



MagiCurren ts

San Diego Ring 76 December 2021 VOL. XXXVI # 12

President's Message



Happy Holidays Ring 76 Members,

Holiday Potluck Monday December 13th, 2021

NO MASK REQUIRED!!! (but you can wear one till you eat if you want)

Award winning Johnny Ace Palmer is our entertainer!!!

Doors open at 6:30 pm, for a meet and greet, Free Raffle ticket, 50/50 Raffle tickets, pictures with Santa!!!

All that is missing is you, your family and friends...

We will also have a mystery Guest that is related to Honest Sid Gerhart! Please introduce your self and thank them for starting our Ring....

and... At our January 10th 2022 Meeting...

YOU FOOLED US

Fool the judges and take home a great plaque!

See you soon...

Mike Stilwell

Ring 76 2021 Calendar

December 13th Holiday Potluck

January 10th, 2022 You Fooled Us Contest *

February 14th, 2022 Annual Clos-Up Contest *

*Opportunity for Members to Perform Dear Ring, We **WILL** be having a live meeting at our **NEW** location.

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



*Johnny
Ace
Palmer*

*To Appear at the
Ring 76 Holiday
Potluck*

Ring 76 is pleased to announce that the award-winning Magician will be the entertainment at the December 13th meeting at the Immaculate Conception Church in Old Town. 2540 San Diego Ave, San Diego, CA 92110. Doors open at 6:30 pm & meetings start at 7 pm.

Publ ished by the International Brotherhood of Magicians
Honest Sid Gerhart Ring 76

Publ isher - Richard Ustick, Proof Reader Sherry Luft Email us at Editor@ring76.com



November Swap Meet a Big Success

What a fun time the swap meet was at our November meeting! This was a great time for both sellers and buyers as hundreds of dollars' worth of items changed hands. Books, tricks and various magic accessories went to new homes.

Nine members rented a total of 11 tables. One guest, **John Cannon**, who is a seasoned professional magic book dealer, drove down from Orange County to join us and rent a table. In addition, several tables were used by the club to display its items whose sales went directly to the Ring 76 treasury. **Mike Stilwell** has had a pet tortoise for over forty years. Sellers were generally very pleased with the number of items they sold and the amounts of their proceeds.

Thanks to **Gary Salisbury**, **Matthew King** and **Richard Ustick** for staffing tables to sell magic props and books to benefit the club. They also reported good sales. Near the end of the evening, an announcement was made that the remaining books offered by Ring 76 would be sold for half price. This resulted in a large number of magic books disappearing faster than you could say Alakazam.

Sherry Luft sold a beautiful new copy of David Copperfield's recent book, *History of Magic*. **Gary Salisbury** sold an attractive briefcase, from which a bowling ball can appear to Jerry Langford, a

professional magician and DJ visiting from Orange County. **Mark Booth** sold a number of higher end props, including devious items with hidden electronics. I rented a table to sell two large boxes of magic tricks and books. Only by talking with **John Cannon** did I find out the book *The Fine Art of Magic* which I received as a Christmas present when I was about eight years old was worth much more than I expected. **Charlie Gott** was also selling one; both of us sold ours.

Due to the COVID lockdown, it's been two years since we've been able to have a Ring 76 swap meet. Hopefully this will once again be an annual Ring 76 event.

Greg Wauson

What's Coming Up

December: Our holiday potluck will be the feature of our December meeting. This is a great opportunity to spend time with other magicians and their families while enjoying good food and top notch entertainment. Speaking of which, international star and award-winning magician **Johnny Ace Palmer** will be our magical entertainer at this event. Refer to the article by Richard Ustick elsewhere in this newsletter for more information.

January 2022: "You Fooled Us" contest. Each contestant will perform a magic trick for the audience, including two pre-selected and magic-savvy judges. The judges will then confer and offer what they think is the most likely method of how the effect was accomplished. If the judges are incorrect, the contestant has fooled them and wins a beautiful plaque created by our own Gary Salisbury. If the judges are correct and the contestant did not fool them, the contestant has still had some stage time in front of a friendly crowd and hasn't lost anything! **Joe Mystic** and **Mike Stilwell** will be our judges and **Miguel Garcia** will have the final word as arbitrator regarding whether the judges' guesses will be accepted as correct and Greg will be the emcee. **We still have a slot for you; send Greg an email at gw83@ring76.com if you'd like to compete.**



February 2022: It is time once again to give you an opportunity to earn fame and riches! That’s right, the Ring 76 February meeting will be our annual close-up contest. Those bold enough to take on this challenge will each dazzle the crowd for up to ten minutes with their magical skills. Each contestant will perform his or her act just once for the entire audience. Each contestant will have ten minutes with a one-minute warning. Any contestant who continues to perform after time has been called will be disqualified. In addition to a medal, the top three winners will each receive a cash prize.

account is required), please let Mark know via email: magicmarkbooth@gmail.com

Mark Booth

December Meeting is our Annual Holiday Potluck

We need all of your seasonal favorites for our dinner spread. The Board will be providing ham and turkey but we need other main dishes, side dishes, salads, breads, and desserts. As always we welcome any holiday favorite your family may enjoy, just be sure it is enough to feed 8-10 people.

This is our biggest gathering and it will be held on our regular meeting night, December 13th. Doors will open at 6:30 pm for setting up and meets and greet. The meeting and festivities will begin at 7:00 pm. Watch for this month’s newsletter for exciting entertainment news.

To make use we do not end up with an oversupply of some foods and a dearth of others **please contact me** by responding to this email and tell me what you are going to be bringing. As always, family and friends of Ring members are welcome to this holiday event.

Richard Ustick—Ring76ibm@yahoo.com

Facebook Reminder

Member-at-Large Mark Booth has created a Facebook Group for Ring 76 Members Only. The Group is private and hidden. Only those that are members of the Group can see what gets posted to the Group and who else is a member of the Group. If you would like to be added to the Group (a Facebook



Mark Booth & his lovely wife, Cathy at Ring Swap meet





Deals to be Had at the Ring 76 Swap meet.





Newsletter challenge question

It's time again for your opportunity for fame and fortune by taking on the infamous newsletter challenge. If you spot the answer to our question and are the first to send it in an email to VP of Entertainment, Greg Wauson (gw83@ring76.com), you will become the proud owner of a \$10 Amazon eGift 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 November winner, Elissa Melor!

Here's our December newsletter challenge question:

Who in Ring 76 has had a pet tortoise for over 40 years? (By the way, the tortoise was previously the pet of a woman who owned him for 30 years!)



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!

Last Minute Gift Idea

I just came across this 10" Magician Santa Figurine Light by accident while shopping on Amazon and it looked so familiar I had to show the Ring. I am not endorsing the product or company, I just saw it and thought it would be nice.

Just who does it remind YOU of?

Happy Holidays
- Editor





Shavings from the Board



The November board meeting was held via Zoom and was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Mike Stilwell. After the approval of the minutes of the last meeting the various officers gave their reports on the status of the Ring. Membership, Treasury, Library, and entertainment all are doing well. This was the last Board meeting of the calendar year and the Ring was in great shape.

Next up was the Old Business. Ring matters that still needed attention.

Mike asked Joe about the status of the Ring 76 brochure. Joe indicated they were supposed to arrive today, and Mike asked for them to be brought to the banquet to hand out. Matthew mentioned checking David's guestbook from the November Swap meet for any emails for potential new members. Mike indicated the Junior Wizards Program will be starting it in January or February. Pot luck supplies were discussed and plans made. Richard asked about table decorations. Mike offered to pick up holiday centerpieces and Mark will bring chili and bowls. The Board discussed the serving table setup. Matthew will bring a dessert and popcorn machine. David will bring a ham. Mike will be appearing as Santa Claus. Richard will send an e-mail blast to members asking what members will be bringing. Greg and Mike will bring a case of water.

With that the plans for the coming year were discussed.

Gary indicated Mike got an email from Sid Gerhart's granddaughter, Holly Baker, asking about locating a scrapbook of her grandfather. Gary invited her to the

December meeting, he also mentioned writing a newsletter article on Sid and using some of the information Jack White had previously written about him. Matthew shared an image of totes he purchased for the Ring 76 Magic Store items, along with an inventory list that is being compiled in an excel spreadsheet. He thanked member Sherry Luft for her 8 hours of assistance in adding items to the list.

Mike brought up the "Fool Us" competition and the judges. He asked Joe if he's interested in judging. Greg asked Gary if he'd like to be the arbitrator. The Board also recommended asking Miguel Garcia.

The last order of business was newsletter articles from Board members and any final questions. With that the meeting was adjourned.

Remember, the Ring 76 Holiday Potluck is December 13th.



This is the time for you to show off your Holiday food favorites to the rest of the Ring. Bring what you want but it should feed 8-10 people. Also come with a big appetite! Friends and family are welcome to this celebration. See you there !



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 promotion of the Art of Magic by making it the best reference library in the entire IBM organization for our members. We will do that 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.
- Develop & document policies & procedures of how the library will operate.

ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT METHODOLOGY:

- Solicited donations for the library.
- Working on building the media server.
- Working on the book collection inventory, clean up, restoration, and labeling Working on the VHS conversions.
- Purchasing books and videos for the library.

• WHAT'S NEW AT THE LIBRARY?

I am changing the format of my Ex Libris newsletter article to tie in a bit closer to the monthly status report I do for the Ring 76 Board of Directors so it is more efficient. Let me know what you think.

• **Library Donations-----ON GOING**

Stan Sieler, a former San Diegan magician now residing in San Francisco, emailed me that he would like to donate **200** magic DVDs to the Ring 76 Library. Stan is sending them to me this month. Update: He actually sent **120** DVDs. When I asked him about the difference, he realized a missing box was never sent but he would search for it and send it when he found it.

Frank Lehmann, a North County magic group member, has donated a large donation of Genii and Magic magazines. I received those from him at the last meeting.

Barbara Burt has said that she would like to donate some items to the Ring Library. She had planned on donating some of Brad's videos but now expresses reluctance since we share them with members. I am still working with her on that.

We survive on donations. Please take a look in your own libraries and see if you can donate any books or videos so we can share them with other Ring 76 members. All videos will be digitized so you can have 7x24 access to them.



• **Loch David Craine-----ON HOLD**

I am serving as the contact point between Ring 76 and the Probate Attorney for Loch David Craine. Loch’s hand written will specified that he wanted to leave the ring some of his magic books. We are waiting for a Probate Court hearing before proceeding. The current will is being protested by some unhappy family members.

• **Magic Media Server-----ON GOING**

As a point of reference to remind everyone, the current PLEX server at David’s house is not the production server. It is a test system we are using to test the feasibility of a dedicated PLEX server. It is referred to as “Little Boy” and the production system is referred to as “Fat Man.” (names from the Manhattan Project)

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. I will work with David Chiu to get it upgraded and remote access enabled.

Davide is currently adding those 300 DVDs we got from Bill Michalek. I have yet to get him the new lecture videos that we have acquired. I have to get him the 120 DVD donation from Stan Sieler.

I needed to order some parts (power supply, SATA DVD drive, and a SSD) for “Fat Man” server that I was going to donate but discovered they were out dated and would not work with the newer technology motherboard we got for it. This is in process.

Thank you Dave for all your hard work you do for our members. If you see Dave, say “Thanks!”

• **Magical Arts Library----- ON GOING**

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

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

Currently, we had 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.

I have a lofty goal to make the new club’s library look like the Magic Castle foyer complete with secret door.

Construction is underway but going slow because I am doing this all myself. I am looking for volunteers to help with a library inventory. Please email me at librarian@ring76.com if you can help. I’ll buy lunch.

There are 7 items currently on loan and 3 pending.

•**Custom Magic Wands-----ON GOING**

I have started a new fund raising effort for the library and hope you will check it out. I am making premium grade magic wands and they will be on sale at each meeting at 50% off to members. I can also do made-to-order to your specs.

Please stop by and see what we have to offer. Place an order by sending an email to me at librarian@ring76.com.





• **Library Petty Cash----ON GOING**

We made \$28 from the November meeting 50/50 raffle. Thank you Mike Stilwell for selling tickets for the raffle.

We sold \$647 props and books at the Swap Meet at the November meeting with duplicate books and videos. Thank you Richard Ustick for manning the Library Sales Table.

We made some purchases for parts for the Fat Man server which leaves the library petty cash at \$369.67.

Donations are highly desired and essential for the library to operate. We do make some money each month with the 50/50 Raffle but that goes quickly.

LIBRARY CHECK OUT PROCEDURE

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

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.

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



Email: 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.)

**From your grandfather's
Wish list**

The Phantom Card Trick

Two From Five Leaves Nothing

The performer takes a pack of cards and shows five to the audience. He invites some one to mentally select three of the cards. The cards are then thrown on the table and covered with a handkerchief. The performer draws one of the cards and exhibits it saying: "This one was not chosen," to which assent is given. He then takes a second card from beneath the handkerchief, that is also acknowledge as having been omitted from the selection. Whereupon the performer remarks: "The remaining cards must be the ones fixed upon. Will someone please lift the handkerchief?" When this is done, no cards can be seen, nor can they be found in the handkerchief.

No. 3109. Phantom Card Trick. Price... 15c



The Ring Media Stream Team is looking for member video content to share on the Ring Media Streaming Server. Truth be told, we have a lot of content today, but we really want to step it up and showcase "Your Talents".

The Ring Streaming Media Service is an excellent way to share magic knowledge, but it is also a way to secure your legacy as a distinguished member of Ring 76 for future generations.

As a contributor you will get your "Digital star on the Ring 76 walk of fame" so to speak. This will include a photo, collection cataloging, along with a bio.

If you are interested in contributing or have any questions, please reach out to: librarian@ring76.com





When Using PayPal to pay for your purchases with Ring 76, please use *Friends & Family* and **NOT Goods & Services**.

Thank you.



We need your input

Ring 76 has been around a very long time and had a lot of members over all those years. As time moves on a lot of those members and a number of interested guests have expressed an interest in staying linked to our Ring. The Board is looking into a *subscription membership* for those interested but out of the area. We would like your ideas and suggestions as to how we can make this work. Any actual amendment to the membership would have to be made official through the Constitution and By-Laws so we want to know what you think. Talk to a Board member at the next meeting or send your thoughts to **Editor@Ring76.com**

Thank you for your time and thoughts.

-Editor-



Once again the staff of MagiCurrents would like to thank those people who have contributed the pictures you have seen throughout the newsletter.

This month all pictures used were taken by **Gary Salisbury** and **James Thayer**.

There is a lot that goes on at Ring meetings and no one can see everything so if you happen to get a picture of the action please forward it to **Editor@Ring76.com**. You will receive credit.



A belated Happy Hanukkah to all our members and we look forward to seeing everyone at the Holiday Potluck December 13th.