



MAGICURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76 NOVEMBER 2015 VOL. XXIX #11

RING 76 OFFERS MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEMBERS

If you ask any one of our 70 or so members why they belong to our Ring, you will get one or more of a variety of answers.



One of the more prevalent answers is, "To learn." Ring 76 certainly fulfills that expectation. The opportunity to rub elbows with the professionals as well as other well-experienced members of the group, see them

perform, ask them questions and listen to their experiences is always there.

Our regular "Teach-a-Trick" night is a much-looked-forward-to event where favorite effects are performed and taught. Most members stay after the meetings to have a late dinner or dessert or just socialize at a local restaurant, sharing tricks and experiences on an informal level.

Ring-sponsored seminars and workshops throughout the year bring members in contact with some of the best performers in the business.

A key to becoming a better magician is "experience." For all except two months of the year, members have the opportunity to perform in front of the Ring, either for just the experience or to engage in the various competitions and the "Magician of the Year" award.

We also have opportunities to perform at other local venues such as the County Fair and organized holiday events.

But there are other benefits. In the past year, the Ring's participation in community affairs has dramatically increased. We have provided shows for children and parents at shelters for some time.

This past year, we experimented with using magic to help limited and disadvantaged children develop communication and other interactive skills which will apply to the rest of their lives.

The first of these at Rady's Children's Center was a complete success and we extended a similar program into Nativity Prep School where eight students will do their own magic show in December. The continuations of both programs will offer opportunities for member participation in teaching.

Sitting on the Ring 76 Board offers members the experience of working behind the scenes in many specific planning and action capacities. All Board positions are open to all members each election.

Our bi-annual auction (coming up in November) is a great opportunity to add material to your magic stable or to convert your no longer used items into cash.

There are plenty of reasons to be a member of Ring 76. Whether you are a full-time pro or if you never perform but just love magic in general, the Ring is a welcoming place to enjoy the company of a part of the San Diego magic community.

Malcolm Campbell



PUBLISHED BY THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS

HONEST SID GERHART RING 76

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MINUTES OF OCTOBER 13 RING MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Muahahahah! The theme for the October 2015 meeting was Halloween Magic.

President Kenny Shelton called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Mark Miller, Gary Ward, and several other guests were welcomed.

Announcements

Locations for the **David Ginn lecture**, scheduled for the 25th of this month and the **bi-annual auction** which will be the theme of the November meeting were discussed.

Former AMA Board Member, and regular Castle performer, **Rich Cowley**, has been booked for the entertainment at our Holiday Potluck in December.

Bob Meigs solicited volunteers to perform at the Del Mar Pumpkin Station with him. (Your Secretary did this the last two Sundays at 2 and 3 PM. You perform on straw and the audience sits on hay bales. The acoustics are poor but Bob has a Happy Amp, and I found that as long as I PROJECTED, everyone could hear me without a PA. It was fun!)

Program

V.P. of Entertainment **Richard Ustick** began with a scholarly introduction about the history of Halloween, and continued to pontificate between each act. Richard likes to share his knowledge AND make it fun. Mr. Ustick, is the *Master of Ceremonies*!

Terry Lunceford started the competition with a highly entertaining and theatrical “zombie” routine based on a zombie losing his hand which mysteriously floated in mid air. This was all to music and Terry was an impressive dancer and magish! Very funny start to a great night!

Charlie Gott did the Ancient Siberian Chain escape with the help (and amazement) of two young assistants.

Greg Wauson performed a game of chance wherein each of three players had a chance to win \$100 of his money. In the end, Greg took the prize money.

Malcolm Campbell told the story of Harry Houdini and his wife’s skeptical debunking of mediums and spiritualists, yet Houdini made a pact with his wife that after his death, she would try to contact him to prove or disprove the practice of séances. There have been 89 years of attempts to reach Houdini, and tonight was no different. Malcolm managed to contact Houdini, get physical manifestations of his presence, and even have him answer questions! Very well done, Mr. Campbell.

Jacques Lord took the Houdini cue and performed the venerable Threading the Needles in your Mouth. He was assisted by our newest member, Andy Crawford, and succeeded in demonstrating he is a silver-tongued consultant that works wonders in his prehensile esophagus...

Ken Inteligator spoke of a deck of cards as a mausoleum full of ghosts. He launched into a 4-card trick of blank faces turning one of them into Beetlejuice, which had a different colored back!

Andrew Custer closed the evening’s entertainment with a slick card routine that demonstrated coincidence and magic often intersect! Very spooky, indeed!

The meeting closed at 8:05. Since we met at Denny’s, the trick sharing and fellowship continued there.

..... jacques lord, secretary

CAUTION!

Several members have reported an attempted credit card scam. A person who claims to be Eric Lawson says he is looking to book entertainment for children's parties and will ask you to be the liaison between him and his caterer who doesn't take credit cards. He will ask you to sign up at www.venmo.com so funds can be transferred to you.

This is nothing but a scam, and should be reported to the Police Department if you are contacted.

The email he uses is: [lawsone743 @gmail.com](mailto:lawsone743@gmail.com).

..... editor



HALLOWEEN MAGIC NIGHT

(This Was Spooky)



EMCEE AND V.P. OF ENTERTAINMENT
RICHARD USTICK



WAITING FOR RICHARD TO STOP TALKING



TERRY LUNCEFORD



GIVE THIS MAN A HAND



CHARLIE GOTT



CHARLIE HAS A GREAT SCRIPT WRITER



GREG WAUSON



WHY DOES HE ALWAYS WIN?



JACQUES LORD



HE KEPT US ON PINS AND NEE-



KEN INTELIGATOR



MICRO MAGIC MASTER



ANDREW CUSTER



IMPOSSIBLE COINCIDENCE



And the Winner Is
MALCOLM CAMPBELL
(Assisted by Harry Houdini)





Bi-Annual Ring 76 Auction Coming in November



With the Holidays quickly approaching, we could all use some extra cash. So once again it is time for you to clean out your closets, sweep from under your beds, and rummage through that trunk in your garage for those magical treasures you don't need any more. Yes, it is time for the **bi-annual Ring 76 Auction**.

This year the auction will be held at on our usual meeting night of November 9th at **St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church at 16275 Pomerado Road, Poway, 92064**. We will start promptly at 7 pm and have a small business meeting before getting on with the auction.

The rules are simple:

Everyone is allowed to sell up to five lots in the first session. A "lot" may contain as many items as you would like to sell, but they are all sold for the winning bid. Individual items in a lot may not be sold separately.

For example, your first lot may consist of a large illusion while your second lot may contain fourteen books on magic that you have read to death and a sponge ball. The two lots will be auctioned off separately, and not in any particular order; The sequence of the lots put up will be at the discretion of the auctioneer. After the first session, when everyone has had a chance to auction off their initial five lots, any additional lots beyond your initial allocation can go on the block. This way, no one member can dominate the evening; Everyone gets a chance to auction off their wares.

With each lot, the member must provide a written description including any defects, missing instructions, etc., to help us generate interest, and a minimum starting bid. That is the lowest price the auctioneer will accept for the lot. Unsold lots may be re-submitted at a different minimum bid on the second cycle. Price your lots carefully. You don't want to have your Zig-Zag sold off for \$10 now, do you?

The Ring will collect 10% of the final auction price from members of the Ring. Non-Ring members are welcome to bring their items to the auction. However, they will be charged 15% of the auction price. Membership has its privileges!

If you have any questions, please contact me, Richard Ustic , the VP of Entertainment, at Ring76ibm@yahoo.com.



Holiday Pot Luck



is

Right Around the Corner

Just a reminder that the annual Ring Holiday Pot Luck is right around the corner. All members are encouraged to bring their families to this magical event as well as their favorite Holiday meal treats.

The date and location are still being decided, but you should already be thinking about what to bring. It should be enough to feed eight to ten people, and can be a main course, salad, side dish or dessert.

The Board and Ring will provide turkey, ham roast beef, serving utensils, plates, and napkins as well as warming trays to keep your food hot.

We will also be providing entertainment.

The date will most likely be December 14th and the location will be announced soon.

If you have any questions, please contact me at Ring76ibm@yahoo.com

Richard Ustick
V.P. Entertainment
IBM Ring 76





Wizards, Inc.

Ring 76's Youth Program is in high gear! We have now had five meetings of *Wizards, Inc.*, our "magic club" at Nativity Prep Academy. Our "wizards" are eight eighth graders with an interest in magic, and in developing presentation and communication skills. Our "faculty," to date, consists of Malcolm Campbell, Joe Mystic, Bob Meigs, Jeff Sargent, and Kenny Shelton.

This is part of the program Malcolm presented to IBM, resulting in a \$1,000 grant to Ring 76, and our designation as an "*Honor Ring*."

In our first meeting, we taught a handful of simple tricks from Bob's magic camp at the Fair. In Sessions 2, 3, and 4, we taught six more challenging routines, one of which each "wizard" will perform in a stage show that concludes our program. In Session 5, we began the phase of preparing the "wizards" to perform – discussing delivery, attire, overcoming stage freight, on-stage persona, and other elements of performing before an audience.

So far, the program appears to be an unqualified success. The only problem is we are finding it difficult to spend our grant money! Paul Gross, owner of *Hocus Pocus*, has donated most of the magic we are distributing to the "wizards." Nativity Prep is so impressed that they have offered us a meeting place in their facilities (with a little prompting from Joe Mystic), without charge.

So all you Ring members – give Malcolm Campbell a tip of the hat for putting together a worthwhile program we can all be proud of! And thanks to all the Wizards, Inc., "faculty" – Malcolm, Joe, Bob, Jeff, and Kenny for giving the time and talent to make this fine program a success!

(And a big round of applause for Bob for putting this program together! editor)



Performing with Pumpkins

On the three Sundays preceding Halloween, Bob Meigs arranged half-hour shows at the Del Mar Pumpkin Patch, open to all members of Ring 76. There were two shows each Sunday, starting at 2 pm and 3 pm.

The basic idea was to give Ring members a chance to perform a routine or two (actually, anything up to a half-hour) in front of a family audience, without having to arrange an entire show. Bob had no idea how many Ring members might participate, but, being a big fan of Halloween magic, Bob could easily do the half hour if no one showed.

But show you did! In fact, Bob was joined by fellow Ring members *in all six shows!* He never did more than 15 minutes himself – usually just his opening routine, and a quick introduction of the guest performers.

Jacques Lord, Gary Dismukes, Gary's daughter, Malcolm Campbell, Nick Benevento, and Greg Wau-son all participated, making the Pumpkin Patch Performances a multi-magician variety show!

This was not a paid gig, but it was a lot of fun, and an easy way to try out new routines on a live audience. The Pumpkin Patch was not going to hire a pro, so we weren't stepping on any toes. Members who are interested in this type of show should contact Bob Meigs. He may repeat this next year, or do something similar in other venues.





SHAVINGS FROM THE BOARD



MINUTES OF RING 76 BOARD MEETING

October 26, 2015

Condensed for publication

MINUTES OF RING 76 BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 26, 2015

Summary of Actions

The Board approved a motion to use the meeting room at Denny's on Clairemont Mesa Blvd. for the September meeting.

The Board approved a motion to post the By-Laws and Constitution of the Ring on the website for member access.

The meeting was called to order by 1st VP of Entertainment Richard Ustick at 7:20 pm. Present were Treasurer Bob Meigs, VP Membership James Thayer, Member at Large and Newsletter Editor Malcolm Campbell, Secretary Jacques Lord./Absent: Kenny Shelton, Jeff Sargent, Mago Ruly

Previous Minutes

September Board minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Bob presented the Ring 76 Treasury Report. Report approved

Library

No changes or new items to report this month

Membership

63 active members, with 11 of those being Honorary Lifetime. Members who have no paid are not receiving the newsletter and will be notified that they may not attend the November meeting.

Old Business

October meeting was a classic Halloween

show. Excellent performances by numerous members, both long-timers and some of the newbies. Nothing scary about the future of the Ring if this sort of participation continues. Malcolm Campbell took the Magician of the Month honors.

November auction meeting rules were reviewed. Credit card reader authorized last month has not yet been purchased.

David Ginn lecture had 9 paid attendance. Attendance was poor but those who showed up had a good time.

Mr. Ginn had a large variety of great material for sale at excellent pricing.

Honor Ring Youth program continues to progress.

Under the leadership of Bob Meigs, the Nativity Prep Magic Club program is halfway through with eight participants. They are picking what they want to perform and will work on their performance.

It is a successful program so far but operating in the bare minimum of volunteers. If the school wants to continue next semester, we can do it again. This will be an agenda item in November.

Jacques got feedback from Heather Rose at Radys. Our program was a big success but they will not be doing the carnival again for 3-4 years as they rotate through several activities/events. When the opportunity comes up again we will be invited back.

Joe Mystic and Jacques Lord did a show at Father Joe's Village last Thursday.

New Business

November 9th auction meeting possible venues. The Westwood Club is not available. St. Bart's Conference room in Poway was booked instead for \$50

December 14th Holiday Pot Luck location is still open. Several locations are being pursued.

Alternative regular meeting space was discussed. Dennys is a good interim facility but we need to do better for space, sound, lights,

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(Continued from page 11)

stage, and other amenities.

Holiday Banquet details were discussed. It will be on the 13th or 14th of December, depending on facility availability.

Pumpkin Station show in Del Mar had good participation with Bob Meigs, Greg Wauson, Jacques Lord, Malcolm Campbell and Nick Benevento performing. Let's do it again. Other possible events members might perform in are Cinco de Mayo in Old Town and the Del Mar Fair.

Newsletter Assignments were reviewed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted.

Jacques Lord, Secretary

Focus On THE LINKING RING

Each month, MagicCurrents features an item in the current issue of The I.B.M.'s The Linking Ring in which we feel the members might be especially interested.

When was the last time you used your Chinese sticks?

I thought so ... so long ago you can't remember. Why? Probably because there is just no good way to work up to a decent finale. You might want to take a look at the Ring 41 Parade in this month's (October) Linking Ring where John Lewit presents a novel routine based on a poem. The patter and moves will take more than a little practice but it might get some of the dust off your sticks (and a hand from the audience.)

. editor

Ring 76 2015-16 Calendar

| | |
|-----|--------------------------------------|
| Nov | 9 Auction (See notice for location) |
| Dec | 14 Holiday Potluck (Location TBD) |
| Jan | 11 Technology Magic* |
| Feb | 8 Close-up Competition |
| Mar | 14 Kids Magic* |
| Apr | 11 Story telling (skit/movie) Magic* |
| May | 9 Standup Competition |
| Jun | 13 Food Magic* |
| Jul | 11 Installation Banquet |
| Aug | 8 Bag Night* |

*Opportunity for Members to Perform

San Diego Ring 76 meets the second Monday of the month. For the foreseeable future, general meetings will be held at:

**Denny's at 4280 Clairemont Mesa Blvd.
San Diego 92117.**

Direct any questions concerning the calendar to VP Entertainment Richard Ustick
ring76ibm@yahoo.com.

MAGICURRENTS WELCOMES NEW STAFF MEMBER

Bob Pozner has graciously volunteered to serve as Proof Reader for Magiccurrents. No matter how many times I go over the text, typos and bad grammar always manage to hang on. Bob's second set of eyes will be a great help. Thank you Bob!

. editor



DAVID GINN

KIDBIZ SECRETS LECTURE

On Sunday, October 25, we were treated to a lecture by the renown children's magician, David Ginn at our regular meeting venue in Denny's event room, which turned out to be perfectly adequate for the event.

Richard Ustick and I had planned to be on site early enough to help with set-up and coordinate with the management. But, David and his two helpers beat us there and had the whole room set up, complete with his merchandise display tables, when we arrived.

The doors opened at 1:30 and David started at 2:10. The first portion ran until 4:00, we took a 25 minute break, then David continued for another 45 minutes or so.

Each attendee was given a bag with free merchandise with a value greater than the admission fee. At the break and following the lecture, merchandise relating to the effects demonstrated, as well as many others, was for sale at very reasonable prices.

Although the event was well publicized to the Ring and several outside groups, the attendance was disappointing but that did not seem to in any way affect David's unique, entertaining and informative presentation. His material would be of value to any magician, not just those who specialize in Children's Magic.



**LOTS OF GOODIES
TO CHOOSE FROM**



THE GATE KEEPER







NOTES AND REMINDERS



Remember, we are looking for product reviews. It doesn't matter if you liked what you paid for or not, we want your opinion for the benefit of the rest of the members. If you're not a writer, we can arrange a short sit-down to gather the facts and write the review.

Have magic to sell, stage equipment to rent? Looking for something to buy or rent? Need a ride or have room for a passenger to an out of town event such as the Magic Castle?

Have a special skill another member might use? Need a temporary assistant?

Advertise it at no cost to Ring 76 members in MagiCurrents

LIBRARY REMINDER

Ring 76 has a large library of books DVD's, even VHS tapes covering every phase of magic. All of the Materials are available for members to check out and use at home.

Kenny Shelton, our Librarian, regularly brings a sampling to our meetings and those are available for immediate check out. But you may not know that the "Library" link on our website leads you to a complete list. If you find something there that you would like to use, contact Kenny at magicjugglerks@gmail.com. Tell him what you want and he will bring it to the next meeting.

The intended publication date of each issue of MagiCurrents is the Friday 9 days before the monthly meeting. Sub-



missions from officers, reporters and other members are due the Thursday before the publication date. If you want *your* newsletter on time, please be prompt!!

Thanks to all who contributed to this issue of MagiCurrents!

..... editor