



MAGICURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76

MAY 2010

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Stage Contest!

On Monday, May 10th, the Ring 76 will hold its Annual Stage Contest. There will be first, second, & third place awards given. First Prize will be an award and \$50 dollars cash. Second Prize will be an award and \$25 cash and Third Prize will be an award and \$15 cash. Winners will be announced at Ring 76's Awards Banquet on Sunday July 18th.

Due to time constraints, there is a maximum limit of ten performers. Performances shall not exceed 8 minutes in length.

Hurry! These slots will go fast! If you would like to perform for this contest, e-mail Belinda Kaesler as soon as possible, at magiclites@yahoo.com.

— Belinda Kaesler

Election of Ring Officers

At our June meeting, Ring members will elect a new slate of officers to serve for the coming year. At the April meeting, the Board presented its slate, however, several changes and additions have already occurred. The slate as originally presented by the Board in the April meeting was as follows:

Kenny Shelton, President
Belinda Kaesler, 1st Vice President
Donna Greenbaum, 2nd Vice President
Richard Ustick, Treasurer
Bob Meigs, Secretary
Sherri Luft, Sergeant-at-Arms
James Thayer, Member-at-Large
Michael E. Johnson, Member-at-Large
Terry Lunceford, Member-at-Large.

Sebastian (of *Magic by Sebastian*) was nominated from the floor as a second candidate for the office of 1st Vice President.

Subsequent to this meeting, Michael E. Johnson indicated that he might not be able to serve as a Member-at-Large. The Board replaced him on their slate with member Robert Gordon. And subsequent to that, member JP Jackson was nominated as another candidate for Member-at-Large. We now have four candidates, James Thayer, Terry Lunceford, Roger Gordon, and JP Jackson, for our three Member-at-Large positions.

All Ring members are encouraged to run for Ring 76 offices. Nominations may be made by any member, including the candidate. Please contact Jeff Marcus, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, or Bob Meigs, Secretary, if you are interested in running for a Board position.

— Bob Meigs



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April Meeting

Monday, April 12th was the Ring 76 Annual Swap Meet.

Members rented 10 full table spaces, and 2 half tables. The Ring keeps no record of transactions, but, it appeared that more merchandise was offered for sale than usual, but not as much seemed to be selling.

A short business meeting was called to order by Bob



Meigs, Secretary, at 7PM. 1st Vice President Belinda Kaesler read the slate of officer nominees proposed by the current Board of Directors. Changes already have been made to this slate, so please see the article *Nominations for Ring Officer* elsewhere in this newsletter.

James Thayer, Member-at-Large and Webmaster, is now also the new Newsletter Editor, succeeding Michael E. Johnson. The positions of Webmaster and Newsletter Editor are not board positions, but typically, they have been filled by board members.

Bob Meigs announced that Ring 76 will put on several events at the *2010 San Diego County Fair*. The July 4 stage shows will be the official kick-off for San Diego's *Magic Week*, which Mayor Jerry Sanders will announce in recognition of the Annual IBM Convention, to be held in San Diego, July 6-12.

IBM provided Ring 76 with a convention registration to use as a raffle prize. Tickets were sold over the last several months, and tonight, a drawing determined the winner, Malcolm Campbell.

In other business, James Kellogg III, son of member James Kellogg Jr., announced that the family will be opening a magic shop on May 15 in nearby Vista. It will be called, both appropriately and impressively, *3 Generations of Magic*.

The business meeting concluded at 7:40PM, and the members returned to swap meet activities until our closing time of 9PM.

— Bob Meigs

Malcolm Campbell Wins Convention Raffle

A hearty congratulations goes out to Malcolm Campbell, who was the grand prize winner in this year's 2010 Convention Registration raffle. The drawing was held at the April Ring Meeting and Malcolm was notified, that night, by phone.

Malcolm will be receiving a registration to this year's International Brotherhood of Magicians Annual Convention.

— Richard Ustick



More Photos From the April Meeting



Conjurer's Intelligence Applications C.I.A.

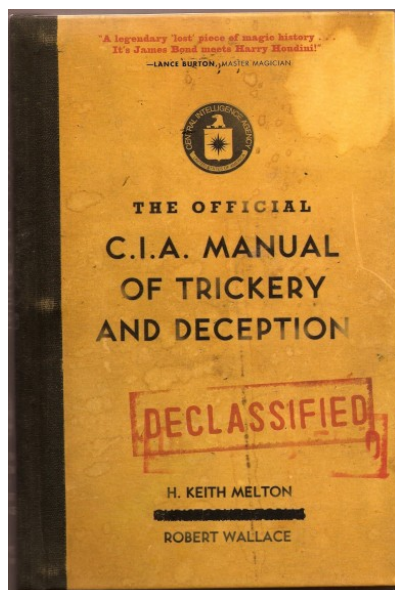
A review by Joel A. Moskowitz M.D.

Imagine a magician being paid \$1,536,000.00 to reveal conjurer's secrets. This did happen! And the U.S. government gladly paid it! Well...not exactly. After WWII, Jimmy Doolittle (you remember he led the mission to surprise Japan and bombed Tokyo from aircraft carriers), Doolittle advised the government 'spooks' that we could no longer play the war game by being Mr. Nice Guy (or Miss or Mrs.). The Soviets were up to nefarious methods to achieve their goals and we would do well to do likewise. In 1947, the C.I.A. hired John Mulholland, effectively a most knowledgeable magician to prepare a manual for their spies. They paid him, at that time, \$3000.00. Using the 'rule of seven' which states that money doubles every seven years; hence, the one million five hundred thirty six dollars above.

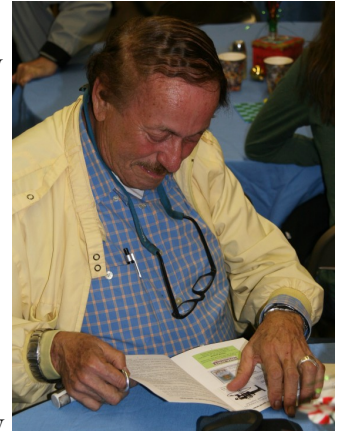
Mulholland edited the classic magic periodical "The Sphinx" for thirty years. He was retained to educate our spies in stealth. He prepared two secret manuals - In the 70s, the head of the CIA, Helms ordered these documents destroyed...but one remained.

Keith Melton, a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and an intelligence historian and a specialist in clandestine technology together with a 32 year much decorated veteran of the C.I.A. partnered to produce "The Official C.I.A. Manual of Trickery and Deception - Declassified" (a 248 page hard bound book published by William Morrow).

John Mulholland



counseled his spook readers on the basic theory of the magician's craft. From dispelling the public erroneous assumption that the hand is quicker than the eye, he advises that the big movement conceals the smaller movement which is undetected. Magicians, beginners and experienced, may learn essential maxims for the conjurer's craft by reading this succinct manual (may even be encouraged to join the C.I.A.)



Ingenuity, clever methods, and outrageous deceptions are described. Two examples: One: spies wishing to elude being captured might parachute into an enemy locale, landing on a farm with cattle. Once down on the ground, they bury their parachutes and other paraphernalia and inflate a rubber mock-up of a cow. Then they take a forward and rear position in the rubber cow and stand amongst living cows - undetected till it is safe to proceed further. Another: To smuggle objects without detection, the male scrotum is a secret safe stash. It is psychologically true that males do not like to handle other male's genitals (Gay excepted). A false scrotum which fits on the natural one is created that is anatomically and texturally true. Admittedly, this would be difficult to work into a stand-up act but other schemes might be applicable.

Dr. Moskowitz prescribes reading this book which contains the legendary John Mulholland's two manuals: on sleight of hand and undercover communication techniques.



June Lecture Announced

At the June 14th Ring 76 Meeting, we will have a special treat: An “Entertaining” Lecture, by Hilarious Comedy Magician Woody Pittman! This lecture will be FREE to Ring 76 Members. There will be \$10 door charge for non-members.

Woody is a magician who is always working. He is constantly working the Cruise Lines, and when not cruising, he performs regularly at the Magic Castle in Hollywood. Fortunately, Woody is available for us on Monday, June 14th, before he leaves to perform on the Alaskan Cruise Lines. If you ever wanted to be a Cruise Line Magician, save your questions for Woody! To find out more about the multi-talented Woody, go to his website, www.woodypittman.com.

Be sure to check out his “Silent Films”, which he directed, and performs in. His wife, Katie Cavera, performs in them with him, she is the “musician”, who has created the fabulous music that accompanies the Silent Films.

— Belinda Kaesler

Update on Magic Week Kicks off at the Fair

Ring 76 will kick off “Magic Week” in San Diego on July 4 with two public shows at the *San Diego County Fair*, called **BELIEVE IN MAGIC!** Performances will be at 6PM and 8PM. The Fair’s giant fireworks display will immediately follow our second show.

Stage performers include Jose Sanchez, Terry Lunceford, Professor Howard, and Terry Godfrey. Belinda Kaesler, Michael E. Johnson, Kenny Shelton, and Bob Meigs also will have roles as between-act entertainment and emcees. We still need a couple stage hands. If you are interested, please contact Kenny Shelton.

All performers and stage hands receive free parking and admission to the Fair, and may bring family or a date. Please contact Bob Meigs regarding admission policies and procedures.

“MagiToon”

by Jim Whiting & Ellen Friedman



Ring 76 also hosts a half-hour **Magic Camp** for 10-12 kids at 2PM every Tuesday, Saturday, and Sunday of the Fair, beginning on Saturday, June 12. There also will be a one-hour kids’ stage show at noon on Sunday, July 4. Terry Godfrey and Bob Meigs will co-ordinate the camp, and Belinda Kaesler and Loch David Crane already have volunteered to help. If you are interested in participating, either as an instructor or guest performer, please contact Bob Meigs at thehauntedhotel@sbcglobal.net.

— Bob Meigs

Convention Update

As most of you know, we are the host Ring for the *IBM National Convention* in San Diego, July 6-10. The convention will be headquartered at the Town & Country Hotel in Mission Valley, and there will be three big stage shows at the Balboa Theater in the Gaslamp District on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings. If you haven’t registered for the convention, you may so at www.magician.org

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Many of you have volunteered to work at the convention. We now have some information as to responsibilities and the numbers of volunteers needed. Please remember that all volunteers must be registered for the convention.

We need people with technical knowledge of sound and lighting. Please remember that these will be professional performers at the convention, so the sound and lighting people need genuine expertise, not an interest in learning. Sound and lighting people are needed everyday of the convention, and there are plenty of possible shifts.

Other positions are:

- A couple strolling close-up performers during registration, noon to 3PM Tuesday, May 6.
- A three-person team to pickup VIPs at the airport all day Tuesday (can, of course, be several shifts). Hopefully, someone has a van.
- Assistants to Celebrity Performers We have about 20 celebrity performers, who need a local volunteer that they can call upon to learn where to find things and perhaps get a ride. A volunteer can assist 2-3 performers in this regard, so we have 7 to 10 positions.
- A couple stage hands to help with setup for the Big 3 Illusion Shows, 1PM on Thurs., Fri., and Sat.
- Two people to monitor admission to the Dealers' Room. There will be plenty of shifts - see convention events schedule at magician.org.
- Ticket takers at the Wednesday banquet (should be someone going to the banquet – but we'll save you prime seating).

If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact Bob Meigs, Secretary, at thehauntedhotel@sbcglobal.net

In addition, everyone is invited to participate in the Strolling Olympics competition at 11PM on Saturday, July 10. Sign-ups will be during the convention.

— Bob Meigs

Magic News Briefs

Nathan Kranzo will be lecturing on Wednesday, May 26th at 7:00pm. The location for this lecture will be 5050 Murphy Canyon Rd., San Diego 92123. Admission is \$20 a person and seats can be reserved by calling Syd Segal at 619-300-1344. Nathan is one of the country's top comedy magicians. His magic is extremely entertaining and easy to do. This will be a very fun lecture with tons of practical routines and lines that can go right into your repertoire.

Have some news about a Ring 76 member or an event that you would like to see published in this space? Contact James Thayer at editor@ring76.com.

James Kellogg III announced that the family will be opening a magic shop on May 15 in nearby Vista. It will be called *3 Generations of Magic*. The store will offer magic products, novelties, books, stage lighting and audio products and coming soon, costumes for magic. There will be a "soft" opening on May 15th, 2010 and a Grand Opening scheduled for June 15th! Store hours will be 10:00am to 7:00pm, Tuesday through Saturday.

Ring 76 Calendar

May 10*Stage Competition

June 14..... Lecture, Election & Dues

July 18 Awards Banquet &

Installation of Officers