



MAGICURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76 DECEMBER 2013 VOL. XXVII #12

Holiday Banquet!

With Thanksgiving over, the holiday season is now upon us in full swing. That means it is time for Ring 76 to have its annual Holiday pot luck. This year, along with our usual festive atmosphere, great food provided by talented Ring members, and raffles, entertainment will be provided by Johnny Ace Palmer.

The event will be held at the Lion's Club of North Park, our usual meeting place, on Monday, December 9th. The doors will be open at 5:30 for the Board to “deck the halls” and members should arrive around six O'clock to set up food and to meet and greet. Dinner will commence at around 6:45 pm. Immediate family

are welcome to share in this year's festivities but seating is limited.

This is a pot luck though the Board of Directors will be providing Turkey and desserts. Members are encouraged to bring an entree, side dish or salad they want to share with the Ring. It should be able to feed eight to ten people. We will have warming trays and serving utensils to make sure your fine dish is properly presented.

If you have any questions, please contact Richard Ustick at rustick@flash.net.

— Richard Ustick

Going...Going...Gone!

November 11 was the night of Ring 76's GREAT BI-ANNUAL AUCTION, an event that trades off with our GREAT BI-ANNUAL SWAP MEET. President Derek Ostovani brought the meeting to order at 7PM.



PUBLISHED BY THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS

HONEST SID GERHART RING 76

EDITOR JAMES THAYER — EDITOR@RING76.COM



President's Message

Hello members!!! Happy Holidays! We had a great auction last month for the month of November! So that should be enough to last you for all the meetings for the rest of the year! I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving filled with loved ones relaxation, plenty of black Friday shopping and of course a lot of food!S



peaking of Holidays, this coming Monday, December 9th will be our annual Christmas Banquet. And as always, it will be a pot luck, so bring your favorite dishes as well as your friends and family! Doors open at 5:30 PM for set-up and the fun and dinner begins at 7:00 PM and go till 9:00 PM. We will be having our

very own Mago Ruly playing delightful music on the piano. And lastly, but certainly not least, in case you missed last month's newsletter, let me tell you about our featured performer for the Christmas Banquet. He was the FIRST real Magician I saw in person and he inspired me! This performer earned the title of World Champion Magician in 1988, he was the first close-up magician in history to receive that award, called the Grand Prix. He received the award at the International Federation of Magic Societies' convention, where competing magicians from 47 countries witnessed his award winning act. The Grand Prix is awarded once every three years. In addition, he was voted Best Close-Up Magician at the Magic Castle in Hollywood two years in a row (1987, 1988) and Lecturer of the Year (1996, 1999). He is also the only magician to receive both the International Brotherhood of Magicians' Gold Cups Award of Excellence (1983) and the Society of American Magicians' (SAM) Gold Medal Award of Honor (1986). This performer is no other than Johnny 'Ace' Palmer. Trust me, you WON'T want to miss his performance. Johnny show is truly amazing; no matter what kind of Magic you're into and especially if you're a laymen! So bring friends and family!

January will be our first meeting of the 2014 year, and we will kick that off with the theme ABC Magic, which is Anything But Cards! So NO cards... at least try your best. Also we will have our Swearing-in Ceremony to celebrate all our new members; it's so nice to see all the new members we have had join Ring 76! Hopefully we can all make them feel welcome in our club and take them under our wings to become the most confident and knowledgeable of Magicians! So I look forward to seeing all of you for both our banquet as well as next month's regular meeting! And one last thing, in case you didn't know, there is a new Magic Kiosk in Old Town. It is owned by a very nice couple! I encourage you to go down there and support the shop!

Derek Ostovani

(Continued from page 1)

He announced the Chargers Blood Drive, where the Ring will have a booth and provide pro-bono entertainment.

Richard Ustick explained the bidding and payment procedures, and Sal Barajas, Vice President of Entertainment, explained how the auction items would be presented. Richard also announced the entertainment for our Holiday Banquet will be Johnny Ace Palmer.

Sal acted as our auctioneer, describing the items and encouraging bidders. Most of the offerings were multiple-item lots, rather than individual items. Most of the low-priced items sold, but there was very little bidding in the \$100+ range. The night proved profitable for the Ring, however, which collected \$275 from a combination of auction fees and sales of donated items.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20, and the "after-meeting" reassembled at Denny's.

— Bob Meigs



Photos from the November Meeting





The Business of Street Magic

DVD by Will Stelfox

*Reviewed by Joel A Moskowitz MD
September 30, 2013*

Where is the organ grinder with a monkey? What is snake charmer? Oh well - a magician gathering a crowd? All are buskers. Street performers. Did you want to learn to magish for the public depending on grateful audiences for your livelihood, this DVD is for you. A Vancouver artful successful professional reveals his experience. William Stelfox has turned two tricks into a profitable business - purchasing his cards from Costco and invisible threat courtesy of google - your overhead can be very low. Absent the government's (some venues have an annual license; and you are expected to pay income tax) share, the rest of the coin is yours.

First, you will have to draw a crowd. Psychology is nobody will stop until somebody will stop. Even when an actor feigns being in agony, and a confederate is sitting passively reading a newspaper, passersby will pass without stopping. Remove the newspaper reader, many will attend to the suffering man. Good Samaritans are a universal reaction. That is not to say that you (as a busker) have to be in distress, you will gather a crowd if you can convince a single person to stop/watch/laugh. Choose your first audience member carefully. You may have to try and try again. Catch the eye of someone who is not afraid of being approached... ..and then amaze. Gently indicate that they are to follow you — hand them a pack of cards which is still in your grip and indicate that they are to follow you — out of the traffic on the sidewalk. You will benefit from having a colorful rope which is lain down in a semicircle to delineate the stage. Perhaps you have a (very light) table (remember you will need to carry it). This reviewer's mother was

born in Transylvania and she told about the gypsies who performed on the streets (most of their revenue was from pocket picking.) The audience would be relaxed with music. In the New World, some attempt to relax the onlookers via humor. If this is not your forte, at least show that you don't take yourself too seriously. Your costume will tell them you are, at least, eccentric. Hair style (flaming red) will set you apart from the general public.

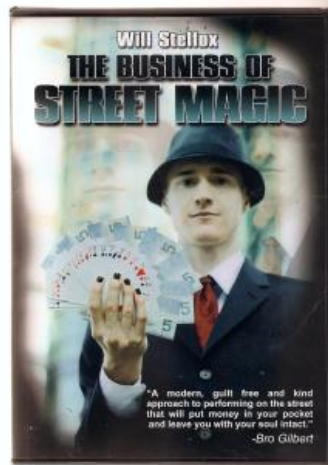
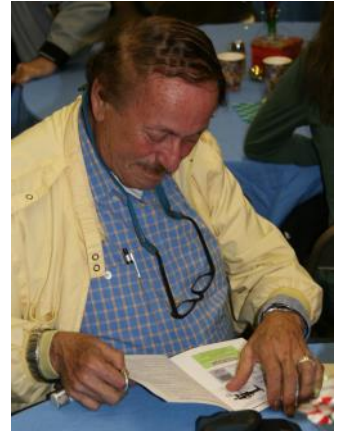
Don't forget — early on - nothing is for free theme must be interjected. A vital part of busker's haberdashery is a HAT. That is where the audience will show their appreciation. Some refer to this donations Others call it gratuities It is

MONEY. Some load the hat which is center on the ground with several \$5.00 bills. Others have shills who set the pace - A busker in Sea Port Village in San Diego, juggles with a hat - kicks it behind his back and on to his head. He has a duplicate same hat primed with several bills of varying denominations.

Skill in handling the various personalities: how do you make whoever is standing there with his/her arms folded - aka challenging you to stump them. Subset is the kind of person who reacts to you like a movie and has a mind set from trying to figure

how it is done. Your feigned screw up with smile, this looked easier on the internet, I cant believe you are still watching this, I cant believe I do this thing for a living. Just say the line = don't wait for a reaction. Equates to a non contest stance. And your glance at the hat tells them you expect to be rewarded.

(Continued on page 5)



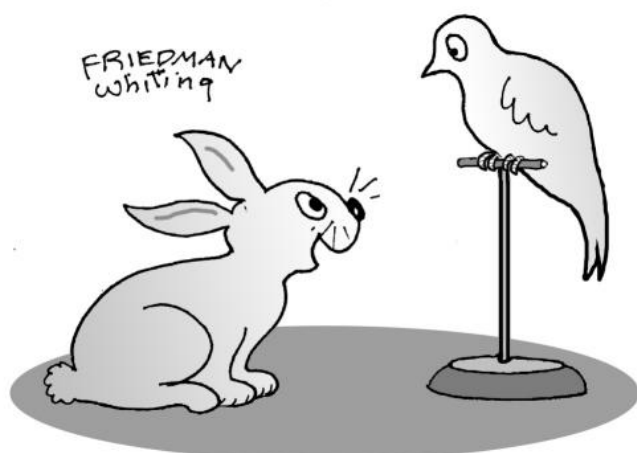
A.B.C. Magic Night (Anything But Cards)

The New Year is just around the corner and January is the perfect time to show off that special magic trick of yours that is NOT A CARD TRICK. Here are some ideas.

- ♠ Magical Apparatuses
- ♠ Rope Magic
- ♠ Levitation
- ♠ Silks
- ♠ Animation
- ♠ Money (Paper & Coins)
- ♠ Linking Rings
- ♠ Zombie
- ♠ Torn & Restored
- ♠ Kids Magic
- ♠ Balls
- ♠ etc.....

(Continued on page 6)

"MagiToon" by Jim Whiting & Ellen Friedman



"I'm going to retire from showbiz and relax as a pair of bunny slippers!"

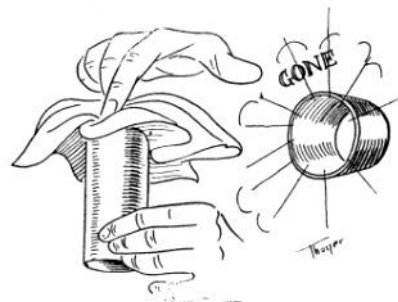
(Busking — Continued from page 4)

Stelfox asks should you want to do this for a living. He advocates keeping track of how much you spend (by the month) and how much you earn from your street act (per hour/week/month) Calculate how much you spend i.e. cost of decks of cards from Costco etc. You don't have to buy a yellow zoot suit but the cost of what clothing you do wear is an expense. And of course the hat.

Suppose you wish to expand to another territory i.e. roaming in a party for which you have been hired to entertain. Sharing your business card which has an internet domain listed is publicity. On your web page, you can boast and have favorable comments by customers.

Will spills the construction of his two pieces : floating coin and card transposition the latter with bows to Wayne Houchin.

Bruce Springsteen and other luminaries have busked. Would you think Ben Franklin busked but was dissuaded by his father - called it dangerous. Some buskers have been robbed/injured. A classical violinist used his Stradivarius violin to play in the subway - he was not recognized and only earned about \$30 for a 45 minute performance. Busking is an ancient entertainment and if man reaches the moon, he may find buskers there. And they may have studied *The Business of Street Magic* by Will Stelfox. They surely should have and any earthlings who aim to be a street performers will do themselves a big favor by studying the one and half hour course in becoming a street magician by Stelfox. Find it : www.willstelfox.com/Products.html Dr. Moskowitz prescribes this DVD Rx Rx Rx Rx .5 (4.5/5)





(ABC— Continued from page 5)



To sign up please contact
salomonbarajas@yahoo.com Please let me know
what type of effect you are doing to make sure that
no two acts are the same.

— Salomon Barajas

Charger Blood Drive

Ring 76 has long provided entertainment at the annual Chargers Blood Drive, and those who contribute their time and talent deserve our respect and admiration. The tradition was continued this year despite some organizational bumps in the road.

First, I want to acknowledge and thank Kenny Shelton, Joe Mystic, Leif Erickson, and both Kelloggs -James, Jr. and JK3 - for contributing their time and talent. Well done, all of you! Joe and Kenny split a ½ slot on the main stage at 1:15, and the Kelloggs did another ½ hour father-and son show at 2:30. Both shows were well received and contained some very good magic. Kenny Shelton and Leif Erickson both spent extra-time entertaining at our booth.

TOGETHER, WE ARE
ONE TEAM!



PRESENTED BY
San Diego County
Credit Union

Ring 76 2013-14 Calendar

Dec 9	Holiday Banquet
Jan 13	Anything But Cards (ABC)*
Feb 10	Close-Up Competition*
Mar 10	Mentalism*
Apr 14	Teach-A-Trick Night
May 12	Stand-Up Competition*
Jun 9	Money Magic*
Jul TBD	Installation Banquet

* Opportunity for Members to Perform

I also want to acknowledge anyone else who may have participated, and if you will contact me, I will see that your participation is properly recognized at the Holiday Banquet and in the next newsletter. I may well have missed someone, as we did not, regrettably maintain a schedule for performers at the booth. In fact, there seemed to be some confusion as to whether we would have a booth at all. Fortunately, it all came together in the end and Ring 76 was ably represented via our shows and presence at the booth.

Looking forward, the Board will take the lessons learned from this year and apply them to next year's Blood Drive so that things will run more smoothly.

— Bob Meigs

