served. Cash only, please. We will be offering rock bottom prices so no negotiating. Be sure to get there early because the best deals quickly vanish—almost as if by magic.

## Library Check Out Procedure

Members may contact me 7x24 either by e-mail at

[librarian@ring76.com](mailto:librarian@ring76.com) or by cell phone (voice or text) at 619-569-6035 to let me know what you would like to check out. (If you do not hear back from me within 24 hours, there may have been a technical problem so call me.) I will make sure the item(s) get to the next monthly meeting or you can pick it up at my home in Blossom Valley.

There is a limit of 4 items per month. You will need to sign the library card attached to the item along with your phone number. We ask that you return the items to the library on or before the monthly meeting for the following month (for example: If you check out a book at the July meeting, it should be returned on or before the August meeting). If need be, you can keep the book or video again if nobody else has requested it but you must sign for it again.

Remember, our objective is to build the best magic reference library in the entire IBM organization world-wide but we need your help to do that. Please return overdue books & videos and donate regularly to your library.

Non-urgent communications will always be done via the Ex Libris newsletter article while more urgent communications will be

done by an IBM Ring 76 LibraryGram emailed to [ring76members@googlegroups.com](mailto:ring76members@googlegroups.com).

Have a magical month my friends and we will see you again next month. In the meantime, email me with your thoughts about the library. I would love to hear them.



**Gary Salisbury**  
Librarian  
**IBM Ring 76**

Email: [librarian@ring76.com](mailto:librarian@ring76.com)

Cell: 619-569-6035

*Objective: To build the best magic reference library in the IBM organization world-wide.*

*(Disclaimer: Much of this material is my own but I have copied some from other sources, with and without credit, then merged with my own commentary to give you a better, more timely source of information. Thanks to all who have knowingly and unknowingly contributed.)*

## Successful Tryout







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## Humorous Stories From Magic Live!

By **Gary Salisbury**

You get to meet the most interesting people at Magic Live! And this year was no exception,

### Story #1:

It started in Scottsdale at this year's IBM convention where Jeff Marcus and Robert Vinson befriended a young Las Vegas magician named Josh and his magic mom, Wendy. Jeff and Robert offered to mentor Josh for an upcoming teen magic contest.

Fast forward several months to Magic Live! In Las Vegas. Josh and Wendy showed up and joined our group on Sunday where she was telling us that Josh wanted to attend the convention but was broken hearted that couldn't get a ticket.

I went into action remembering that I knew a guy who was having a health issue and would not be able to attend. I put Wendy in contact with him and she bought his ticket.



I have never seen a happier teenager than when we told Josh we had a ticket for him. I then walked them through the registration process.

We told Wendy that we would look out for her son since she wouldn't be able to attend any of the functions without a ticket of her own and since Josh and I had the same schedule, I told him I would always save him a place in line for the shows & lectures.

The next day I saved Josh a spot in line, as promised, for a mentalist's lecture so we got front row seats. Then, in walked this cute little girl, who appeared to be about Josh's age, and sat down beside us. We introduced ourselves and she said her name was Tate and was also from Las Vegas. Hey, I'm thinking. This could be a budding friendship here. Boy plus girl, both interested in magic??? Who knows where this could go?

I started texting Wendy that Josh met a cute girl who was also interested in magic and took their picture together.

She replied back, "How cute they are together."

I told Josh I sent their picture to his mom and Tate asked to see it too. As she was reading the text messages, I could see a scowl come over her face. I said, "What's wrong?"

She replied, "Dude, I'm NOT a girl! I'm a dude just like you with long hair!"

I have to confess that I felt about 2 inches tall and apologized to Tate. He replied, "No problem. It happens all the time." We all had a good laugh at that one.





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Josh and Tate formed a friendship and were often seen together during the convention. Who knows if this could be one of those life-long friendships you form early in life?



## Story #2:

I was standing in line waiting for the evening show when I started a conversation with four gentlemen that clearly weren't the usual magician types. They were quite well dressed with their expensive jewelry and Gucci loafers, had an air of sophistication about them, and spoke quite eloquently. Truth be told, I felt a little out of place standing next to them.

Not to be deterred, I started the conversation by asking them how they were enjoying the convention and they all agreed it was "quite lovely." I then asked where they were from and they told me San Fran-Cisco (with an emphasis on Cisco). They politely they asked me in return and when I told them San Diego they reeled back a bit and said, "Oh, you're from the south, down by Mexico" and smiled smugly. At this point I could sense the air of superiority but chose to just ignore it.

I asked how things were in San Francisco and got the following reply. "In San Fran-Cisco (with an emphasis on Cisco), we have the best theater, the best opera, and

the best off-Broadway musicals on the west coast. You don't have that down south, do you?

I replied that although we do have some of those things, they probably weren't as good as what you have in San Fran-Cisco (with an emphasis on Cisco).

*I confess that at this point I was getting a little irritated at the superior attitude they had so I plotted a little retaliatory strike back in my mind.*

So I went on to ask, "How is the homeless situation going on in San Fran-Cisco (with an emphasis on Cisco)? I hear it is getting pretty bad."

The spokesman, with whom I had been having the majority of conversation with, looked around from side to side to see who was listening, put his hand on his chest and replied almost in a whisper, "Oh dear, it is quite terrible. They are everywhere and we don't know what to do about them. He then said, "It must be worse down south where you are from, next to Mexico"

*So the bait was now cast, I had a nibble but I needed to juggle it a bit waiting for a bite so I could set the hook.*

I replied in equal horror, "Oh, it used to be equally terrible until we found a solution and now the problem is almost gone!"

He reeled back in astonishment, quickly summoned his three friends, and brought them into a huddle around me. He said, "My partner, Robert, is on the San Fran-Cisco (with an emphasis on Cisco) City Council and this information you possess could be of benefit to us solving our homeless problem. Pray tell us what it is."



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"Well, it is a bit of a secret in the south where I am from but I'll be glad to share it if you want." I replied.

"Oh, yes, yes. Please do!" they replied as they gathered closer.

I started speaking in hushed tones bringing them in even closer. "Well, you see, we simply buy them a bus ticket to San Fran-Cisco (with an emphasis on Cisco)."

If the door had not then open up to admit us into the theater, I am sure that the next Civil War would have broken out between the south (where I was from) and San Fran-Cisco (with an emphasis on Cisco)."

I am looking forward to more human interaction at Magic Live! 2020. How about you? Do you have any stories to share?

