



MAGICURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76

MAY 2011

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The Stand-Up Competition

On May 9th, Ring 76 will be holding its annual Stand-Up competition. Members in good standing are encouraged to step up on stage and show the Ring their talents.

We have a full stage, an enthusiastic audience, and, as usual, cash prizes for First, Second, and Third place. Due to our limited time at the Lion's Club hall, we



Last Year's Winner:

James Kellog Jr.

Dues

Just a quick reminder that dues are once again due for your membership for Ring 76.

As last year, dues are only \$25.00 and will be due the month of June.

Those who fail to meet this deadline will have to pay \$30.00, so be sure to get your dues in on time.

You can pay at the meeting in June, or mail your dues check, made out to Ring 76, to:

Richard Ustick,
Treasurer Ring 76
251 Thrasher Way
El Cajon, CA 92020

must limit contestants to twelve participants, and limit the time to eight minutes for each performer. So if you are interested please contact Belinda Kaesler, the First Vice President of Entertainment at magiclites@yahoo.com. You must sign up before the meeting. Performance slots will be closed Friday, May 6th. We will not be accepting performers the night of the meeting.

One other thing that performers should take note of is that we do not have a stage crew. Performers will be responsible for their own clean-up following their act. So, if you are planning something like "Snowstorm in San Diego" or any other equally messy effect, please keep this in mind.

For any questions, please contact any of the Board members.

— Richard Ustick

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HONEST SID GERHART RING 76

EDITOR JAMES THAYER — EDITOR@RING76.COM



President's Message

Dear Members of Ring 76,

The Board and I are asking for your help to find a new meeting place for the coming year. We had great hopes that the Lions Club would work out well for us — it has many of the amenities that we would like to have for our meetings — but the parking situation has deteriorated significantly. The owner of the parking lot has denied said parking lot to all users of the Lions Club. It's just business but it has an significant impact on us. Thus we find ourselves looking for a new space. If you know of a meeting space that might work of us, please contact any of the myself or any of the Board Members.

In the meantime, while we search, we will continue to use the Lions Club for the next couple of months. Watch this space for further developments. We know that parking will be a problem. There is a parking garage on 29th St. just south of University. They will charge \$0.50 per half hour. This structure is approximately two blocks from the Lions Club.

I'd like to say that the performers at last month's meeting did a very nice job with the animal themed magic. I hoping we can do more stuff like that where we can let our minds think of new ways of doing the magic. Next meeting is the stage competition. Sign up soon because we closing the sign-ups this Friday.

Good luck to all the performers!

— *Kenny Shelton*

2011-2012 slate (see below). However, this slate is not "set in concrete" Both Donna Greenbaum and J.P. Jackson have graciously offered to step down, allowing someone new to become involved with the running of the Ring. Anyone wishing to run for ANY position should contact me, Jeff Markus, either by email: jkmarcus@cox.net or phone: (619) 562-3434 BEFORE the May 9th meeting. Or you may nominate someone (including yourself) from the floor at the May 9th meeting so we can get that name on the ballot. If no one is nominated by the May 9th meeting, the slate will be automatically accepted as it stands since at this time, there is no person challenging the slate. Remember, after this election, anyone wanting to run for the office of President will have to serve at least one year in another position first (assuming, of course, that the proposed constitutional amendment is ratified).

President: (incumbent).....Kenny Shelton
1st Vice: (entertainment)Syd Segal
2nd Vice: (membership)James Thayer
Secretary:Bob Meigs
Treasurer:Richard Ustick
Sgt. at Arms:.....Sherry Luft
Members at large:.....Howard Robinson
J.P. Jackson
Donna Greenbaum

Respectfully submitted by your Board and
Nominating committee.

— *Jeff Markus*

Ring 76 Elections Coming!

We have a perspective slate of officers and members of the board...But nominations are still open and you can still run for any position!

The current Board has presented the nominating committee with their recommendations for the

We Went to the Animal Fair . . .

Our theme for our April meeting was Animal Magic. (The animals need not be alive, even at the

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Photos from the April Meeting



Animal House: April Performers



Terry Lunceford and a Fishy Move



Richard Ustick assisted by Sammy Sy



Photos from the Meeting



Kenny Shelton



Jeff Marcus and Rocky



El Ducko with Roy and Betty Armstrong



Malcolm Campbell has a Bad Hare Day.



Photos from the Meeting



Loch David Crane



Joe Mystic



Chuck Cook and Ricky



Perfessor Howard with some Dove Magic

The Secret is Not the Secret

A review of "The Magic and Mentalism of Barrie Richardson"
Reviewed by Joel A. Moskowitz M D
March 13, 2011

What if you were told that seven men could be levitated simultaneously and with them a device weighing many tons? Would you be amazed? What if you were told that a person's thoughts could be sensed instantly in Tibet and you were in San Diego? Amazed again? Likely not. Even the less informed layperson would correctly think of the space shuttle and Skype and they would yawn. For magicians and mentalists, miracles are happening everyday. So how do you create wonder?

The first premise is that the magician is really an actor playing the part of the magician. With the emphasis on 'playing the part'. And that is only one feature of magical presentations. I would suggest that the most important is entertainment; not bafflement; not fooling the spectators. Barrie Richardson is a first rate model for the actor, ne' magish, who entrances his audiences by tapping into their primitive zest for personal marvels. As a Child Psychiatrist (see my monograph "The Sorcerers' Apprentice or the Use of Magic in Child Psychotherapy") you will find my discourse on the magical thinking and reasoning of children which, I suggest, never leaves us.

Professor Richardson (he is actually a Professor of Economics) in his three volumes "The Magic and Mentalism of Barrie Richardson" (an L & L Product but distributed to dealers by Murphy's Magic Supplies) Richardson performs and explains many of his personal favorites. A picture is worth a thousand words...sometimes. The "Theater of the Mind" and "Second Act" nicely supplement the visual DVDs. But this reviewer fears that Professor Richardson, his editors, and his interviewer (in this case Michael Weber) fail to emphasize the most important feature of this man's great talent. He has audience appeal. Of course, not everybody can have in his/her Curriculum vitae a career in college student teaching; nor, have a kindly mid-Western demeanor; nor have a stock of personal anecdotes and stories and poetry that serve as the 'why' of doing, for example, a cards across routine. Richardson indicates one experience where a spectator came up to him after the show, not to inquire how the trick was done but rather to ask if he might have a copy of the poem which Richardson recited as part of his 'patter'.

Patter is incorrect when applied to Barrie Richardson. The term was originally a colloquial shortening of "Pater Noster" and

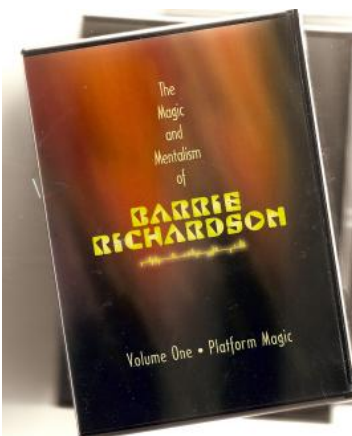
referred to the practice of mouthing or mumbling prayers quickly and mechanically, without any expression of meaning or sincerity. Barrie Richardson is the utmost of a sincere warm hearted teacher. He uses a symphony of words to explain the premise he is demonstrating i.e. are females more intuitive than males. Calling on a actual happening where long lost passengers survived after plane crash - a psychic having predicted their location, Barrie Richardson asserts that he doesn't believe in these kinds of powers but does a similar discovery for the delight of his spectators. He exudes charm.



Sure, the student viewer of his DVDs will learn the methods: "The Impossible Knot" is an archaic often republished

trick. There is a classic but simple version of cards across. A distinguishing feature of the effect called "Mind Control" is not a mind reading or prediction effect but rather it exhibits the magician's ability to influence choices. Viewers will not grimace because of a sour Lemon in Bill subterfuge. The latter is from his Boy Scout days. Throughout the performance, his personality shines. Even as he moves through the audience he touches the shoulders of individuals as he passes. Richardson's humanity is also an essential part of his theater. In the water suspension effect, his face looks worried and he is. He bonds with the audience by commenting on the cost of the houses in the neighborhood which is much more expensive than his in Shreveport, Louisiana. You have to like this man and you will like what he teaches.

The essential quality of Barrie Richardson is not his ability to bend men's minds, or divine the beyond or master and defy scientific logic. Barrie Richardson is the warm uncle most of us would like to have who in a kindly and supportive manner exposes us to aspects of mental machinations and physical impossibilities that tickle our hope for powers that promise that not all things are known. Forget iPads, iPods and apps, in Choices Have Consequences, Volume II, the magician wins the big prize always! It is up to the viewer to win the big prize of style which will entertain. Deception is masked in simple methods but the student will miss the true worth of these exposes if only the method is learnt. Much harder is to find your own personality and meld it into an act. Master Barrie Richardson has accomplished that. You will like him and you will like the three DVDs. The doctor prescribes these DVDs if taken as directed. Rx Rx Rx Rx Rx (5/5)





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start.) President Kenny Shelton called the meeting to order at 7PM.

Jeff Marcus, Chairman of the Nomination Committee, announced that nominations for the 2011-12 Board would be made at the May meeting. He also announced the following Board members were willing to serve another term: President, Kenny Shelton; Treasurer, Richard Ustick; Secretary, Bob Meigs; Sherry Luft, Sargent-at-Arms; and Members-at-Large, James Thayer and JP Jackson. There currently are no candidates First Vice-President (entertainment), Second Vice President (membership, and one Member-at-Large. [Note: Since then, there have been changes to the slate. For an updated list of candidates, please refer to Jeff's election article. Ed.]

Terry Lunceford announced the Magic Lounge would reopen on at On Broadway, at 6th and Broadway. The show will be on the first Friday of every month, beginning on May 6.

Kenny Shelton also announced he won first place in the Golf Channel Amateur Tour. Following the applause for our multi-talented president, Belinda

“MagiToon”

by Jim Whiting & Ellen Friedman



Ring 76 2011 Calendar

May 09*	Stage Competition
Jun 13	Martin Lewis Lecture and Elections
Jul 10	Installation Banquet
* Opportunity for Members to Perform	

Kaesler, our outgoing First Vice President, introduced our performers.

Terry Lunceford began with Nankin Tamasudare, or “The Dancing Bamboo Mat.” The mat quickly twists into a wide variety of shapes, which illustrate a story. The Animal Magic tie in came from Terry’s shaping the mat into an impossibly large fish.

Between the magic acts, Kenny, Belinda Kaesler, and Richard Ustick raffled off a plethora of prizes.

Richard then took center stage to perform an interactive Nostradamus Cassette Prediction, along the lines of the Vanishing Bandana. An illustrated poster substituted for the toy animals normally used in this routine. Leo Sy’s young daughter, Sammy, assisted.

Kenny Shelton performed a cups and balls routine with “mouse” balls. As his finale, a live mouse seemingly escaped into the audience.

Jeff Marcus performed two animal routines: an animal balloon routine, called “Little Yellow Mouse,” and a very original Rocky Raccoon.

Long-time members Roy and Betty Armstrong performed with El Ducko, the Hispanic card-duck.

Our sixth performer was Malcolm Campbell, performed a couple of “non-animal animal routines,” including a “Hare in a Hat,” and Mr. Bunny, the card finder.

Loch David Crane performed one of his patented deerskin “circle count” tricks.



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Joe Mystic showed us how to “build a trick,” as he performed his very funny “Screaming Balloon to Bunny.”

Chuck Cook produced a seemingly endless stream of silks and a pool queue from an empty shopping bag. Then from amidst the pile of silks, emerged Ricky Racoon (Rocky’s brother).

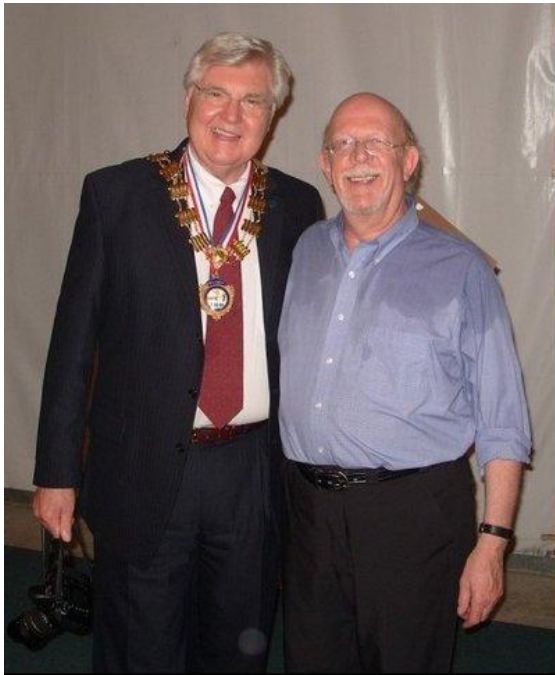
Perfesser Howard closed “Aminal Night” with a comedy routine called “Bird from Paper Bag.”

And, of course, the “after-hours crowd” headed for Rudford’s.

— Bob Meigs

Martin Lewis To Lecture in June

The Board is pleased to announce that our June Lecturer will be Martin Lewis. Martin provided the entertainment for the 2009 Installation Banquet. Now we have an opportunity to hear what he has up his



sleeves *Martin Lewis (right) with Jack White* lately.

This lecture will be free to all members in good standing.

— James Thayer

The Del Mar Fair

Ring 76 will again have a large presence at the San Diego County Fair. Some of our pros will be performing in two shows on Saturday evening, June 25, at both 6PM and 8PM. In addition, we have a half hour of stage time **every day** of the Fair (June 10 - July 4, but dark on the Mondays of June 13, 20, and 27), from 11:30 to noon.

This half-hour is ours, to do pretty much as we wish on the Plaza Stage, in the Plaza de Mexico, which is also the Fair’s largest food court. The show is called *Cabinet of Curiosities*, and all types of stage magic are welcome. (But nothing “blue,” this show plays to a family audience, as it is followed immediately by *The Great and Horribly Messy Pie Eating Contest*.)

For performers, we admit a party of up to 4, provide parking, and, if they want to compete, they can have all the cream pie they can eat! Anyone wanting to perform in this time-slot should contact Bob Meigs, at carshows@sbcglobal.net.

And you don’t have to fill the whole half-hour - you are welcome even if you want to do a single routine as a “Guest Magician!” Or, perhaps a couple of you want to get together on the show, and bringing your families to the Fair!

We also host a half-hour Magic Camp for kids (*Abra-Kid-Abra*) from 12:30-1 in the Kids zone every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. We have that covered and don’t really need volunteers, but if you want to help out, or do some tricks for the kids, we’d be very glad to have you. If you want to perform – even for a few minutes – give Bob Meigs a call

All this may – and I emphasize “**may**” – be a prelude to something big. “Magic” is under consideration as the theme of the 2012 San Diego County Fair! Should this come to pass, we will have lots of magic,

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including many performers from the Castle, on a daily basis. While the Fair won't depend on Ring 76 volunteers the way IBM did, there will be plenty of opportunities for those with an interest to participate in various ways.

Hope to see you at the Fair!

— Bob Meigs

Installation Banquet

The finalized plans for this year's Installation Banquet are still just a week or two away. But we want to make sure that all the members who want to make it this year will be able to. So, please keep July 10th open. This is a Sunday, the usual day we have our banquets, and it will be starting around 5:00 p.m. for drinks and conversation.

The Board has decided to have this event catered this year and the cost per member will be significantly less than past Banquets. We recognize that times are tight for a lot of our members and the Board has figured a way to give the Ring more bang for fewer bucks.

Details will be in the next newsletter, but for now, just keep the date open.

— Richard Ustick

We've Been "INCed"

It's done! Ring 76 is now officially a non-profit corporation, called IBM Ring 76, Inc. You are all "members", which is the equivalent of stockholders in the non-profit world.

You probably won't notice any changes in our operations, but now the Directors and Officers are now less likely to be sued if someone falls of the stage, and the Ring can complete contracts in its own name. Thus, if the Ring signs a lease, or opens a bank account, it is the corporation that is responsible, not the hapless officer that signed the document. Kenny, Richard, and Bob – you can all sleep a little easier.

Another benefit is that the Ring can obtain event insurance, which, as an unincorporated entity, we were not able to do. This is a prerequisite to putting on a public show – and in some cases, to using a public facility.

Constitutional Amendment Reminder

A reminder that there is a proposed Constitutional Amendment that the Ring will be voting on in June. Refer to the March newsletter for further information about this amendment. Below is the Amendment and if you have any questions, please contact a Ring 76 Board member.

The proposed constitutional amendment is for Article V and reads as follows (changes are in red):

Article V Officers

Section 1a. The affairs of this organization shall be conducted and managed by the following duly elected officers: President, Vice President of Entertainment, Vice President of Membership, Secretary, Treasurer, and Sergeant at Arms. Along with these elected officers there shall be two additional members. One shall be a Member at Large, elected from the Active members, and the other will be the immediate past President. This will be considered the Board of Directors.

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Section 1b. No person who is not an Active Member, in good standing, may be considered as a candidate for elected office of Ring 76.

Section 1c. No person who is not an Active Member, in good standing, shall be considered for the office of President without first serving on the Board of Directors, in any established capacity, for a period of one term.

Section 1d. Sections 1b and 1c shall take effect on the First day of July following the ratification of these articles.

—James Thayer

Magic Notes

NEWS FLASH!!! — The Magic Lounge Show (Not a destination, but a show) returns! Featuring 5 of San Diego's top magicians (and some guest performers, too) has a new location. It will be found at the "On Broadway" Event Center, 615 Broadway, San Diego.

This show will take place the first Friday of each month starting May 6th!!! Close up at the tables 7-8 pm and Stage show 8-9 PM. \$10.00 reservations and seating (Phone 619-231-0011). \$15.00 at the door!!! Must be 21 years old. Come early for the magic and stay late for the nightclub. Come see Terry, Joe, Derek, Jose, and Mike in their new location!!!

(And as a bonus, they should have a new "kid friendly" venue by mid-May as well...)



I think that the ideal space must contain elements of magic, serenity, sorcery and mystery.

— Luis Barragan



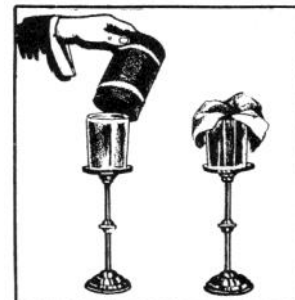
Terry Godfrey did a blindfold tractor drive in Phoenix on April 13 for the Maricopa County Fair. You can find a movie of the drive by going to YouTube and typing "Godfrey Blindfold Drive Maricopa County Fair" into the search box.



Terry also mentioned that he will be performing May 7th and 8th at Conejo Valley Days in Newbury Park, CA and May 21 and 22, he will be in Oxnard at the California Strawberry Festival.



Recently, Joel and Arlene Moskowitz visited the Skirball Cultural Center to see the Houdini and Jewish Magician's of a Golden Age exhibitions. While there, they happened to meet and converse with John Gaughan, who had lent some of the exhibits to the Center.



Save the Date!

The Installation Banquet will be held on Sunday, July 10th. Watch upcoming newsletters for further details.