



# MagiCurrents

San Diego Ring 76    October 2021    VOL. XXXVI #10



## President's Message

Dear Ring 76 Members,

Spooky Magic is our theme this month! Costumes are encouraged!

Our new location in Old Town is really working out great!

The doors open at 6:30 PM for meet & greet, get your free door prize raffle ticket, for a chance to win one of our two door prizes, purchase some 50/50 raffle tickets where one lucky ticket selected takes home half the cash, and of course check out our own magic store with great deals at super reduced prices!

Ring 76 is starting a Jr. magicians group, Wizards Inc. We will be teaching them magic! More details to follow, if you want to be involved please drop me a note at [magicmike@ring76.com](mailto:magicmike@ring76.com).

Mark your calendar, Our Holiday Potluck Dinner will be Monday, December 13th, 2021.

ALSO,,,As per the Church's request, MASKS MUST be worn inside unless you are performing.

See you Monday, October 11th, 2021 for our 3rd in person meeting!

**Mike Stilwell**



## Ring 76 2021 Calendar

- ♣ October 11th Spooky Magic \*
- ♣ November 8th **Ring 76 Swap Meet**
- ♣ December 13th Holiday Potluck
- ♣ January 10th, 2022 You Fooled Us Contest \*

\*Opportunity for Members to Perform

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

## New Location for Ring 76 Meetings.



Immaculate Conception Church 2540 San Diego Ave, 92110

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Honest Sid Gerhart Ring 766

Publisher - Richard Ustick, Proof Reader Sherry Luft, Email us at [Editor@Ring76.com](mailto:Editor@Ring76.com)



## September Meeting was Math Magical

President **Mike Stilwell** called the meeting to order at 6:59 pm. He introduced guests and asked for any announcements. Mike then conducted the



Broken Wand ceremony for the late **Brad Burt** (*see pictures next page*). His wife **Barbara Burt** and brother were in attendance. Mike asked for a moment of silence for Brad and his loved ones and

then **Gary Salisbury** delivered the broken wand to Brad's wife. Mike told the first story about Brad then asked if anyone had other stories to share. **Terry Godfrey** spoke about being stationed in San Diego and Brad was one of the first magicians he met. He mentioned he was low on money at one point, and Brad asked to buy a set of his Fox Cups. When Terry was back on his feet and Brad sold the cups back to Terry for the exact same price. **Greg Wauson** spoke of being a Long Beach Mystic with Brad in the 70's, and mentioned he was one of their top performers. Armando Gutierrez was performing the milk pitcher routine and said he needed a wand. Brad, from backstage, yelled "I have one", and was messing with the stage curtain to bring one out and which served as the goofy misdirection needed for Armando to finish his routine. **Terry Lunceford** said he knew Brad for a long time and Brad was the best man at his wedding. Brad sold Terry his first professional magic tricks. Terry spoke of Brad's many professional videos, and Terry mentioned he had a letter from Stan Allen to read. He read the letter from Stan about

magic in the 70's. Stan said that The Magic Castle started waving any students of Brad's through the audition process, and Brad had called the Castle to ask them to make his students work for it. **Michael Johnson** told a story to members about spending time in his magic shop. Michael had put together and provided members with a tribute book about Brad's life and read a portion of it to members. Brad created one of the first magic bulletins on the internet, and he became famous without TV and internet. A beautiful ceremony for another member of the magic fraternity we have lost too soon.

After a short break, Ring Secretary **Matthew King** introduced a show-and-tell item, which was Harry Houdini's Mutilated Parasol, purchased from the summer Potter & Potter auction. He spoke briefly about it and left it on display for members view. Mike then introduced **Gary Salisbury** to announce the door prize winners. **Richard Ustick** won "ESP Bingo" by magic Mike Stilwell, and **Miguel Garcia** won a porcelain rabbit out of a hat.

Mike turned the meeting over to VP of Entertainment, **Greg Wauson**, who introduced **Gary Dismukes** to talk about the Hooker Card Rise. Gary took the stage and spoke about the famous and best card rise. He spoke about Dr. Hooker, the history of the creator, and the lecture he was lucky enough to attend. He described the effect and lecture in great detail. An interesting look at a historical bit of magic.



*See Meeting, Page 4*

## Brad Burt's Broken Wand Carmony.





*Meeting from page 2*

After Gary’s presentation **Greg Wauson** moved



on to the performance part of the evening. The theme was *Math Magic* and first up was **Mark Booth** who gave out envelopes to each member which had cards with

words and phrases on them. He had members choose any word, and then spell the word by moving one card per letter to the bottom of the stack. At the end of the routine, all members had the same word remaining in their hands.

**Matthew King** performed a Rubik’s Cube routine with 24 cubes, utilizing the assistance of Greg Wauson, Vic Terrific, Dale Law, Laurie Pearson, and guest Roslyn Cole. He had members calculate numbers and reveal their solutions, then gave them their respective cubes to mix up. After all cubes were mixed and placed back in places the members chose, he turned around the stacked cubes and they spelled “IBM Ring 76” on the reverse side.

Next was **Rich Robertson**. Rich had some members use their phone calculators, and his wife Cynthia handed out calculators to use. He had members multiply numbers and he was able to determine the solution before they could be done electronically. He had Miguel name a 3-

digit number, which was 121, and said he would multiply it by a number within 25 seconds of a stopwatch. He had guest Alvin Revilas name any number between 200 and 20,000, then Rich multiplied the numbers with great speed and finished well before the time was up.

Greg then took a break from the performers to do some magic of his own. He had **Sleeveless** assist him. Greg introduced a Mr. Potato Head toy and various pieces. Greg selected two of the pieces and asked Sleeveless to discard one. He had Sleeveless select 2 pieces, and Greg discarded one. They continued until only the mustache piece remained. Sleeveless opened the Mr. Potato head toy, removed a prediction, and revealed it contained a picture of the mustache piece. Greg indicated it was from The Linking Ring and explained it to members.



Next up was **Dale Law**. Dale said he needed a little help, and showed a box that said “A Little Help” on it. He placed on glasses, a little hat, and asked Greg to select someone. Greg selected **Tom Owen-Towle**, who rolled a dice and Dale wrote it down. Tom selected **Michael Johnson** to help next who also rolled a dice and Dale wrote it down. Then Michael selected **Terry Lunceford** to help rolled a die.



*(See Meeting on Page 6)*



# Meeting Entertainment





*Meeting from page 4*

All of the numbers totaled 42. Dale flipped the page and there was a magic square where all numbers added up to 42 each way they were added.

Greg did some magic trivia questions for members, then introduced **Vic Terrific**. Vic borrowed a \$5 dollar bill from Dale Law. He gave Alvin 3 dice. He asked Miguel to use his phone to help add numbers. Mike told Miguel his zip code. Then Miguel went to Terry



Lunceford and Vic asked him to tell Miguel the day and year he was born. He had Alvin roll the dice to form a 3-digit number, and had Miguel add the white one first, the black die second, and the red die 3rd, and asked Miguel to announce the long number. Next he had Terry divide out numbers, and it revealed Terry's age and indicated it was 3 months past his birthday. Vic knew the number Alvin had rolled. He had Alvin pull up maps and put in Mike's zip code. The larger total from Miguel matched the serial number on the borrowed \$5 bill.

Greg announced the last performer, **Terry Godfrey** who asked Sleeveless help. Terry had him count 10 cards into his hand, then had **Tom Owen-Towle** think of any one and then had Sleeveless count more. Terry wrapped the cards into a handkerchief, had Greg imagine a card, and then invisibly threw the card to Sleeveless, who placed it into the deck through the handkerchief. He counted out 8 more cards for Tom, and then had Tom throw it into the deck

like a football player. Then they were counted and there were only 7 cards. He asked Tom to name his card which was missing. Then Sleeveless opened the handkerchief and Tom's card had appeared in the handkerchief.

Mike called up the performers to take a photo and asked for members to vote for the Performer of the Month. Gary drew the winner of the 50/50 raffle, and Mike won. Greg took a vote as to a swap meet or lecture for the November meeting and **Swap Meet won**. Mike mentioned that **"Spooky Magic"** is the theme for next month. Mike adjourned the meeting at 9:11 pm.

## After the Meeting

Just a reminder that now that we are back to meeting in person we want to continue the tradition of after-meeting magic and conversation. We will be gathering at the Denny's, 3704 Camino Del Rio W., San Diego, CA 92110. Google it, it's 5 minutes from the Church! See you all there.





## Last Month and this Month

*By Greg Wauson*

We had a special treat at our September meeting. Our own **Gary Dismukes** entertained and informed us with the history of the Hooker Rising Cards mystery. It wasn't just one effect, but rather a series of 21 phases, many more baffling than the previous ones. As he shared this effect from the time of Harry Houdini, it fooled and beguiled some of the best minds in magic. Gary told us of his own experience witnessing this rare performance piece many years ago in Los Angeles and it fooled him also. Thank you Gary!

Then it was on to the performances. How good it was to see so many of our members take the stage! We witnessed illusions from **Mark Booth, Matt King, Rich Robertson, Greg Wauson, Dale Law, Vic Terrific, and Godfrey the Magician**. Rich garnered the most votes from the members for their favorite performance and won the performer of the month award. Thanks to all for your involvement.

Now, looking forward to next month, in the immortal words of Max Maven, "Boo!"



Halloween is known for bats, goblins and ghosts. But it's also when the Ring 76 tradition of spooky magic at our October meeting will continue. Anything ghoulish or scary or related to Halloween is just what we're looking for. On the other hand, don't let the spooky magic theme keep you from performing if you don't have a spooky magic effect to share. It's more important that you share any magic effect with us! Send Greg an email at [gw83@ring76.com](mailto:gw83@ring76.com) if you'd like to present a magic effect at the meeting. And whether you'll be in the spotlight that night or not, costumes are not only allowed, but welcomed and encouraged!





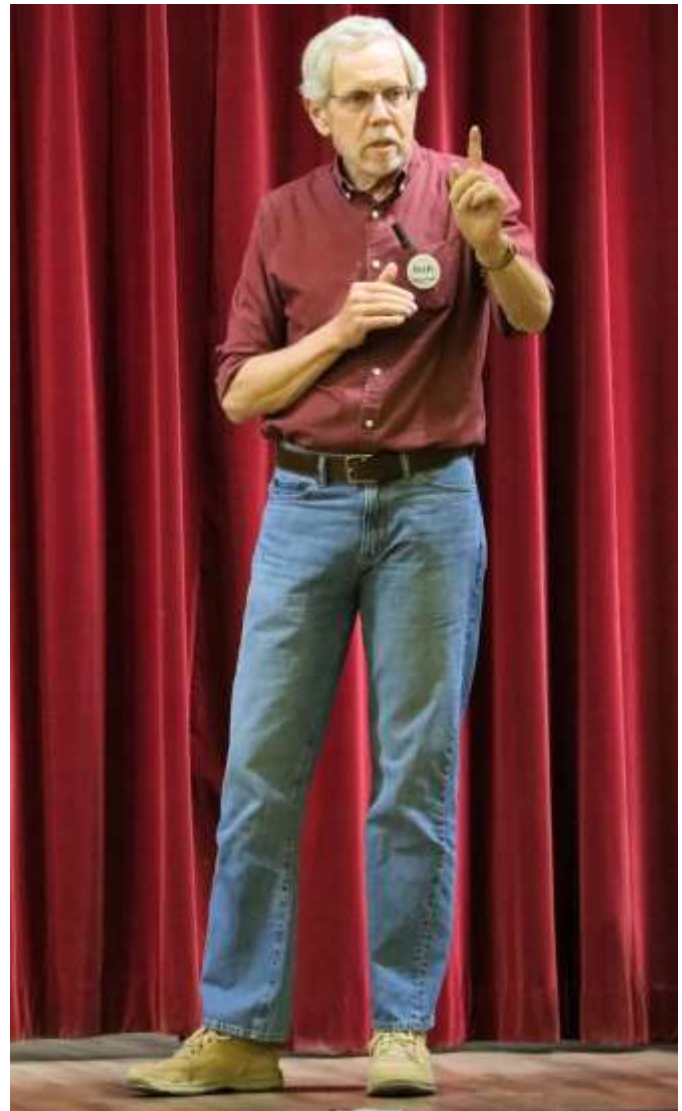
## You Fooled Us!

Yes, it's coming back by popular demand. "You Fooled Us!" will be back at our January meeting! Why are we telling you three months in advance? Well, it's not easy to fool our knowledgeable judges, so you may need this much time to prepare your magical trickery.

There is only the slightest of similarities (ahem!) between our contest and one we've heard is on TV. For those who are new to Ring 76 and weren't at either of the meetings when we've played You Fooled Us two and three years ago, or can we say whose memories aren't what they used to be, the object is simple. Perform a magic trick for the audience, including two pre-selected judges. The judges then put their heads together for a brief time to come up with the most likely method of how the effect was accomplished. If the judges are incorrect, you have fooled them and you win a beautiful plaque created by our own Gary Salisbury. If the judges are correct and you did not fool them, you pay \$100. Ok, just kidding about that part. The point is you can win something and there's no risk to lose anything!



We're talking big-time fame and bounty here and we're now looking for those hearty individuals willing to take on the challenge. Step right up and take the bull by the horns. If you want to be a player, send Greg an email at [gw83@ring76.com](mailto:gw83@ring76.com). He'll gladly put you on the list of people who thrive on adventure and live life to the fullest!



Congratulations to Rich Robertson who was voted Performer of the month for September.



*On your grandfather's wish list in 1939*





Performers for the September Math Magic evening.

Matt King Rich Robertson Greg Wauson Mark Booth Terry Godfrey Vic Terrific Dale Law

Newsletter challenge question:

The famous Ring 76 newsletter challenge is your opportunity to win fame (at least as long as Andy Warhol’s 15 minutes of fame) and fortune. Simply be the first observant member to find the answer to our question and send it in an email to VP of Entertainment, Greg Wauson (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.

Speaking of which, congratulations to our September winner, **Nick Brown!** Nick is a first-time winner and you can be too.

Here’s our October challenge:

Can you name the two individuals in the “historic picture” featured in this month’s newsletter?





# What's Coming Up

**\* October:** Since this is the month for Halloween, spooky magic will be our theme. This can be any type of magic effect designed to scare people (think The Web, a card trick where a spider suddenly appears on the spectator's hand) or just an ordinary magic trick with a haunting story of your own. Everyone is encouraged to wear a costume, whether you're performing or not. Have fun with this!

**November:** Magic swap meet! See the article about this elsewhere in this newsletter.

**December:** This meeting will feature our holiday potluck! It promises to be a great time since this and the installation banquet in July both involve food and special entertainment! Maybe that's why these are traditionally our best-attended meetings. Details will be announced as they are determined.

**January 2022:** "You Fooled Us" contest. See the article about this elsewhere in this newsletter.

\* October will be a performance night. Members will vote for their favorite performer. The individual with the most votes will be the performer of the month and will be awarded a \$20 Amazon eGift card. Votes will count toward the performer of the year award, which will be announced at the July installation banquet. Send Greg an email at gw83@ring76.com to be added to the list of performers.



*Grandpa's wish list, 1939*

# Shavings From the Board

September 27, 2021

The September board meeting was held via Zoom and was called to order at 7:38 p.m. by President Mike Stilwell.

The treasury is doing very well with receipts coming in greater than our current expenditures. **James Thayer**, VP of Membership, reports that we received a few recent membership renewals. He is still trying to get 5 other members to renew. We are currently at 51 members current on their dues. Gary and Mike both mentioned to reaching out to other members, as well.

Under Old Business, **Gary Salisbury** brought the Board up to date on the current project of advertising brochures for the Ring. Gary is waiting for permission to use additional photos and ideas for the brochures were made available to the Ring at the last couple of meetings. We will be printing up about 250 of these and they will go out to various locations to encourage interest in becoming a Ring 76 member. The door prizes and 50/50 continues to generate member interest as does Matthew's table of values at the last few meetings.

Under New Business, Mike has a meeting with Bob Meigs this week, and he announced a Junior Wizard program and a committee with Gary, Matthew, and Bob to teach kids magic. He mentioned calling it "Wizards, Inc." and recommended it for ages 12-15. November will be the swap meet and December's meeting will be the annual Ring 76 Holiday Pot luck. Greg Wasuon, VP of Entertainment, will be looking into the entertainment for this year's event. Mike mentioned having a dedicated banquet manager for July, and he nominated Mark Booth.



Members voted and Mark agreed to manage the banquet.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

### Swap Meet in November!

Our November meeting will feature a swap meet! It's so good to be able to meet in person and be able to have this very fun selling event! This is an event we always look forward to since it's a good time for buyers and sellers. You can load up on magic books, props and accessories for bargain prices. Or you can clear up some space at home by selling the magical wonders you haven't used for a while and give others the opportunity to amaze with them. Either way, you win! This is also a good opportunity to bring along your friends or relatives who have an interest in magic so they can go home with new material to learn and also see how friendly the folks in our club are.



Sellers who are Ring 76 members can rent each table for \$10; they're \$20 for non-members. Contact Greg Wauson at [gw83@ring76.com](mailto:gw83@ring76.com) to reserve tables.

## Ex Libris

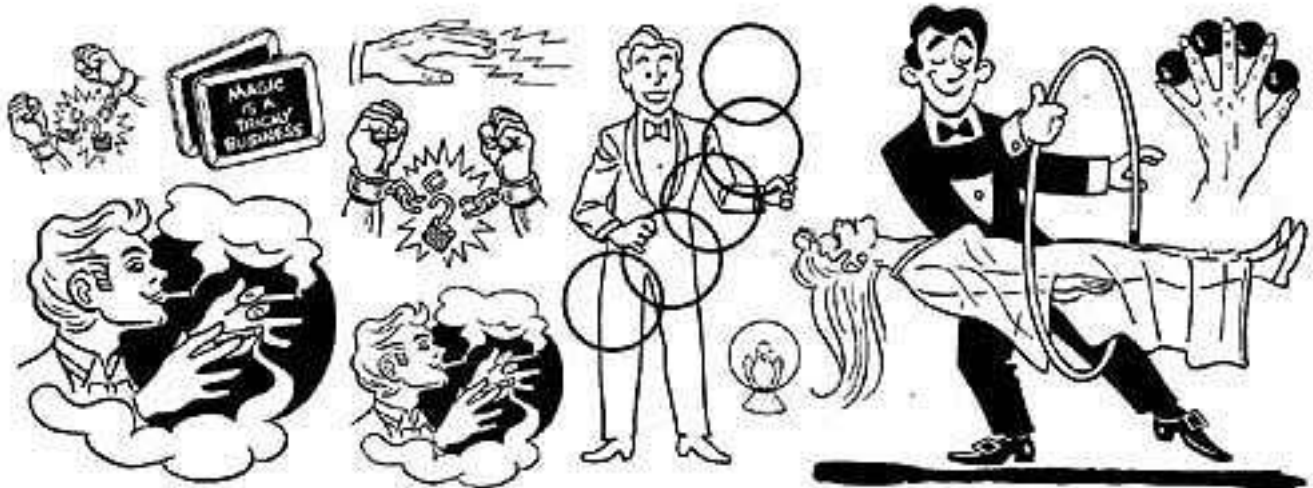
By Gary D. Salisbury



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

'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.

**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.

*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** and that alone is worth the yearly membership fee.”*

I finally got enough funds to purchase a legal copy of Windows 10 Pro for the server so we can have remote administration of the server.

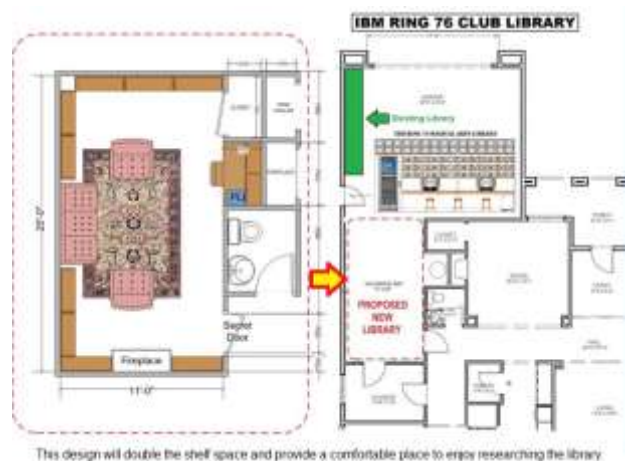
**IBM Ring 76 Library Reconstruction:**

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

It was stored on a heavy duty industrial shelving system in my 3 car garage.



Currently we have 16 feet of wall space but as donations grew, the available space became smaller and smaller 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.



This design will double the shelf space and provide a comfortable place to enjoy researching the library

I have a lofty goal to make the new club’s library look like the Magic Castle foyer complete with secret door. I don’t know how close to that I can get but at this time, that is my goal, if I can get it past my wife.



Construction is underway but going slow because I am doing this all myself and am not known for being a fast worker. I have cleared out all of the existing cabinetry in this area and reinstalled it. The next task will 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.

### 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 our [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 [IBM Ring 76 Magic Media Server](#) so they would always be available to you any time plus be sharable to other club members. Sharing is good!

### **SEPTEMBER 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!

Dr. Kato Whiting donated several boxes of books on mentalism this month. If you are into mentalism, this is heavy stuff from the best minds in the business!

Dr. A, a retired Canadian Mentalist (who wishes to remain anonymous) donated a number of boxes of books and props on Magic and Mentalism to the library. Some of the items will be reserved for the Ring's new Junior Magician's program that is currently being developed and some of the props will go to the Ring 76 magic store to generate working funds for the club. All the books and video will go to the library.

Bill Michalek, former student of Sid Gerhard and a non-member, donated three boxes of books and 300 magic DVDs that will be digitized and put on the IBM Ring 76 Magic Media Server for all to enjoy. The DVDs will be ripped and put on the Magic Media Server.

Kyle Hohn, a non-member, donated a box of hard-back books to the Ring Library.

Dr. X, an anonymous supporter of the Ring 76 Library has donated his entire collection of Genii magazines (Volume 1-63), which was appraised at \$2,500, to the library.

### Pending Donations:

I have been soliciting donations of books and videos from different magic groups on Facebook and have several promises to send us some material. We might have to pay shipping in some cases but it would probably be beneficial for us to do so. I will evaluate this on a case by case basis.

Dr. Kato Whiting has another box of material to donate. I will pick it up next week.

Barbara Burt has said that she would like to donate 3 of Brad Burt's videos (Card Flourishes, The Side Steal and More!, and The Pass) to the library.

Stan Sieler, a former San Diegan magician now residing in San Francisco, contacted me that he would like to donate 200 magic DVDs to the Ring 76 Library. Stan is even going to pay for the



**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.

We are trying to fill out the missing issues of **Genii Magazine** and **Magic Magazine**. Please contact me if you have any you can donate.

**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](mailto:librarian@ring76.com))

**SWAP MEET**

We are planning on having a “For Sale” table at the upcoming Ring Swap Meet at the November meeting with duplicate books and videos. I am looking for volunteers to help with the table.

**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.

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. The library is here so YOU can learn how to perform magic. Use it!



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



Thank you Mark Booth

# From the Editor

Throughout the Maigcurents you have seen a number of fine photographs of events at meetings and other Ring functions. In the future I will endeavor to give specific credit to the fine members who take pictures at Ring events and make them available to me to present to you. Until that time I would like to take a moment to generally thank all the members who make Magicurrents one of the premier newsletters in the International Brotherhood of Magicians.



Thank you Matthew King



Thank you Cynthia Robertson

## See you at the next meeting, Monday, October 11th.

