



# MAGICURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76

AUGUST 2021

VOL. XXXVI # 8

## *President's Message*

Dear Fellow Members of Ring 76! I'm honored and excited about being your new President.

Thank you Richard for all your hard work and dedication to The Ring, As They say in the Navy "WELL DONE".

Thank you to your Board, and Bob & Mary Meigs for all their hard work and donations for what will probably go down in history as being the best Installation Banquet ever! I can't wait to see what I pull out of my hat for next year!

My goals are to have fun learning and sharing meetings. Also I will try to bring back members that have stopped coming to meetings as well as bring in 10-15% new members.

And.. If you have a problem getting to the meetings or paying your dues, please call or text me @ 619-251-2766. We will work something out!

See you soon at our new meeting location! Thanks to member Richard Wira!

Mike Stilwell

## *New Meeting Place Found!*

After months of planning the Board of Directors has found a new location for our live meetings. Starting this month we will be meeting at the Immaculate Conception Church in Old Town. 2540 San Diego Ave, San Diego,

## *Ring 76 2021 Calendar*

**August 9th** - Mentalism Magic at our NEW LOCATION! (see inside for details)

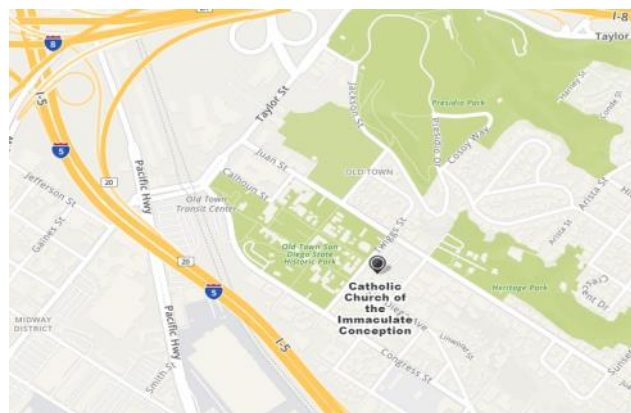
**September 13th** - Math Magic, so make it count!

\*Opportunity for Members to Perform

***Dear Ring, we WILL be having a live meeting this month at our NEW location.***

Direct any questions concerning the calendar to V.P. of Entertainment Greg Wauson,

CA 92110. We will be meeting in the Reception Hall to the far right of the actual church (see maps and photos on page 2). Parking will be in any of the Old Town lots either behind the church or across the street. It will be a challenge this month due to tourists but will improve as the winter months come upon us.



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HONEST SID GERHART RING 76  
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER - RICHARD USTICK, EDITOR@RING76.COM**



## *Don't Call Me Chief !*

### *From the editor;*

Hello, I Must Be Going. Again.

Twice, I have written the following words: "This will be the last edition of MagiCurrents for me as editor." Twice, those words were untrue. So this time, I will not say it. I will instead welcome Richard Ustick as the new Editor of MagiCurrents. I am eager to see where he takes this newsletter and he has my full support in doing so. I have enjoyed being Editor of MagiCurrents but after seven years as Editor (4 1/2 years + 1/2 year + 2 years) it is time for both it and I to move on forward separately. Please join me in wishing Richard success with his new role and please give him all the wonderful support that you all have given me. With luck, perhaps, this will be the last farewell that I will write as Editor of MagiCurrents.

-- James Thayer

## *Coming Up!*

**August:** It will be so good to meet in person – and at our new venue in Old Town! The theme of our August meeting will be mentalism. Wikipedia tells us: "Mentalism is a performing art in which its practitioners, known as mentalists, appear to demonstrate highly developed mental or intuitive abilities." So dust off your whiteboards, blindfolds and Mental Epics and get ready to astonish your fellow Ring 76ers. And if you don't know what a Mental Epic is, come and ask one of your fellow members; we're happy to help you.

We have several performers already lined up to dazzle us at our August 9<sup>th</sup> meeting with their

mental powers, including our prez, Magic Mike Stilwell, who will wow us with a domino effect and then teach us how to do it. It's not too late for you to join the list of presenters. If you would like to perform a mentalism effect, or maybe a trick you've been wanting to do in front of an audience but it's something other than mentalism, that's ok too. This is your club and we're here for each other; the important thing is that you'll get some stage time in front of a live audience and we'll get to know you a little better. In either case, send Greg an email at [gw83@ring76.com](mailto:gw83@ring76.com), saying you want to perform. He'll confirm with you that you've been added to the list.

This will be a performance night, so members will vote for their favorites and those votes will count toward the performer of the month as well as the performer of the year.

**September:** We'll be all about magic with mathematics at our meeting on September 13. There are many books about this subject, from a wide variety of authors. Effects based on math range from card tricks to prediction mysteries to magic squares and to three-dimensional oddities with paper and other objects. As you can see, this is a very open topic. Many creators of math-based magic try hard to hide the mathematical underpinnings of their secrets, realizing most people enjoy being fooled but not everyone loves numbers. Whether you want to amaze us with a number mystery or with an effect based on numbers that are under the covers, find a trick you would like to present, let Greg know and you'll be on the roster. This will also be a performance night, with votes counting toward the performer of the month and year award.

Our September 13<sup>th</sup> meeting will also feature a talk by our own Gary Dismukes about the Hooker Card Rise. This is a very old and very elaborate effect which has been rarely performed. Gary is the right individual to talk with us about it, since he was one of the fortunate few to witness a presentation of it several years ago. Come and learn about this fascinating story.

— Greg Wauson



## *July Meeting*

Sunday July 11, 2021

This was our yearly Installation Banquet, and it began at 2:00 p.m. We had 65 members and guests in attendance. The banquet was held at the residence of members **Bob** and **Mary Meigs**, who graciously opened their home, including their swimming pool. The food included a catered taco cart and paella, as well as shave ice and other snacks.

Member **Matthew King** organized and managed a silent auction with 15 items, including an animatronic monkey bust, a large production cabinet, and many other unique magic items and collectibles which were generously donated to the club.

New board members are typically sworn in by the Territorial Vice President (“TVP”), but unfortunately our TVP, **Jeff Marcus**, passed away in January. The installation of our new board members was conducted by our outgoing President, **Richard Ustick**. The club welcomed our incoming President, **Mike Stilwell**, who gave a nice speech to members and guests about his goals for the year.

Our award ceremony was conducted by our VP of Entertainment, **Greg Wauson**. Member **Joe “Mystic” McGrievy** won 1st place in our Close-up Competition, 2nd place went to **Matthew King**, and 3rd place went to **Nick Benevento**. Our Performer of the Year award went to **Matthew King**, and our Ring 76 Member of the Year award went to **Gary Salisbury**. Congratulations to our winners!

We ended our fun-filled day with a magic show provided by champion magician **John George**, who gave an exciting and hilarious performance for our members.

## *Shavings From the Board*



The July board meeting was held via Zoom and was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by incoming President Mike Stilwell. The Board meets every fourth Monday via Zoom at 7pm and all members are welcome to come and observe. If you are interested then contact Richard Ustick at [Ring76ibm@yahoo.com](mailto:Ring76ibm@yahoo.com).

The meeting opened with reports from the officers.

Treasurer Joe “Mystic” McGrievy reported that the treasury was doing well and that payments for dues as well as auction sales have been coming in steadily. David Chiu, Sergeant-at-Arms, will be putting together a spreadsheet to show the number of members we have each month at the meetings as well as guests. Guests can attend up to three meetings before they are required to join the Ring. Librarian Gary Salisbury continues to inventory the vast Ring library as well as organize it for member's use.





The Board was excited to confirm that the Ring will have a new meeting place for the foreseeable future thanks to Richard Wira. Parking at the Immaculate Conception Church in Old Town, 2540 San Diego Ave, San Diego will be challenging, but the Board will help direct members particularly the first meeting in August.

Again, meetings of the Board of Directors are held on ZOOM and any member is welcome to sit in and contribute. See you next month.

President Mike Stilwell adjourned the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

— *Matthew King*



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## *Dues are still Due*

They were due as of June 30th and we hope as many members as possible have paid by that date. The amount is \$30. We have two ways to pay.

You can pay by mail: make a check out to “IBM Ring 76” and send it to: Ring 76; c/o James Thayer; 9556 Babauta Road; San Diego, CA 92129.

You can also send your dues via PayPal by sending payment to <payments@ring76.com>.

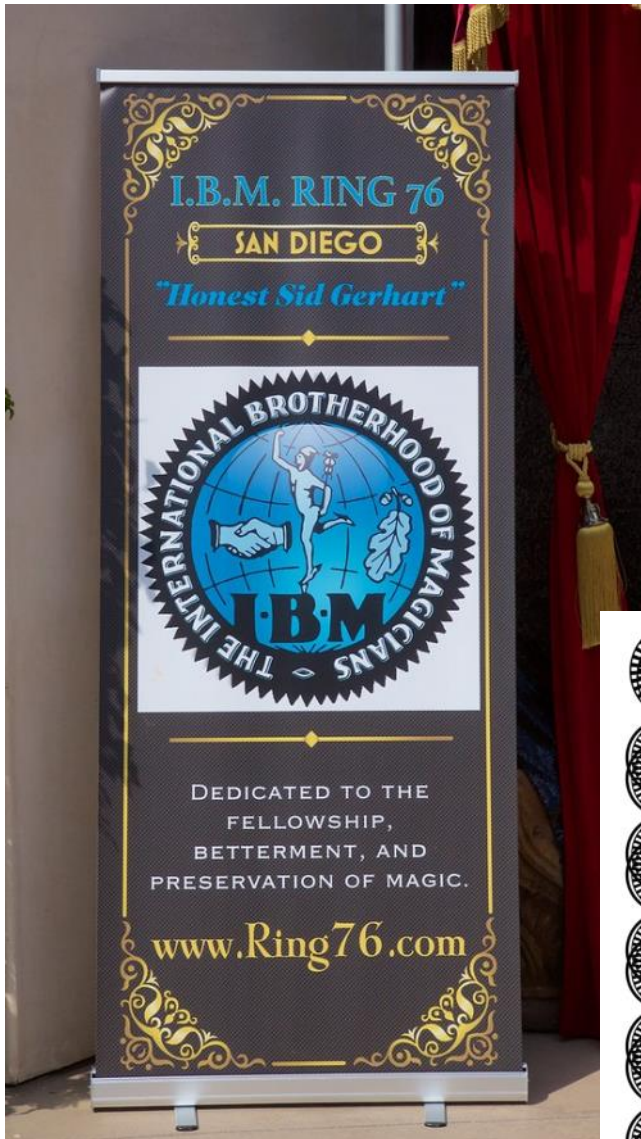
And, as long as you are paying dues and you have not already done so, please let me know if we can include your phone number and/or e-mail address in the Ring 76 Contact List on Arcanum.

If for any reason, you are not intending to renew your membership this year, we will appreciate knowing this (and in return, we will stop bugging you for dues.)

— James Thayer







going public. Please help support the club while also getting some fun new magic effects to play with!

— Matthew King

## Ring76 Magic Shop Is Live!

Check out our new Ring76 Members Only Magic Shop at: <https://magicshop.ring76.com>

NOW IS THE TIME to score on some AMAZING deals on magic items, new and old! All proceeds are going to Ring 76, and items are being offered at a DEEPER DISCOUNT to members only before

**MAGIC RAFFLE & SALE**

Hello Ring 76! We will be raffling a small DOOR PRIZE at the August meeting, so make sure to grab a raffle ticket when you arrive, and everyone has a chance to win!

In addition, we are selling the below 5 items (which were generously donated to the club) at prices not available to the public! These will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. There's only 1 of each, so if something catches your eye, ACT FAST! All proceeds benefit Ring 76, and your support is appreciated. See you at the meeting!

<p><b>THE BLOCK</b> By Chazpro Magic Retail: \$60 Sale Price: \$30</p> 	<p><b>MISMADE SANTA</b> By UNKNOWN/RARE Retail: \$70+ Sale Price: \$35</p> 	<p><b>SUPER-MAT</b> By HandStands 17.5"x13.75" Retail: \$15-20 Sale Price: \$10</p> 
<p><b>SPIRIT WONDER BOX</b> By Viking - Vintage Retail: \$30 Sale Price: \$20</p> 	<p><b>JUMBO SQUARE/CIRCLE</b> CUSTOM MADE/Steampunk Style Retail: \$150+ Sale Price: \$80</p> 	



## Newsletter challenge question

The famous Ring 76 newsletter challenge is your opportunity to win fame and fortune (well, at least fame for a couple of minutes). Simply be the first eagle-eyed reader to sleuth out the answer to our question and send it in an email to VP of Entertainment, Greg Wauson ([gw83@ring76.com](mailto:gw83@ring76.com)). You will win bragging rights, your name in a winner's email sent to all members and, last but not least, a \$10 Amazon gift card! Please put "Newsletter challenge" in the subject line of the email. All Ring 76 members are eligible, except board members and the previous month's winner.



Congratulations to our July winner, Ken Intriligator!

Here's our August challenge (an easy one this month!): What is the theme of our August meeting?

— Greg Wauson



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

## Ex Libris

By Gary D. Salisbury



'Ex Libris' (Eh-cks LEE-breese), means 'From the Book'. Generally you will see this term used on bookplates to denote that it came from the library of its owner, "Ex Libris: Gary Salisbury."

This is where we talk about your library and do book & video reviews. Yes, your library! If you are a Ring 76 member in good standing, then this is your library! So keep in good standing by paying your dues on time.

### 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. It is here for you so please use it!

We will make it the best by:

- Increasing quantity and quality of materials available to members through donations and acquisitions.
- 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.



# Ex Libris

By Gary D. Salisbury



## WHAT'S NEW AT THE LIBRARY?

### IBM Ring 76 Magic Media Server:

The IBM Ring 76 Magic Media Server project is one where we will have all the magic videos we legally own available to members for streaming via a PLEX media server. At last count, we had over 1,200 instructional and performance magic videos that will be available for viewing on the server. That is about 4TB online. The Magic Castle has a similar service for their members but theirs is 28TB online. Keep donating and we will beat them!

#### Current Project Status:

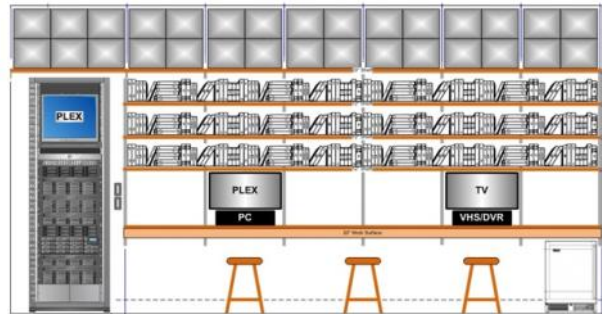
The IBM Ring 76 Magic Media Server is up and running so if you would like to try it out, send an email to:([librarian@ring76.com](mailto:librarian@ring76.com)) with your real email address (not your ring email address) requesting access. I will send you a PLEX invitation, which you will need to accept, in order to gain access. People who have tried it say it is nothing less than **FANTASTIC!**

### IBM Ring 76 Library:

The Ring 76 Library is physically located at my home in Blossom Valley and anyone is welcome to stop by and browse as much as you desire.

It is stored on a heavy duty Sterling shelving system in my 3 car garage.

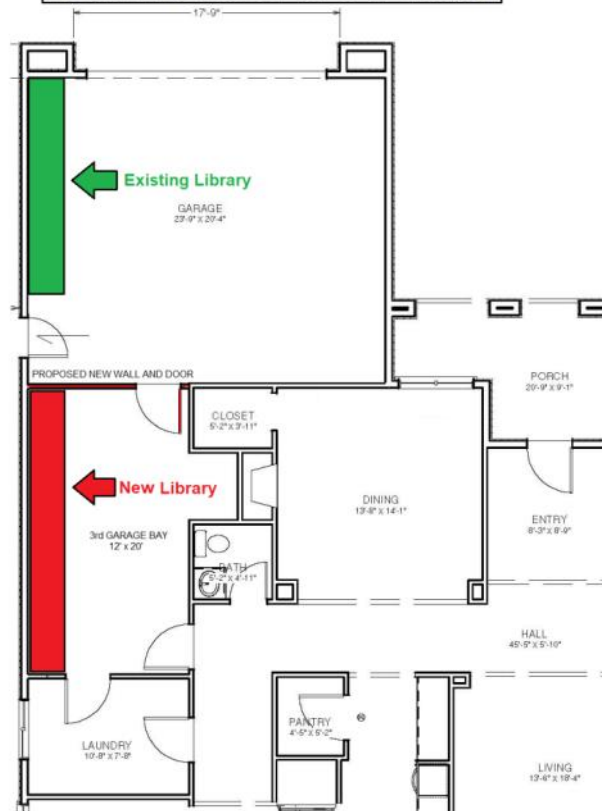
### IBM RING 76 MAGICAL ARTS LIBRARY



Currently we have 16 feet of wall space but as donations grow, the available space becomes smaller. We need more room so I came up with an idea.

My garage is 2 cars wide and 2 deep on one side. I decided to convert the 3rd bay (shown in red) into a dedicated room for the library.

### IBM RING 76 CLUB LIBRARY







Construction is underway but going slow because I am doing this all myself and the recent heat levels makes it had to work in the afternoons.

I have cleared out about half of the existing cabinetry and reinstalled it. The next task will to be to add the wall and new door and then we have to patch and paint the room. After that the new cabinetry gets installed and the library unpacked. We then have to do a complete inventory and get it published so you know what books and videos we have. Volunteers are always welcome to assist. Perhaps we



should have a party for the unveiling of the new library? What do you think?

**Soliciting Library Donations:**

Over the past months I have been soliciting donations of books and videos from different magic groups on Facebook and have received a lot of material; books, video, and props. All the props went to the IBM Ring 76 Magic Store to raise funds for the general fund. All the videos will be digitized and made available for streaming from out PLEX IBM Ring 76 Magic Media Server. All the books will be put into our library. Any duplicates will be sold to members at ring meetings.

If you have any magic DVDs or VHS tapes, why not consider donating them to the library? They will be digitized and put on the PLEX server so they would always be available to you any time plus be sharable to other club members. Sharing is good!

**JULY 2021 DONATIONS**

Thanks to the generosity of a few, we have a few more items that we can all share and funds to build with. 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!

**Ken Intriligator** donated the \$10 gift card he won through the newsletter contest. Thank you again, Ken!

**Dr. Kato Whiting** donated a \$100 check and a box of props to the library. Look for more on this at the next meeting.

**Gary Salisbury** reapplied a previous \$300 donation, that was used for library shelving, back into the petty cash fund. I will absorb the \$1,000 cost of shelving for the library myself. The library petty cash fund is now at \$420, enough to buy the software we need for the PLEX server and other library essential items.

**DONATIONS WANTED**

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 in the ring budget. I



would like to raise about \$500 for new book and video purchases for the library at the upcoming Magic Live! convention next spring.

Think about this: If you have purchased a downloaded video lecture (such as Penguin lectures) and no longer need it, I have a suggestion. Donate it to the library and we will put it on our PLEX server. That way you will always be able to view it any time along with the rest of the club. The club would then officially own the copy however, once it is transferred



over to the library, you must delete all copies of it from your system. This is no different than donating a VHS or DVD except the media isn't physical, it is digital.

**LOAN STATUS**

Six items still currently on loan. If you have something checked out, it would be appreciated if you could drop it off or make arrangements to have it picked up.

**MAGIC BOOK & VIDEO 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. (librarian@ring76.com)

**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 over-due 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 from you.



*Gary Salisbury*

IBM Ring 76 Librarian



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 sometimes copy material from other sources, with and without credit, and then merged with my own commentary to give you a better, more thorough source of information. Thanks to all who have knowingly and unknowingly contributed.)*







*More Fun at the Installation  
Banquet 2021*



**SAN DIEGO RING 76, INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS**





New Meeting location is in the Recreation Room of the Immaculate Conception Church in Old Town. That is 2540 San Diego Ave, San Diego, CA 92110 to be precise.

The room is located to the right of the Church and parking is available in all the state lots in the area. The picture to the right will show you where the hall is. We suggest you come a few minutes earlier than normal to become acquainted with the area.

Doors will be opened at 6:30 pm and the meeting starts at 700 pm as usual. Mental Magic is the theme and we hope you have an enjoyable evening.

