



MagiCurrents

San Diego Ring 76 November 2022 VOL. XXXVII # 11

Spooky Magic a Seasonal Favorite Yet Again.

President "**Magic Mike**" Stilwell commenced the meeting at 7:01 pm. The theme of our meeting was Spooky Magic. "**Magic Mike**" then had the multiple guests stand up and introduced themselves. Members "**Joe Mystic**" and "**Mr. Funtastic**" had another performance at the Puppet theater this past weekend and **Matthew King** informed the club he will be performing at The Topsy Crow every other Wednesday. "**Magic Mike**" asked the club to go and support club members when they can. "**Doc Pearson**" was able to attend the meeting this evening, having been ill for the last few months with the help of **Bob Meigs** who drove him to the meeting. Thank you, **Bob!** "**Magic Mike**" let the club know that we are a family and look out for one another.

V.P. of Membership James Thayer let the club know we are making changes to the Constitution. He went on to inform the club what that entails to make the changes permanent. He also let the club know we will be taking a vote on November 14. The changes are for our active memberships which includes Active member, Junior member, Associate member, and a class for honorary members. We have one honorary member **Holly Gerhart** who is related to **Honest Sig Gerhart**, the Ring's namesake. The changes being recommended are to add a nonresident membership. This is for the person who wants to stay associated with Ring 76 even though they are far away. We also wanted to add a lifetime membership. This person is someone who has given so much of their life to the Ring and we wanted to have something to give back to them. This will allow the person to become a member of Ring 76 until they pass. Currently we have five members in this unofficial membership. Final change is adjusting how we handle the honorary membership. Non resident members would pay half the normal rate that would be covered in the by-laws. which is the same rate as Junior members. **James** mentioned he will send out an email to all club members to look over the proposed changes. He also mentioned any questions to ask after the club or email him any question to



James Thayer

get more clarification. Members can bring an individual to the Board if they feel someone in the community deserves to become an honorary member, such as the Mayor or someone in the City Council. Associate members will not have the privilege to vote when something is brought in front of the club.

The club was informed *Richard Turner* will be in Coronado performing November 14 and 15 at the Lamb's Theater. "**Doc Pearson**" then inform us that unfortunately the North County magic club will no longer be meeting.

Bob Meigs is looking for sugar and sand canisters so if any members have them or know how to obtain them please let him know.

After a short intermission, "**Magic Mike**" resumed the meeting with the Door Prizes and Opportunity Drawing. The door prizes went to **Joseph DePaul**, **Josh's step daughter Linda**, **Richard Ustick** won the final drawing prize of the night.

See *Meeting* Page 2

Ring 76 2022 Calendar

November 14th - Swap Meeting (See Pg 8)
December 12th - Holiday Potluck (See Pg 4)
January 9th 2023 - Lecture by Howard Hamburg

*Opportunity for Members to Perform
Direct any questions concerning the calendar to V.P. of Entertainment, Greg Wauson.

Also See the *Trick of the Month* on Page 7

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Honest Sid Gerhart Ring 76

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



Meeting from Page 1

President “Magic Mike” turned the meeting over to V.P. of Entertainment Greg Wauson. He then went on to thank the guests and informed the guests the theme for the evening is *Spooky Magic*. Greg then went on to introduce the first performer for the night.

Nick Benevento and Adele Schwartz both dressed up in character, the witch was instructing how to perform a rope effect. He took a long piece of rope and then began to cut it into three pieces; one Large, one medium, and one small piece of rope. Then all three pieces appeared to be the same length until they went back to the original long rope. Only this time it was one rope with 4 ends. Then the rope turned into 2 ropes with 4 ends, ending back into one long rope.



Mark Booth did a closeup effect in which he told a story about an evil family using many red and one white poker chips. He pulled out a bell and informed the members that when he rang the bell something weird would happen to the poker chips. The white poker chip then went on to move through the red poker chips after each time the bell rang. Then the final time the white poker chip went from the bottom to the top then reappeared under the canister.



Joseph DePaul gave the club the option of another card trick or a nasty spooky trick and then pulled out three nails and a hammer. Joseph asked an audience member to pick one of the nails. He told a few jokes on the history of hammering a nail. Then went on to hammer a nail in his nose. Then he hung a skeleton from the nail and made the nail disappear.



V.P. of Entertainment Greg Wauson asked a spectator to join him. He then pulled out a deck of blank cards showing that there was a spider web, on one of them. Greg informed the audience if you sweep away the spider web



the spider still remains. Then at the very end the spider appeared under the hand.

“Mago” Ruly went on to tell a story about six monsters. He asked even or odds and informed that the even numbers are out and showed 6 pictures. Then went on to remove 3 of the pictures leaving the odd pictures and asked who committed the murder. The spectator guessed the mummy and was correct. The mummy was guilty of the crime.



Katrina Dismukes, daughter of member Gary Dismukes, appeared looking like Wednesday Addams. She started by showing a scarf that then began dancing all over the stage to Addams family music. Then a skull appeared on top of the scarf. When she laid it back on the table, the skull disappeared.



Gary Dismukes started his performance by pulling out a black bag and a pumpkin. Then made the pumpkin disappear and reappear in the black bag. He then went on to do it again. Gary made the audience think he put it under his arm but it was in the bag. The final time, he pulled out the pumpkin he showed he really had four. Next he went on to show a castle and a newspaper. He stuffed the four pumpkins, one by one, into the tunnel formed by the newspaper. He then removed his hand from the bottom to show that one pumpkin had been stolen and that only three pumpkins remained. Gary put the 3 pumpkins back into the tunnel, and when he removed his hand this time, only 2 came out the bottom. He finished by tossing the rolled empty newspaper into the audience.



Alvin Revilas, final performer of the night, dressed up as a ninja with a samurai sword. He showed the audience two cards which made a zone of darkness because ninjas move in the shadows. Then he stuck the two cards into a container which was placed onto the samurai sword, showing the blade had penetrated the cards. Upon removal, only the cards had a hole in them while the device did not and was fully intact.



See Meeting Page 3



October Spooky Performers

Greg Wauson Gary Dismukes Katrina Dismukes Mago Ruly Joseph DePaul Nick Benevento & Adele Schwartz Mark Booth Alvin Revillas

Meeting from Page 2

V.P. of Entertainment **Greg Wauson** then called all the performers up to the stage for a final thanks and a round of applause.

President “**Magic Mike**” Stilwell went on to discuss the importance of business cards. He spoke about the club about how a lot of people don't carry business cards and the importance of not giving out your business card when working for someone else. “**Magic Mike** showed the Ring a card that had "My card" written on it that gets the audience to ask for a real card. Then he talked about what he does if he runs out of business cards. He finished by reiterating that business cards are important and to make sure that you carry at least two at all times. This way when you're out and about you can pass out your business cards in passing.

Secretary **Anthony Spaise**. Meetings are held every 2nd Monday at Immaculate Conception Church in Old Town San Diego.

It's Time to Vote!

No...not that vote. Hopefully, you've already voted in that election. No, this is a different election. This will be a vote to make changes (or not) to Ring76's Constitution and Bylaws. You can read the details in the last edition of MagiCurrents (available on www.ring76.com) and if you dig through your e-mails, you should be able to find one that has the exact proposed changes that you will be voting on. The short and succinct summary is that we hope to add two new classes of membership: Non-Resident and Life and are making some minor changes to the Honorary class of membership. (If you did not get the e-mail with the exact changes that are proposed, please contact James Thayer <jt4@ring76.com> to get a copy.)



The vote will take place at our next meeting on November 14th, assuming that we have a quorum. If the majority of members present vote in favor, the changes will be approved and our Constitution and Bylaws will be amended. Hope to see you there!



President's Message

Dear Ring 76 Members,

Time to let go of those magical treasures that are buried in your closet and in the 3rd drawer! It's SWAP Meet time at Ring 76!

Our very own Magic store and Library will be open with great deals and there will be something for everyone, something you just have to have. I will be at the meeting hall by 5:30 PM for the sellers to have time to set up. The doors will open for our members and guests at 6:45 PM. We will have a short business meeting. Then the frenzy will begin from around 7:15 PM to 8:45 PM. All deals need to be done by 8:45 PM, so we can clean up and get out by around 9 PM.

Looking to the future, our Ring Holiday Potluck is right around the corner. It is on Monday December 12th, 2022 so start to plan on what holiday food favorites you want to bring. It should feed about eight to ten people and can be a main dish, a side dish, a salad or a dessert. The Ring will provide drinks.

Also, just a reminder, so that we qualify for The **Quality Ring Award**, all Ring 76 members need to be members of the International Brotherhood of Magicians.

Mike Stilwell

Ring 76 President





Shavings from the Board



The Board of Directors for Ring 76 meets on the fourth Monday of the month via Zoom and is open to all members. You must be invited, so contact a Board member prior to the meeting.

The meeting was called to order **7:01 p.m.** by President “**Magic Mike**” **Stilwell**. Also in attendance were First V.P. (Entertainment) **Greg Wauson**, Second V.P. (Membership) **James Thayer**, Treasurer **Miguel Garcia**, Sergeant-at-Arms Report **David Chiu**, Secretary **Anthony Spaise**, Librarian and Member-at-large **Gary Salisbury**, Social Media Rep and Member-at-large **Mark Booth**, Members **Matthew King**, and **Sherry Luft**.

After the approval of the minutes of the last Board meeting, the various officers gave their reports on the state of the Ring. Treasurer **Miguel Garcia** shared the current Ring bank balance and James Thayer reminded the Board that he has been paying for the Ring Website for the last few months. Sergeant-at-Arms **David Chiu** shared that we had thirty-eight attendees at the last meeting with twenty three members and 15 guests. First V.P. (Entertainment) **Greg Wauson** reported eight members performed at the last meeting, Second V.P. (Membership) **James Thayer** reported our paid membership was now at fifty-eight. Store Manager Mathew King reported the Magic Shop made \$160 for the Ring. Gary Salisbury, Member at Large and Librarian, gave an update on the Ring’s holdings including six new magic DVDs donated by Nick Beneveto, and over 150 magic-orientated fictional audio-books donated by the mysterious benefactor, Dr. X.

OLD BUSINESS

Magic Mike indicated we are almost finished with templates for the different jobs within the Ring. **Matthew** then went on to discuss the Superior Quality Ring award process and what he needs to submit the application. **James** discussed we are ready to take a vote for membership changes at the November meeting. **Gary** mentioned that he will be finalizing the brochures. Greg mentioned November swap meet the cost for a Dealers table is \$10 for Ring 76 members and \$20 for nonmembers. Board will also be reaching out to outside Rings to participate in the swap meet.

NEW BUSINESS

Magic Mike brought to the board the importance of the health and welfare of our members. Board also discussed that December Banquet will be a potluck and we need to make a list of what members will be bringing to the meeting. **Howard Hamburg** will be performing at our January meeting. Howard was a student of The Professor Dai Vernon. Matthew discussed with the Board the importance of creating an eBay store for Ring76. With that, the meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Max Maven Passes

It is with a degree of sadness that MagiCurrents announces the death of Max Maven, a pioneer mentalist and magician who passed away at his home in Hollywood on November 1 after a two-year battle with glioblastoma. With his iconic Widow’s Peak and appropriate stage presence, he became the epitome of mental magic.

Born Philip Goldstein on December 21, 1950 in Ithaca, NY, he created the character of Max Maven in the mid-‘70s, and was honored by magical societies around the world, including the Society of American Magicians and the International Brotherhood of Magicians. Most recently, FISM (Fédération Internationale des Sociétés Magiques) awarded him a lifetime achievement for his many decades supporting and contributing to the organization’s global growth and success.



What's Coming Up

November: Our November meeting will be especially fun since this is our *Swap Meet* night. *Swap Meets* are often fun and interesting, and especially so when the stuff being sold is magic-related. Members can rent a table for \$10; they’re \$20 for non-members. Contact Greg at gw83@ring76.com if you want a table.

December: Our *Holiday Pot Luck* will be on Monday, December 12. This feast and our *Installation Banquet* in July are our two biggest events of the year. The Board is still discussing potential performers for this get-together. More details about the food and entertainment will be shared as they become available.

January: We have a special treat for our first meeting in 2023, a lecture by Howard Hamburg! Howard goes way back and was good friends with many of the big names in magic, including Dai Vernon, Charlie Miller, Michael Skinner, Frances Carlyle, Jimmy Grippo, Larry Jennings, and Bruce Cervon. He’ll share the workings of several baffling and entertaining magic effects and intersperse stories about these legends of legerdemain. You won’t want to miss it!





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.

WHAT'S NEW AT YOUR LIBRARY?

Funding-----ON GOING

We made \$85 from the 50/50 Drawing & \$36 in library sales at the October meeting then purchased three audiobooks for the Magic Media Server for \$44.85, leaving the library petty cash at \$651.31.

IBM RING 76 LIBRARY PETTY CASH REPORT

Date	Transaction	Credits	Debits	Balance
01/01/22	BEGINNING 2022 BALANCE			\$431.00
01/10/22	Proceeds from January Meeting - 50/50 Raffle	\$0.00		\$431.00
01/10/22	Proceeds from January Meeting - Library Sales	\$0.00		\$431.00
02/02/22	Purchase: Magic Game for 2022 Calendar		\$10.74	\$420.26
02/02/22	Purchase: W.F.L.S. (John DeLano) Kit for PLEX Server		\$27.25	\$393.01
02/14/22	Proceeds from February Meeting - 50/50 Raffle	\$41.30		\$434.31
02/14/22	Proceeds from February Meeting - Library Sales	\$48.00		\$482.31
03/03/22	Purchase: Flip Lid Bins from Costco (3)		\$48.44	\$433.87
03/14/22	Proceeds from March Meeting - 50/50 Raffle	\$60.00		\$493.87
03/14/22	Proceeds from March Meeting - Library Sales	\$12.00		\$505.87
03/14/22	Donation from Susan	\$40.00		\$545.87
03/29/22	Purchase: DVD: Secrets for Library		\$8.00	\$537.87
04/11/22	Proceeds from April Meeting - 50/50 Raffle	\$48.00		\$585.87
04/11/22	Proceeds from April Meeting - Library Sales	\$28.00		\$613.87
05/05/22	Proceeds from May Meeting - 50/50 Raffle	\$88.00		\$701.87
05/05/22	Proceeds from May Meeting - Library Sales	\$0.00		\$701.87
06/18/22	Book Purchase: Magic Level		\$100.00	\$601.87
06/18/22	Proceeds from June Meeting - 50/50 Raffle	\$67.00		\$668.87
06/18/22	Proceeds from June Meeting - Library Sales	\$10.00		\$678.87
06/24/22	Book Purchase: Targel, Hiding		\$51.90	\$626.97
06/25/22	Purchase: Ink for the library printer		\$13.18	\$613.79
06/25/22	Purchase: Washing kit for library printer		\$1.31	\$612.48
07/02/22	Purchase: Table Cloth for Honest Sid Caravan Table		\$43.10	\$569.38
07/02/22	Purchase: Table & Curtain Rod for Honest Sid Caravan Table		\$134.72	\$434.66
07/10/22	Book Sales at Silent Auction	\$116.00		\$550.66
08/06/22	Proceeds from August Meeting - 50/50 Raffle	\$66.00		\$616.66
08/06/22	Proceeds from August Meeting - Library Sales	\$47.00		\$663.66
08/11/22	Lecture Purchase: Do Spirits Return by John Farnsworth		\$65.00	\$598.66
08/11/22	Purchase: Euphor Software (audio conversion software)		\$23.99	\$574.67
08/12/22	Proceeds from September Meeting - 50/50 Raffle	\$47.00		\$621.67
08/12/22	Proceeds from September Meeting - Library Sales	\$23.00		\$644.67
10/03/22	Book Purchase: Magic Is Dead by Ian Franch		\$14.95	\$629.72
10/03/22	Book Purchase: Fooling Houdini by Alex Stone		\$14.95	\$614.77
10/03/22	Book Purchase: Magic Words by Gerald Kolpan		\$14.95	\$599.82
10/10/22	Proceeds from October Meeting - 50/50 Raffle	\$68.00		\$667.82
10/10/22	Proceeds from October Meeting - Library Sales	\$35.50		\$703.32

Library Donations-----ON GOING

Nick Benevento donated six of magic DVDs to the library.

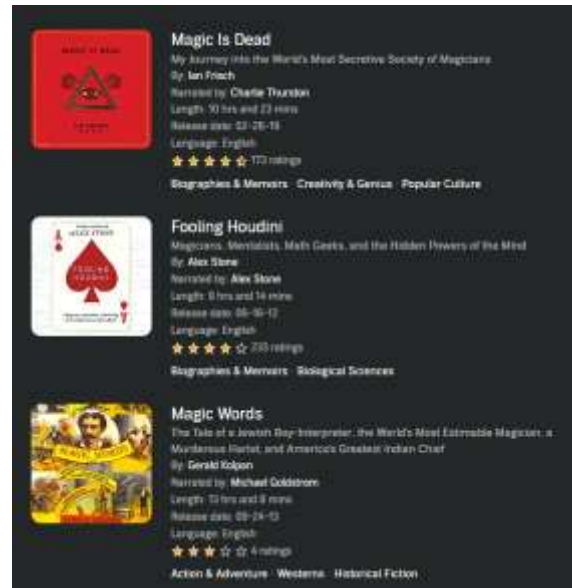
Dr. X donated over 150 magic-oriented fictional audiobooks to the library valued at over \$3,000.

Thank you for your generosity in supporting our library. I hope this serves as an example for others.

We need your DVDs and VHS tape donations. They will get put on the Plex server so you will still be able to watch them or check the physical media back out. Please help. Sharing is good!

IBM Ring 76 Media Server-----ON GOING

The library purchased three magic related audiobooks which will be put on the IBM Ring 76 Magic Media Server for streaming.



How about donating your magic videos and audio media to the library so everyone in the club can share them? You will still have access to them through the PLEX server – even on your smart phone!

Do you have a way to convert VHS tapes to MP4 files? We would love to borrow or accept a donation of a device to do that.

IBM Ring 76 Magic Library-----ON GOING

On the schedule is a complete inventory as time permits. Helpers are welcome.

We will be selling any duplicate books at the upcoming Ring 76 Swap Meet at the November meeting. There will be lots of great deals there so don't miss the opportunity to develop your own personal magic libraries at discounted prices.

This is the utilization report for the Ring 76 Magic Media Server over past 12 months. There was more activity in October than any other month in history of the server being operational. Members are seeing what a valuable resource this is.

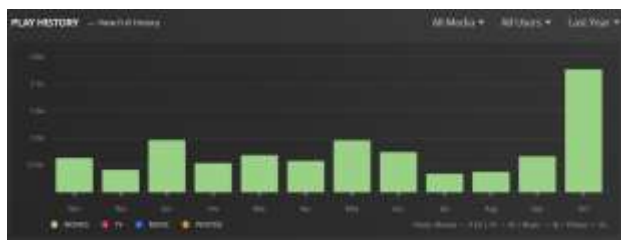
Loch David Crane Estate -----ON HOLD

I am serving as the contact point between Ring 76 and the Probate Attorney for Loch David Crane. Loch's hand written will specified that he wanted to leave the Ring some of his magic books. This item is ON HOLD until we know more.

See Ex Libris page 6



Ex Libris from page 5



Do you have an account on the IBM Magic Media Server yet? Why not? It is the best thing since Netflix!

AUDIOBOOK REVIEW



MAGIC IS DEAD by Ian Frisch

Magic Is Dead is Ian Frisch’s head-first dive into a hidden world full of extraordinary characters and highly guarded secrets. It is a story of imagination, deception, and art that spotlights today’s most brilliant young magicians—a mysterious club known as the52, who are revolutionizing an ancient artform under the mantra Magic Is Dead.

Ian brings us with him as he not only gets to know this fascinating world, but also becomes an integral part of it. We meet the52’s founding members—Laura London, Daniel Madison, and Chris Ramsay—and explore their personal demons, professional aspirations, and what drew them to their craft. We join them at private gatherings of the most extraordinary magicians working today, follow them to magic conventions in Las Vegas and England, and discover some of the best tricks of the trade. We also encounter David Blaine; hang out with Penn Jillette; meet Dynamo, the U.K.’s most famous magician; and go behind the scenes of a Netflix magic show. *Magic Is Dead* is also a chronicle of magic’s rich history and how it has changed in the internet age, as the young guns embrace social media and move away from the old-school take on the craft.

As he tells the story of the52, and his role as its most unlikely member, Ian reveals his own connection with trickery and deceit and how he first learned the elements that make magic work from his poker-playing mother. He recalls their adventures in card rooms and casinos after his father’s sudden death, and shares a touching moment that he had, as a working journalist, with his childhood idol Shaquille O’Neal.

“Magic—the romanticism of the inexplicable, the awe and admiration of the unexpected—is an underlying force in how we view the world and its myriad possibilities,” Ian writes. As his journey continues, Ian not only becomes a performer and creator of magic—even fooling the late Anthony Bourdain during a chance encounter—he also cements a new brotherhood, and begins to understand his relationship with his father, fifteen years

after his death. Written with psychological acuity and a keen eye for detail, *Magic Is Dead* is an engrossing tale full of wonder and surprise.



FOOLING HOUDINI by Alex Stone

When Alex Stone was five years old, his father bought him a magic kit - a gift that would spark a lifelong love. Years later, while living in New York City, he discovered a vibrant underground magic scene exploding with creativity and innovation and populated by a fascinating cast of characters: from his gruff mentor, who holds court in the back of a rundown pizza shop, to one of the world's greatest card cheats, who also happens to be blind. Captivated, he plunged headlong into this mysterious world, eventually competing at the Magic Olympics and training with great magicians around the globe to perfect his craft.

From the back rooms of New York City's century-old magic societies to cutting-edge psychology labs; three-card monte on Canal Street to glossy Las Vegas casinos; *Fooling Houdini* recounts Stone's quest to join the ranks of master magicians. As he navigates this quirky and occasionally hilarious subculture, Stone pulls back the curtain on a community shrouded in secrecy, fueled by obsession and brilliance, and organized around a single overriding need: to prove one's worth by deceiving others.

But his journey is more than a tale of tricks, gigs, and geeks. In trying to understand how expert magicians manipulate our minds to create their astonishing illusions, Stone uncovers a wealth of insight into human nature and the nature of perception. Every turn leads to questions about how the mind perceives the world and processes everyday experiences. By investigating some of the lesser-known corners of psychology, neuroscience, physics, history, and even crime, all through the lens of trickery and illusion, *Fooling Houdini* arrives at a host of startling revelations about how the mind works - and why, sometimes, it doesn't.



MAGIC WORDS by Gerald Kolpan

Magic Words: The Tale of a Jewish Boy-Interpreter, the World's Most Estimable Magician, a Murderous Harlot, and America's Greatest Indian Chief. In a riveting novel of love and adventure, young Julius Meyer comes to the New World to find himself acting as translator for the famed Indian chief, Standing Bear. Young Jewish immigrant Julius comes of age surrounded by the wild world of 1867 Nebraska. He befriends the mysterious Prophet John, who saves his life when the two are captured by the Ponca Indian tribe.

See Ex Libris page 7

**Ex Libris from page 6**

Living as a slave, Julius meets the noble chief Standing Bear and his young daughter, Prairie Flower, with whom he falls in love.

Becoming the tribe's interpreter - its "speaker" - his life seems safe and settled. But Julius has reckoned without the arrival of his older cousin, Alexander - who, as the Great Herrmann, is the most famous young magician in America. Nor does he suspect the ultimate consequences of Alex's affair with Lady-Jane Little Feather, a glamorous - and murderous - prostitute destined to become the most scandalous woman on two continents.

Filled with adventure, humor, and colorful characters, Magic Words is a riveting adventure about the nature of prejudice, the horror of genocide, and a courageous young man who straddles two worlds to fight for love and freedom.

These three audiobooks are available on the IBM Magic Media Server for streaming to computer, tablet, smart phone, or media player.

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.

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 Library Gram 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. I would love to hear what you want the library to acquire next. Your input is critical for the library working properly for 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.)

**Trick-of-the Month**

Presented by *Tom Owen-Towle*

RED HERRING

by Ben Earl (Vanishing Inc.)-freely received after ordering a book on Cyber Sale Monday, Nov. 26, 2018—on 1/2/2021 I re-worked it for my own liking/presentation.

IMPOSSIBLE CARD LOCATION—Magician knows the card beforehand, forcing it to be the 3rd card from the top yet the effect seems totally about a random and haphazard process, utterly fair, fluid, and free.

Possible best opening route: "Okay, before we start a card trick, I want you to see if this deck is legitimate, nothing weird, a full deck of 52 cards (as sweeping it open, face-up, Magician eyes third card from top—KEY CARD!—Look it over, check it out, is it okay, ready to go? Good, let's start!"

Initial MOVES

- (1) "Okay, before we start, please look over the cards, then shuffle them to your heart's delight."
- (2) "Now, I'm going to get rid of the jokers (*spot key card, 3rd from top!!!*)"
- (3) Spread cards out, face-up: "Well, how does it look to you; a fair, full deck, right?"
- (4) "Okay, let me finish this segment off with more cuts and shuffles" (*all are false ones!*)

Onward

- (1) "Okay, now I'm going to deal all the cards face down, like this, one at a time, or in bunches, all the way to the bottom, then square the deck up."
- (2) "Then to make it even fairer, I will move the top card to the middle and the bottom card to the middle, *just in case, just in case...I saw something...Okay?*"
- (3) "Now, it's your turn. Please cut the deck roughly in half, and put the top half to the side, then guesstimate how many cards you have left in your hand...a rough guess will do; you don't have to tell me now! (**This twist derails the Spectator to focus upon an imaginary #, which is irrelevant to the overall effect) or "tell me your guesstimate now, to be used later..." Let's say it happens to be 24! It matters not.
- (4) "Then, just like I did earlier, please bury the top and bottom cards in the middle, in the name of fairness."
- (5) "Now, please look at the bottom card (that is your special card), don't say it out loud; then drop these cards on other pack on the table, as I turn away (in the name of fairness). All you have to do now is to remember your card."
- (6) "Now, give the cards a complete cut. And do one more shuffle. So it couldn't be fairer, right?"
- (7) "Then let me smush them totally up...Now, my friend, you do it as well, to make this process even freer and fairer! Then please square them up, simply in the name of *neatness!*"

See Trick-of-the-Month Page 8



Trick-of-the-Month from Page 7

REVELATION Process:

“Now, do you have your card in mind? Good, now I’m going to try and find it! But this isn’t going to be easy! Sometimes, I’m clumsy and blow it!”

#1 Revelation: M does the “spell effect” to produce the S’s chosen card!

or #2 Revelation is any production process of your own choosing!



SWAP PARTY

Our November meeting on the 14th will feature our quasi-annual *Swap Meet*. These sales fests are always a great time. If you are like most magicians, you own some magic items that, for one reason or another, you just haven’t been able to get to. They find their way to the bottom of a drawer. The good news is that the *Swap Meet* can free up those items – and give you an infusion of cash that you can use to, uh, buy more things to take their place! So send Greg an email at w83@ring76.com to reserve a seller table, box them up and bring them to the swap meet. Tables are just \$10 for Ring 76 members and \$20 for non-members, payable at the meeting.

If you have friends and family members who are interested in magic, tell them about it. This is the place to get the best deals on new, used, and classic magic props, tricks, and books. See you there!



THE PRESTIGE MAGIC LOUNGE & SHOWROOM. Grand Opening! New to San Diego! The Prestige Magic Lounge and Showroom has arrived in the Gaslamp Quarter! 827 4th Ave. Formerly, Illusions Theatre and Bar. Experience a 3 course dinner prepared by Award Winning Chef John Hambrook featuring delicious entree choices including: Roasted Prime Rib, French Onion Chicken, Vegetarian Lasagna, Gourmet Mac and Cheese. Dinner is served in our grand showrooms. Spirits and specialty drinks available. Winners highly acclaimed, award winning magicians amaze and dazzle every night! SAVE 50% Use Promo Code: Prestige50. We are excited to be here and to celebrate we are offering 50% off EVERY night! This promo code may end without notice. Cannot be combined with other offers.

