



MagiCurrents

San Diego Ring 76 August 2023 VOL. XXXVIII #87



FLASH! - August Meeting Moved to Thursday the 17th, 7 pm.



President's Message

Fellow Magi of Ring 76,

First of all, I want to thank each of you for the enthusiasm and support I see from you each month in our monthly meetings. I am honored to be your President for this year, and look

forward to getting to know each of you better as we work together to bring more wonder into the world. Your board has been hard at work programming a fantastic year for us all, and I am really excited to see it all come together.

In my opinion, the most important thing of all is for us all to remember that this is OUR club, and the meetings are for us to come together in friendship and fellowship, as well as to further our magical skills. To that end, if there is anything that you would like to see us do, or if you have any ideas for improvement, I would love to hear from you. I am committed to making our meetings fun and productive, with emphasis on the fun and educational pieces.

Looking forward to seeing you at our next meeting on THURSDAY, August 17th.

Josh Sherwin, President, IBM Ring 76

IBM Ring 76 meets every second Monday of the month at the Rec Hall of the Immaculate Conception Church in Old Town, San Diego, California. Unless otherwise specified, the doors open at 6:30pm and the meeting will begin at 7:00pm.

You're in the Money!

August meeting moved to Thursday the 17th and will feature Money Magic.

The August meeting will let our Ring members cash in on all the money magic they have in their wallets, purses, and strong boxes. It is a performance night, so if you wish to perform Email "Magic Mike" Stilwell at magicmikeofsd@aol.com.

There will also be a mini-lecture by member Max Long, who will teach us how to make a Dollar Bill Ring, so bring TWO crispy dollar bills so you can fold along. After the meeting Max will have lecture notes with a completed ring already made for sale for \$4.00.



Ring 76 2023 Calendar

August 17th - Money Magic* *Different Day!*

September 11th - Swap Meet
(see Pg 8 for details)

October 9th - Spooky Magic*

*Opportunity for Members to Perform

Direct any questions concerning the calendar to V.P. of Entertainment, "Magic Mike" Stilwell.

Published by the International Brotherhood of Magicians
Honest Sid Gerhart Ring 76

Publisher - Richard Ustick, Proof Reader Greg Wauson Email us at Editor@ring76.com



Ring 76 Installation Banquet Rivals Barbieheimer for Magical Excitement !

The July 10th Installation Banquet was one of the highlights of the 2022-23 year as eighty-eight people attended, including fifty-two Ring members and thirty-six guests met in Immaculate Conception hall. The food was provided by Olive garden, with a table of pastas, salads and generous selection of desserts provided by the Ring Board of Directors.

The entire event was coordinated by **Mark Booth**, who did an exemplary job putting together this masterpiece of summer entertainment. Mark worked for months to ensure it would go smoothly and his efforts were apparent. The reservations were made in advance so that there would be an accurate count to ensure plenty of food and refreshments. Mark was not only aided by the Board but **Greg Wauson's** wife, Brenda Decorated the church hall and tables. **Mark Booth, Gary Salisbury, Mike Stilwell, Richard Wira, Richard Stahley, and Terry Lunceford** all made sure the food was served with speed and efficiency and



Mark Booth, the "Founder of the Feast"

that nobody went home hungry.

After dinner, the business of the event took place as the awards for the magical performances were handed out. **Greg Wauson** performed his last deed as Vice-President of Entertainment by handing out the recognition for all the performances members did the last twelve months.



Terry the sweetest serving sweets



David Chiu makes sure everyone is checked in and wears the right bracelet.



Well attended & well decorated



Service with a Smile

First up was the Close-up Contest which we had last February. The winners for Closeup Contest were:

- 1st place: "**Vic Terrific**"
- 2nd place: **Misha Osinovskiy**
- 3rd place: **Jeff Pearson**

Next up was the Stand-up Contest, which was held in May. The winners were:

- 1st place: "**Mago Ruly**"
- 2nd place: **Michael Callahan**
- 3rd place: "**Ms. Charlie Miller**"

Besides a cash prize each winner received a special medal commemorating their achievements.

The next award presented was for Entertainer of the Year. This is voted on throughout the year each time we have a performance meeting. For the first time since 2004, we had a tie for Entertainer of the year: **Mark Booth** and "**Mago Ruly.**" (In 2004 Jack White and Michael E. Johnson tied) Congratulations to both these fine members from the Ring.



Brenda Wauson, the decorating delight

See Meeting on Page 3



Meeting continued from page 2



Winners of this year's Ring 76 Contests

Misha Osinovskiy Michael Callahan (Mr. Booth accepting) "Ms. Charlie" Miller Vic Terrific" "Mago Ruly" Jeff Pearson



This month's winner was **Mark Booth**.

The next award was the special *Member of the Year*, voted on by the membership in recognition of that member who did the most to advance the Art of Magic in the Ring and surrounding area.

The final award was a special recognition of someone (not necessarily a member) who went above and beyond to aid the Ring in its duties. This year the **Tip of the Hat** award went to **Sherry Luft**



Next on the agenda was the changing of the guard. The acknowledgment of those Board members leaving their posts and the swearing in of the newly elected Board. This year Ring 76 was fortunate to have IBM Territorial Vice-President, Cliff Gerstman, to perform the ceremonial duties. The outgoing Board received their Plaques and the oncoming Board was sworn as is tradition.

Welcome to the new Board of Directors!

President: **Josh Sherwin**

VP (Entertainment): **"Magic Mike" Stilwell**

VP (Membership): **James Thayer**

Acting Secretary: **Sherry Luft**

Treasurer: **Miguel Garcia**

Sgt at arms: **Mark Booth**

Members at large: **Gary Salisbury** and **Misha Osinovskiy**



See Meeting –
Page 4



Meeting - from page 3

With all the business of the Banquet it was time for the entertainment portion of the evening. This year, Ring 76 was pleased to have **Jeff Hobson**, a world class professional magician who has performed for Fortune 500 companies, on cruise ships and TV. Currently, he is Entertainment Director and Producer of Marvin's Magic Theater in La Quinta, California. A. Jeff dressed up in a tuxedo with a gorgeous sparkle broach and called it his "Liberace starter kit."

Jeff opened up with a five card repeat, then made his broach appear and disappear, did the classic of "Gypsy Thread," performed a version of "McCombial prediction," flourished with his famous "Egg Bag" trick and more.

Mixing comedy and magic, Jeff's character was hilarious, zany and quick witted with great timing and stage presence. What a wonderful way to end the night with our magical friends!

Sherry Luft, acting secretary





Ex Libris

By Gary D. Salisbury



Welcome to Ex Libris, my monthly newsletter article about the 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. For example: "Ex Libris: Gary Salisbury."

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

Someone recently asked me, "What is the Ring 76 Library?" I responded, "It is currently over 1,000 volumes of magic books and over 2,000 magic magazines, all available for check-out. It is 178 magic audiobooks, 2,169 magic instruction videos, 22 full length magic movies, 4 albums of magic music (some royalty free), 1,769 magic performance videos (many classics), 11 podcasts (that we co-host), 12 magic TV series, a photo warehouse (where we will save all our Ring 76 activity photos) and all this is available for streaming from the Ring 76 Magic Media Server. It is also a museum for a collection of historic Ring 76 memorabilia from one of our founders, Honest Sid Gerhart. It is a magical learning source unparalleled in the entire IBM organization and it is funded totally from donations and fund-raising efforts that I have engage in for you."



WHAT'S NEW AT YOUR LIBRARY?

Funding & Expenditures-----ON GOING

There was no 50/50 drawing last month due to the Installation Banquet.

Library Donations-----ON GOING

There were no donations last month. We can't survive without donations.

I would like to give a big magical Thank You! to everyone who has donated to the library in the past. We need your DVDs, VHS tapes, and video downloads. They will be put on the Ring 76 Magic Media Server so you will still be able to watch them or check the physical media back out. Please help. Sharing is good! Sharing is fun!

Does anyone have Kenton Kemper's *Wonder Words* that they could donate to the library? It will cost us \$127 if I have to buy this important work that we need.

Ring 76 Magical Arts Library-----ON GOING

The library purchased a new book last month from Viking Magic entitled, *Magic with Electronics* by Julio Caso. It will be available for check out.

Ring 76 Magic Media Server-----ON GOING

We purchased several magic oriented audiobooks at discounted prices from retail. (*Designing Miracles* by Darwin Ortiz, and *Tips for Magicians* by Celesta Rimington.)

These books will be put on the Ring 76 Magic Media Server for you to stream to your favorite device. Listen while you walk or drive. See the audiobook review later in this document.

Update: The server was moved from Dave Chiu's house back to mine and a major renovation is underway. There are new libraries added, which include:

- Magic Audiobooks (178 items)
- Magic Instruction (2,169 items)
- Magic Movies (22 items)
- Magic Music (4 items)
- Magic Performances (1,769 items)
- Magic Podcasts (11 items)
- Magic TV Shows (12 items)
- Ring 76 Photos (0 items)

There is a ton of work to do and I am progressing slowly to finishing. When that is all done, I will need to go back through all our video collection to make sure all our videos have been digitized and are on the server. (Volunteers are welcome.)

How would you like to be featured on the Ring 76 Magic Media Server? Just forward any of your performance videos to me and I will put them on the server under our Ring 76 Member's section where everyone can see you work your magic. Come on, this will be fun. I would like to see at least one video from every member here.

See Ex Libris page 6

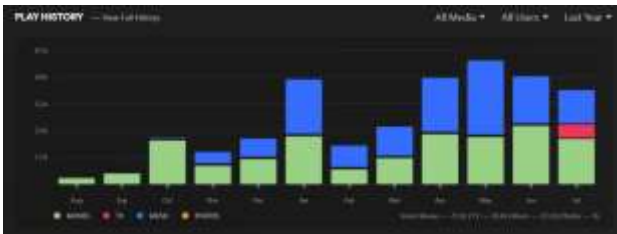


Ex Libris from page 5



Do you have an account on the *Ring 76 Magic Media Server* yet? Why not? It is the best thing since Netflix and it's FREE for members of IBM Ring 76!

Here is the utilization report for the *Ring 76 Magic Media Server* over past 12 months. Audiobooks are in blue, TV show are in red, and audiobooks are in blue (under music). **See Ex Libris page 8**



Tired of high cable TV bills? Wanna watch free movies & TV? You've come to the right place. We've got a bunch of them here on the *Ring 76 Magic Media Server* and you can start watching right now, all courtesy of PLEX! There is a wide selection of gandra to choose from.



AUDIOBOOK REVIEWS



Designing Miracles
By Darwin Ortiz

Darwin Ortiz's *Designing Miracles* has been heralded as one of the finest books ever written on magic theory. In many ways it is a "first" in magic philosophy, moving beyond presentational

theory and exploring the very structure of magic effects. It is fitting then, that we present another first by offering this neo-classic as an audio book.

Enthusiastically narrated by Darwin himself, these MP3 files provide the complete text of *Designing Miracles*, which you can enjoy in the car, on your phone, or on the go. Better still, there is brand-new, bonus material in which Darwin reflects and expands on the book's underlying concepts.

This audio book offers a brand-new way to digest magic theory. We believe that the best way to digest this invaluable material is to listen to the author explain his ideas with passion. We also relish the opportunity to pose new questions to Darwin on the subject of making magic more powerful, which he answers exclusively in this new collection.

- Over EIGHT HOURS of narration
- Over an hour of NEW material
- In universal MP3 format



Tips for Magicians
by Celesta Rimington

After his life has been turned upside down by tragedy, a boy must enlist the help of his new best friends and a stray desert dog to find their small Utah town's missing muse and restore magic to his family in this lyrical and hopeful story.

Harrison Boone used to sing. His mom was a famous soprano who performed in all the great theaters. But when she died unexpectedly last year, the music stopped for Harrison too. He finds comfort in practicing magic tricks to become a master magician.

If only Harrison knew the right magic to stop his dad from hitting the road for a new job and sending him to live with his aunt Maggie in an art village named Muse in the southern Utah desert. The residents of Muse believe in a magical entity that used to grant wishes to the winner of the town's annual art contest, but the muse hasn't been seen in years.

Can Harrison connect with his inner artist, find the missing muse, and win the wish that will give him back a normal life?

Tips for Magicians isn't the fastest moving story, but it is so well done and absolutely beautiful. It's perfect for the kid that loves magic, card tricks, the arts, and stories about middle school friendships.

A PERSONAL NOTE (repeat from last month)

Four short years ago, I was asked if I would like to be the club's librarian. I thought about it long and hard before replying. I first asked what the current state the club's library was in and found it was in 8-9 delapidated, insect & rodent infested, cardboard boxes that were carelessly stored in someone's open garage. I then asked what the club needed. It needed a complete overhaul! How could I get it from point A to point B? How could I make this library the "Best in Class?"

See Ex Libris page 7

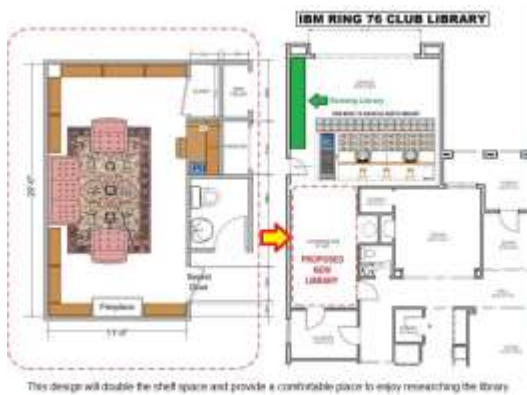


Ex Libris from page 6

I had a vision of making it the best magic reference library in the IBM organization and to bring it into the 21st century with new technology – streaming! I stipulated that I would accept the position if I could run it like my own business. I laid out my vision before the board of directors, which they accepted, and then, and only then, did I accept the position as your librarian.

I requested a commitment from the board for regular funding but that was refused so I set out to raise the needed funds on my own. I did so through donations, monthly opportunity drawings, as well as sales of books, videos, and magic props that were donated to the library. To date, I have raised over \$5,100 for the library. Early on, I secured the largest donation ever made to the ring with a collection of magic videos valued at over \$12,000 from Dr. X, an anonymous friend of the library. There have also been several other large donations of books, videos, and props valued from \$1,000 to \$5,000 from throughout the United States. I have even willed my personal magic library of over 300 volumes (valued at over \$15,000) to the Ring 76 library.

We currently have over 1,000 magic books, over 2,000 magic magazines, over 1,500 magic instructional videos, over 500 magic performance videos, over 150 magic oriented audiobooks, and. We have one of the first audio/video streaming libraries with the *Ring 76 Magic Media Server*. The Ring 76 library is now one of the largest, if not the largest, ring libraries.



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

We have accomplished a lot and have so much more to do but let's face facts. I am 77 years old and do not know how much longer I have left so I need to do the prudent thing and start grooming the next librarian. We need someone who can be as passionate about this project as I am. Someone who is willing to give their time, energy, and space for the library. Someone who is willing to make themselves available for the membership 7x24. If you think this could be you, then let me know and we will talk. I am looking at this as a long-term apprenticeship. Maybe a year, maybe two or three. I will stay on as long as I can but who knows? I do promise you that it will be "A Most Excellent Adventure!"

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 my *Ex Libris* newsletter article while more urgent communications will be done by a *Ring 76 Librarygram* emailed to:

ring76members@googlegroups.com.

Have a magical month my friends and we will see you again in the next newsletter. In the meantime, email me with your thoughts about the library. 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



IBM Ring 76 Board Member-at-Large

IBM Ring 76 Librarian

Email: librarian@ring76.com

Cell: 619-569-6035

CREDES QUOD HABES, ET HABES

What you believe is real, is real.

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



(Disclaimer from Librarian Gary Salisbury: 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.)



I know that not everyone will get this but if you do, you know it says so much about life. Be kind!

What's Coming Up

This year's Agenda of themes and such for the coming year will be;

August 2023: Theme: **Money Magic**. There will also be a mini-lecture by member **Max Long** who will teach us how to make a dollar bill ring, so **bring two crispy dollar bills**. After the meeting he will have lecture notes with a completed ring already made for sale for \$4.00.

September 2023: SWAP meet, \$10.00 a table for members, \$20.00 a table for non members.

October 2023 Theme: Spooky Magic, Performance night

November 2023 Lecture

December 2023 Holiday Potluck with Entertainment

January 2024 Theme: Kids Magic. Performance night

February 2024 Close up contest

March 2024 Theme: Card magic, Performance night

April 2024 Theme: Fool Us Competition

May 2024 Stand up Contest

June: Lecture

July: Installation Banquet with Entertainment

This is the tentative schedule of meeting themes and it is subject to change as events come up.

Thank you!

"Magic Mike" Stilwell, VP Entertainment



Shavings from the Board

Members of Ring 76,

The Board of Directors meets, via ZOOM, on the fourth Monday of every month except December. Members are invited to attend. The Board of Directors directs Ring activities for the upcoming Ring year.

July was a very short meeting and as I will be attending Magic Live and am busy packing, this will be a very short Shavings.

All members were in attendance.

Reports

Treasurer - **Miguel Garcia** - We have a healthy treasury.

Sgt at arms -**Mark Booth**-There were 88 people at the Installation Banquet, 36 guests and 52 members were in attendance.

VP (Entertainment) **"Magic Mike" Stilwell** - The new Board determined the themes for the 2023-2024 general meetings. Also, we considered some names for the lectures, nothing concrete yet.

VP (Membership) **James Thayer** -There are 76 members of Ring 76.

There was no Old Business to address at this meeting.

New Business - **Josh Sherwin**, our new President, should provide a picture for the Ring 76 website. **Richard Ustick** will be taking care of the filing for the Secretary of State.

Thank you very much and I look forward to seeing you all at the meeting **THURSDAY, August 17th** at the usual place,

Acting Secretary, **Sherry Luft**



Attention Members

September will feature our annual Swap Meet. Tables are \$10 for members and \$20 for non-members wishing to sell their wares. Contact **"Magic Mike" Stilwell** at magicmikeofsd@aol.com to reserve you space now.



New Location for Post-Meeting Meeting

Many of us gather together to eat and talk magic and news of the world after our monthly meetings. We have moved the “after meeting” to what we feel is a better location. From now on we will be meeting at the Denny’s in Mission Valley, 1065 Camino Del Rio South, right across I-8 from Target.



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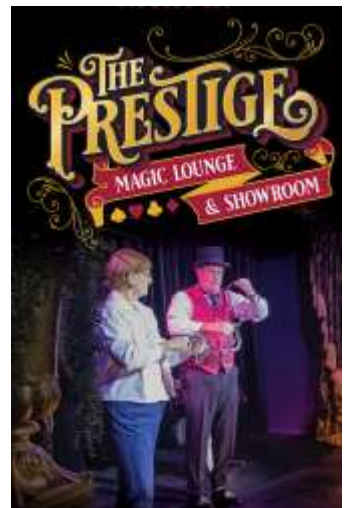
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PLUCK AND LUCK
COMPLETE STORIES OF ADVENTURE.

HERMAN, THE BOY MAGICIAN;
DR. ON THE ROAD WITH A VARIETY SHOW.



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 Hornbrook featuring delicious entrée choices including:
Roasted Prime Rib
French Onion Chicken
Vegetarian Lasagna
Gourmet Mac and Cheese



Dinner is served in our grand show room. Spirits and specialty drinks available. Witness 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 30% off EVERY night!

This promo code may end without notice. Cannot be combined with other offers.



Congratulations to Dale Law who scored a win at Magic Live's Sunday night raffle drawing! \$415 in gift certificate value! Yay, Dale! - Mark Booth



Alvan Revlias & Jeff Hobson backstage



Special Thanks to Richard Wira who hosts our meeting hall.



Special Thanks to **Mark Booth** and **James Thayer** for providing us with these fantastic photos of recent Ring events.



Magicians pledge

I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE ART OF MAGIC THAT I WILL DO EVERYTHING IN MY POWER TO PROMOTE A POSITIVE VIEW OF MAGIC IN THE PUBLIC FORUM.

A. I PLEDGE THAT I WILL TREAT EACH AND EVERY FELLOW BROTHER MAGI WITH THE RESPECT I WOULD WANT TO BE TREATED WITH WHEN IT COMES TO MAGIC AND THEIR PERFORMANCE OF MAGIC.

B. I PLEDGE I WILL NOT TALK OR WHISPER DURING A FELLOW PERFORMERS ACT .

C. I PLEDGE THAT I WILL NEVER EXPLAIN THE WORKINGS OF ANOTHER MAGICIANS ACT TO A LAY PERSON.

D. I WILL NOT DISTURB A FELLOW PERFORMER PRIOR TO HIS SHOW.

E. I WILL NOT TAKE NOTES DURING A PERFORMERS ACT (WITHOUT PERMISSION FROM SAID PERFORMER.)

F. I WILL NOT VIDEO TAPE A FELLOW PERFORMER ACT WITHOUT HIS PERMISSION.

G. I PLEDGE THAT I WILL NOT CRITICIZE A FELLOW PERFORMERS FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF CRITICIZING HIM OR WITH A PERSONAL AGENDA BUT INSTEAD WILL ONLY OFFER CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM.

H. I PLEDGE THAT I WILL ALWAYS RESPECT THE TERRITORY OF A FELLOW PERFORMERS PERFORMANCE AND NEVER PERFORM MAGIC AT HIS VENUE BEFORE OR AFTER THE SHOW.

I. I PLEDGE I WILL NEVER PUT ANOTHER MAGICIAN DOWN TO A LAYPERSON NO MATTER WHAT I THINK OF HIM PERSONALLY OR WHAT I THINK OF HIS ACT.

J. I PLEDGE THAT I WILL ALWAYS FIND SOMETHING POSITIVE TO SAY ABOUT A FELLOW PERFORMERS ACT TO A LAY PERSON.

K. I PLEDGE THAT I WILL NEVER TRY TO OUT-DUEL A FELLOW PERFORMER JUST FOR THE SAKE OF DOING SO.

L. I PLEDGE THAT I WILL NEVER ASSUME THAT ANYTHING IN A FELLOW PERFORMERS ACT IS IN THE MAGIC DOMAIN FOR ME TO TAKE, THIS INCLUDES EFFECTS, SUBTLETIES AND LINES.

M. I PLEDGE THAT I FULLY UNDERSTAND THAT JUST BECAUSE I AM A FELLOW MAGI THAT DOES NOT GIVE ME THE RIGHT TO ALL AND ANY SECRETS OF OTHER MAGICIANS. IF I ASK FOR PERMISSION FOR THE SECRET OR USE OF AN EFFECT FROM A FELLOW MAGICIAN, I AM WELL AWARE AND ACCEPT THEY HAVE A RIGHT TO KEEP THE SECRET FOR THEMSELVES AND IT IS NOT PERSONAL BUT BUSINESS.

N. I PLEDGE I WILL NEVER TOUCH ANOTHER PERFORMERS PROPS WITHOUT PERMISSION.

I FULLY UNDERSTAND THAT I WILL SUSPENDED FROM THIS CLUB AND ANY MAGIC SOCIETY IF I AM FOUND BREAKING ANY OF THESE PLEDGES.

I FULLY UNDERSTAND THAT AS A FELLOW MAGICIAN I HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROMOTE A POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE MAGIC CRAFT AS A WHOLE.

I PLEDGE THIS ALL IN THE NAME AND BETTERMENT OF MAGIC.