



# MAGICURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76

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## *Belinda Kaesler*

It is with deep sadness that we announce that Belinda passed away on March 18, 2013. Belinda was well-known throughout the Southern California magic community. She served many terms on the Ring 76 Board of Directors and contributed to Ring 76 in many, many ways. Her absence will be felt for a long, long time.



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HONEST SID GERHART RING 76

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## President's Message

Its been a difficult year, I just went through my 3rd funeral this year, and the latest was the beautiful and kind, Belinda Kaesler. She will be missed so much! She was such an iconic figure for Ring 76, among many other Rings, and many other peoples lives. I attended the funeral this past Friday



April 5th at the Miramar National Cemetery. It was an intimate ceremony of people that meant the most to Belinda; and we were all there as Belindas beautiful satin white casket was carried through with a horse drawn hearse with Ed Kaesler nearest her as the priest spoke about Belinda and her wonderful achievements in her life. We all love and miss you so much Belinda.

On to this coming Months meeting, it is our teach-a-trick themed night! Last year was such a hoot, we thought it would be great to keep up the events that we as a board found that you members really enjoyed, and this is one of them! So come prepared to teach your biggest hidden secrets so we can all do them! Ok ok, you dont have to BUT, bring good quality, commercial, crowd pleasing effects, whether its cards, coins, or ball and vase, bringem! But make sure you email us and let us know, because there is limited space!

Finally, get ready, get prepared, get your practice in.. cause next month is the Stage or as I like to call it, the Stand-up competition!!! I predict some incredible Magic! Id like to end by saying how proud I am of everyone who has been performing, you really bring up the morale of our club, and for that I thank you!

— Derek Ostrovani



## April is “Teach-A-Trick Night”

The next meeting in April will be a Teach-a-trick Night. Participating members will be sharing a trick or two in small groups. Because each mini-session is small, it is easy to ask questions or get clarifications on handling and presentation. Come on out and learn something new.

## Stand-Up Contest in May

In May, Ring 76 will conduct its annual Stand-up competition. Like the Close-up contest in February, we will have a panel of judges, who along with the audience votes, will determine our winners.

The rules for this year’s competition will be the same, ten minutes maximum for your presentation, and if you go over the allotted time you will be disqualified. Members in good standing only may participate and if you are interested you need to contact the Vice President of Entertainment, Sal Barajas.

Contest Rules can be found on the Ring 76 website: [www.ring76.com/html/contest](http://www.ring76.com/html/contest)

— Richard Ustick

## Swapping

The March meeting was our bi-annual swap meet. There was no formal business meeting, and members drifted in and out throughout the evening. Sellers arrived at 5pm to set out their wares, and the meet officially began at 6:30. We had 14 sellers who rented table space from the Ring, and the Ring itself operated a table selling some donated items.

Announcements were made about several future ring events. We are planning a trip to the Magic Castle on Thursday, March 28, a pro-bono show at Father Joe’s homeless center on April 18, and a “Magic Day” at the Old Town Cinco de Mayo Festival.

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## *Photos from the March Meeting*



## Photos from the March Meeting



*Swap Meet— Continued from page 2)*

The swap meet attracted had more sellers than usual, but fewer buyers. The Ring did unexpectedly well in generating revenue from table rentals. At least, we more than paid for the hall that night. Several members suggested advertising to the public to increase buyers. But all in all, a good time seemed to be had by all.

And after the meeting, the camaraderie continued at Rudford's.

— Bob Meigs

## Ring76 Board Elections

Election for the new President and Board of Directors are coming up soon. As constitutionally mandated, the Board of Directors will submit their recommendations of candidates to the Nominating

Committee. These recommendations will then be presented to the membership at the April meeting.

At the May and June meetings the floor will be opened for the nomination of any member in good standing for any of the positions on the Board. The election will be held in June at the regular meeting.

The Board of Directors manages all of the Ring activities and business and is responsible for the enjoyment you have being a Ring 76 member. It is an important task to be on the Board of Ring 76 and each member is encouraged to run for any office they may see fit to. (The exception is Ring 76 President which requires that the candidate have served at least one term as a Member of the Board.

The Board recommendations are just that, recommendations. Any member in good standing may have their name submitted to become a member

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## **"3" by ERIC ROSS**

**REVIEWED BY JOEL A  
MOSKOWITZ MD**

**March 03, 2013 aka 3/3/13**

The Official Website of Eric Ross, magician and producer, writer and consultant includes a blog which should be X rated. Nonetheless, magician Ross is a good teacher, clever innovator and his DVD named "3" is worthwhile. Eric had six minutes with Ellen Degenerous on TV. The comments range all over the universe - critical to praise to kindness.

On '3', Eric offers three, naturally, effects. Eric is a good teacher. He takes pains to explain and demonstrate the necessary arts and crafts techniques to manufacture the gimmicks that he uses. The camera shows all.

None of the effects are connected. There is no coordinated theme to bind them together. Eric doesn't advise how to unify them and likely he doesn't see them as being useful together. A glaring lack is any instruction about presentation; a theme? Some of the criticism of his performance on the Ellen Degenerous show was about this as well.

Taking the '3' effects one at a time:

The first is "Chapstick". I am afraid I have no expertise. I have never used a Chapstick in my life. If someone would offer me a 'Chapstick' to hold, I would think 'bacteria!'. Apparently, this is not a concern for his participating spectators. I wonder how many people have their own personal Chapstick in their pocket? It would be more spontaneous, I believe, if the magician could ask, "Who has a Chapstick?" And then, with some diversion, switch the personal Chapstick for the 'gimmicked' one. The gimmick is included with the DVD - actually not the 'gimmick' per se.

There is a sequence which the would-be magician has to make the gimmick serviceable. Scissors and double stick tape and a steady hand are required.

May the Force be with you. Eric Ross teaches a simple force. That is one of the star benefits for purchasing this DVD. The sleight is slightly difficult. The magician 'forces' the card while the spectator has the Chapstick in his hand. Ask for the (un-gimmicked) Chapstick and surreptitiously exchange it for your palmed

(gimmicked) Chapstick. Show this Chapstick and ask the name of the 'chosen' (forced) card. And, wallah, show the Chapstick has the 'cbosen' card as part of the label. Let the spectator see the name and then swipe the gimmick off and return a plain Chapstick to the

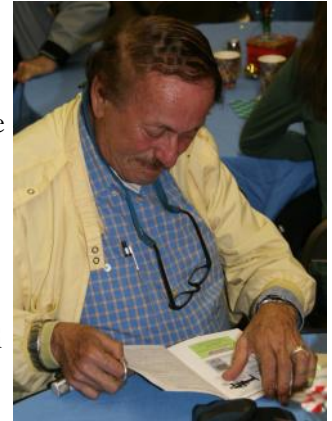
spectator. The storyline may be, when people are using their lips to smile/kiss/talk magical things happen. Hence Chapstick!

An interesting piece of history: ChapStick tubes with hidden microphones played a role in the Watergate scandal.

"Shades", the second offering on this DVD has nothing to do with "Chapstick" or on a stretch you can say that Chapsticks are useful for sunburn and 'shades' tinted glasses are also protective against the sun.

Again a 'force' card is the star. It must be a King whose visage is forward not turned

to the side...it may be a Queen with the same limitations. What the spectator sees: the 'random' choice is taken by the magician, who draws a black set of glasses on one end face of the King/Quenn. The card is signed through the waist area. Then the magician is able to miraculously transfer the sunglasses from one head to the opposite head. When that amazing phenomena sinks in, the magician is able show that the sunglasses are fixed i.e. they are drawn onto the card and cannot be moved at all.



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(Election — Continued from page 4)

of the Board of Directors, and we strongly encourage you to consider it.

— Richard Ustick

## Phil Tuttle

Phil Tuttle, formerly of the Vista Magic Guild and of Ring 76 passed away in January. Along with Fred Kaplan, Phil organized and facilitated the Ring 76 youth magic group.



## "MagiToon"

by Jim Whiting & Ellen Friedman



## Ring 76 2011-12 Calendar

Apr. 8	Teach-A-Trick Night
May 13	Stand Up Competition*
June 10	Money Magic*
July TBD	Installation Banquet
Aug 12	TBD*

\* Opportunity for Members to Perform

(Eric Ross — Continued from page 5)

The theme / storyline is not provided. This is a opportunity / challenge for the DVD purchaser. "Watermark" is the third offering. Again you have to manufacture one of a series of previously prepared indexes (the method is fully explained), ; the multiple revelations gives you some variety unlike the prior two choices. Ask the spectator for a bill \$5, \$10, \$20. And you call their attention to a 'watermark' which is the index of the chosen/forced card. Returning the bill to the spectator - the watermark doesn't reman. Again this is crying for a theme. Maybe the gambler/ mint / failing economy may be areas.

Eric Ross' '3' is a inventive collection of ideas;; presentation, and patter are yet to be developed further.

It is recommended/prescribed Rx Rx Rx (3/5) . Contact Eric Ross.

