



MAGICURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76

MARCH 2016

VOL. XXX #3

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I would like to thank everyone who competed in the close-up contest this year. All did an excellent job and really put a lot of effort into their routines.

Unfortunately, one performer had to be disqualified for breaking one of the rules for the contest.

We have rules and procedures for all performances which establish acceptable content for our audience and ensure fair competition in the contests. They can be found on our website and in our By-Laws and should be reviewed by all potential performers to prevent future violations.

Don't forget we have a library with books, DVDs and video tapes for our members in good standing to check out. The complete catalog of available items is on the website. If you contact me prior to a meeting, I will gladly bring the material to the meeting. My phone and email are (619) 517-1286, magicjugglerks@gmail.com. There is no limit on the number of items or length of time.

Elections are coming up soon and the Ring is looking for volunteers to serve on the Nominating Committee and to serve as officers and Board members. All positions are open to all members.

March's theme is Kids' Magic, so please get the word out and bring your families. I hope to see you all there!

..... kenny



Ring 76 2016 Calendar

- Mar 14 Kids Magic*
- Apr 10 7:00 pm, Martin Lewis Lecture
Free to members
- Apr 11 Story telling (skit/movie) Magic*
- May 9 Stand-up Competition
- Jun 13 Food Magic*
- Jul 10 Installation Banquet
Location Tentatively
Cottonwood CC
- Aug 8 Bag Night*

*Opportunity for Members to Perform

San Diego Ring 76 meets the second Monday of the month. Unless otherwise announced, general meetings will be held at:

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

Special events may be held at a more suitable location. See event announcements for details.

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HONEST SID GERHART RING 76**

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MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

February 8, 2016

The meeting was convened at 7:00 pm by President Kenny Shelton. Prior to 7:00, Members took advantage of the Denny's menu.

Kenny announced that Martin Lewis will be our next lecturer. The date and time were set at Sunday, April 10, 2016 at 7:00 pm

V.P. of Entertainment Richard Ustick got right to it and introduced this month's theme, "The Close-Up Contest!" This is an annual tradition and it brings out the professionals and amateurs alike. One thing for sure, when you perform for the Ring in a competition, you have to be prepared to do your best magic.

The competition opened with **Alex Greenbaum** performing some card predictions and other sorcery as a student at Hogwarts. Alex can always be counted on devising an original presentation.

Gary Dismukes followed with a wonderfully integrated series of card effects using our "resident volunteer" **Sherry Luft**.

Greg Wauson was up next with a baffling routine involving a torn and restored card that had just about all of us scratching our heads.

Jacques Lord followed Greg with his "Marked Deck" explanation and personalized version of Sam the Bellhop (he got my vote).

The next contestant did not abide by the contest rules and was disqualified.

Jeff Sargent put on his polished gambling skills demonstration with Traveling Aces and Invisible Palms

Last year's Close-Up winner, **Joe Mystic** performed a familiar routine with coins and cards and lovely Faros, and he did it like the champ he is.

Malcolm Campbell gave Jeff Sargent a run for his money with a different poker routine. Malcolm was our oldest competitor but performed

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.

The purpose of The Linking Ring is to share information with the membership of The I.B.M. including the business of the organization (member benefits, events, news about members and the magic community in general and more.)

Most importantly, is the sharing of magic-related information. Regular monthly columns contain original magic in various categories shared by members. Since the focus is on "sharing", these columns are not just showcases of someone's talents and ingenuity. They are written to be *instructive*, including the detail you, the reader, need to assemble, learn and perform the effect.

Most authors include contact information so that additional help can be obtained directly from them.

As Editor of several columns, including the Hocus Pocus Parade, I encourage you to consider writing your own Parade or special article to share your material. You don't have to be a professional writer or illustrator. We have plenty of professional talent to work your input into the final product.

We are especially honored to have Tony Dunn who draws all of the illustrations we use. Tony is able to create the exact sketch needed to illustrate a point from a photograph or verbal description.

Think about it!

..... editor

(Continued on page 3)



(Continued from page 2)

with equal aplomb and finesse as the youngsters such as Terry and Joe.

Mago Ruly, our very own Raul Rivera-Malo, was up next. He never fails to combine music, mime, props, and skill into a charming and magically delightful act.

The evening's competition was topped off with none other than **Terry Lunceford**, a Castle regular in the W.C. Fields bar. He delivered a smooth ad hoc performance with coins and cards since his intended act had already been presented! (Now THAT is a professional!)

This was a Close-Up competition for the ages. I have been attending them almost routinely since 2004 and this one was the best overall quality yet seen, in my humble opinion. So, those of you feeling timid or intimidated, remember that these Ring competitions are the stuff that pushes you to heights you did not think you could attain. JUMP IN! You won't regret it.

Next month – Kids' Magic!

..... jacques lord, secretary

CLOSE-UP CONTEST CONTESTANTS



Alex Greenbaum



Gary Dismukes



Greg Wauson



Jacques Lord





Jeff Sargent



Joe Mystic



Malcolm Campbell



Mago Ruly



Terry Lunceford





AND THE WINNER IS

..... to be announced in July!



ELECTION TIME IS COMING UP FAST

While national elections have dominated the news for the past few months, you may not realize that Ring 76 elections are just around the corner. Once again, it is time for members in good standing to step up and support the Ring and all its activities.

Each year, Ring 76 elects a Board of Directors to oversee Ring functions, plan lectures, publish the newsletter, and do what needs to be done to keep the Ring functioning smoothly. The Board is made up of members of the Ring — members just like you. If you enjoy being a member of Ring 76 and want to be directly involved in its operation, then maybe it is time for you to step up and support the Ring with your membership on the Board. Any member in good standing can run for any office with the exception of President (requires prior Board service). It takes no special talent, no administrative skills, just the desire to serve the Ring and help guide it through another year of magic and comradery.

If you think you might be interested, or if you have any questions about what it takes to make Ring 76 what it is, then please contact any member of the Board. We would be more than happy to give you any information you might need.





March's Meeting Theme Will Be Kids Magic !



The next meeting will be on March 14th at the Denny's on Clairemont Mesa Blvd. The theme of the meeting will be "Kids' Magic" and all members are encouraged to show us you favorite tricks and routines for children.

Members are also encouraged to bring their children or grandchildren to this meeting or invite any children they know in their community. It is always easier to do Kids' Magic when there are kids present.

If you plan on performing, or have any questions, please contact the V.P. of Entertainment, Richard Ustick, at Ring76ibm@yahoo.com.

Next Ring Lecture



The next Ring lecture will be on Sunday, April 10th, at 7:00PM at the Denny's restaurant on Clairmont Mesa Blvd. It will feature **Martin Lewis** and is free to all members in good standing.

Martin has been awarded "Visiting Magician of the Year," multiple times as "Parlor Magician of the Year," and "Lecturer of the Year" by the [Academy of Magical Arts](#) for his performances at the prestigious Magic Castle in Los Angeles.

The lecture will be open to the magic public, so if you have a friend who would be interested, please invite them along. All non-members must pay \$20 to see this informative presentation.

Please contact Richard Ustick, V.P. of Entertainment, at ring76ibm@yahoo.com with any questions.

I hope you see you there.

Food Service

At most Membership meetings , members may order from Denny's full menu for service in the meeting room before or after the meeting. No food is allowed during the meeting, so please plan to arrive early if you are going to eat prior to the meeting. You may also eat in the restaurant's main dining room. All food which members order give us credit toward our room fee so, if you order in the main dining room, please tell your server that you are part of the magician's group.

For lectures, the room is not set up for dining, so please eat in the main dining room before or after the lecture and be sure to tell your server that you are part of the magician's group. Please arrive an hour before the meeting so you will have time to be served and eat before the doors close promptly at the advertised lecture start time.



SHAVINGS FROM THE BOARD

MINUTES OF RING 76 BOARD MEETING February 22, 2016



Summary of Actions: No notable resolutions

**The meeting was called to order by
President Kenny Shelton at 6:58 pm.**

Present were Treasurer Bob Meigs, V.P. of Membership James Thayer, Sargent-at-arms Jeff Sargent, Secretary Jacques Lord, President Kenny Shelton, guest Lupe Shelton, Past President and Member at Large Sal Barajas, and Member at Large Mago Ruly. Member at Large and Newsletter Editor Malcolm Campbell was absent due to illness.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

January 2016 Board minutes were approved as submitted.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Bob presented the Ring 76 Treasurer's Report. The report was approved.

LIBRARY

Our Library is not getting much circulation since we meet at Denny's which makes it inconvenient and risky to put out books. To help stimulate usage, the Library is putting notices in the newsletter for members to request items and their items will be brought to the meetings.

MEMBERSHIP

67 active members and several prospects.

OLD BUSINESS

Installation Banquet - The banquet is most likely to be held in one of two Chinese buffets in El Cajon where we have prior experience.

Free (to membership) Lecture by Martin Lewis -The Lecture will be on Sunday, April 10th, 2016 at 7:00PM at the Denny's location.

Stand Up Contest - A location with a stage is needed. Denny's and St. Bart's will not do. The date is set as May 9th. Location possibilities are

Nativity Prep, and The Queen B theater in North Park. The Community Room in the La Jolla Village Square mall is another potential free room. Any other suggestions should be directed to the V.P. of Entertainment, Richard Ustick, at Ring76ibm@yahoo.com.

NEW BUSINESS

Holiday Banquet -The 2016 Holiday Banquet is tentatively scheduled for Monday, December 12, at Nativity Prep. Plan B is possibly returning to St. Bartholomew's in Poway.

Close-Up Contest - Overall, the contest was really a success. Nine out of 10 acts pushed themselves to perform at their very best and the members got a great night of close-up entertainment. One performer was notified that he was disqualified for improper content.

2016-2017 Board Elections - Board members volunteered for the following positions:

Jacques Lord, President

Richard Ustick, Secretary

Mago Ruly, Member-at-large

Kenny Shelton, Immediate Past President

Member-at-Large.

Bob Meigs, Treasurer

Malcolm Campbell later confirmed that he will volunteer to continue as Member-at-Large and Newsletter Editor.

Unfilled positions are V.P. of Entertainment and Sargent-at-Arms. Nominations or volunteers from the membership are welcome.

Newsletter Assignments - Newsletter assignments provided by Malcolm prior to the meeting were reviewed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted.

Jacques Lord, Secretary



BEHIND THE SCENES



A brief look at members' contributions to the success of the Ring, professional backgrounds and other interests.

Raul Rivera Melo Madera, better known to Ring 76 members and his audiences as “Mago Ruly,” was born in Mexico City and now resides in Tijuana.

He has performed his unique style of magic for 45 years and particularly likes performing close up magic, children’s magic and adult comedy magic. He has been a member of I.B.M. Ring 76 for over ten years and has won both Stage and Close-Up competitions as well as being awarded Entertainer of the Year for 2010- 2011. He currently serves on the Board as Member-at-Large,



While in Mexico City, he belonged to the Association of Latin-American Illusionists. He created the International Festival of Magic in Tijuana in 1998 and continues to be involved in the event.

But Raul’s involvement in show business goes far beyond magic. He is an actor, having attended the National Institute of Fine Arts where he performed in theatrical productions and received the title of Theater Instructor in 1978.

He is an accomplished ventriloquist, puppeteer and musician. He has performed as singer and guitarist for restaurants and bars in different cities throughout Mexico including Ensenada, Mexicali, Tijuana, Acapulco, Guadalajara, Merida, Cuernavaca and many others. For more than 5 years, he worked in Center Nocturne, opening the show for other Mexican artists.

He has written music for commercial radio and TV and produced a 5-disc album of his music for children and adults.

For over 30 years, Raul worked in radio and television doing magic in various television

programs next to several different international artists. He has more than 25 years experience as a Voice Actor in TV series including the Lassie show in 1970.

He has done commercials for different advertising agencies and production companies, receiving the “Luis M. Farias” medal from the National Broadcasters of Mexico for 25 years of service.

Throughout his artistic career, he has had many corporate clients including Coca Cola, Burger King, Kellogg, Nestle, Wendys, Panasonic, Walmart, Peter Piper Pizza, and Banati.

When he’s not performing, Raul enjoys cooking ethnic food including Japanese, Italian, Arabic and, of course, Mexican!

He is the proud father of two children, his daughter Liye who is a singer, and his son Raul who plays several instruments. They often perform with their father and have entertained the Ring on numerous occasions.

Raul has a Masters Degree in Human Development with a special interest in Child Development, conducting courses in self-improvement for children. For 20 years he has lead a program called “Leading child” for young children and a program called “Leader” for young teens within the Hispanic communities in different cities of Mexico

Magic Castle Visit Opportunity

Ring 76 members who are not members of The Magic Castle can take advantage of their guest visitor program as **Jacques Lord** leads a group to a night at the Castle on Member’s Night. Wednesday, March 9th. A personal favorite of Jacques’, Matt Marcy, is playing the Palace.

Jacques has room for three ride-sharers. They would leave Escondido at 3:30 pm, have dinner there, see the show and return to Escondido by midnight. There is no admission or cover. The cost would be food and drinks plus the ride-share. Contact Jacques at everydaywonder@sbcglobal.net to make arrangements.



A *MAGICIAN* IS POWERFUL !

DO I have any *right* to put my opinions down on paper? **DO** I have the *credibility* for this to be something others might consider? Can Donald Trump Run for President of the United States?

A true **Magician**, as opposed to a person who performs tricks, is a powerful person. He or she is capable of drawing strong and durable emotions from their audience. Most of all, the Magician can control the audience's perception of reality.

Wouldn't you like to be a Magician?

Why do you go through the motions of being a Magician anyway? Do you like to fool people? Do you like being the center of attention? Do you like creating an alternate reality for audiences to witness, marvel at and believe in? Do you want to impress the opposite sex? (I thought so).

When we work hard to go beyond the level of what Jeff MacBride calls "the Trickster" and move into the realm of being a Magician, we can create a moment for our audience that suspends them in time, takes them out of their everyday life experience and places them in the "reality" we are creating for them.

Most of the time, the reality we are creating for them is a simple "WHOA! How did you do that?" or a good laugh along with the surprise. We mesmerize and entertain and transport our audience into a place of our creation. That creation can be more than laughter and wonder – so we better work hard at creating that place because the real power of a Magician is to create a different reality *that moves us*.

In our journey to becoming powerful Magicians, we have many tools available to us including:

Scripting

Practice/Rehearsal/Production

Our Stage Persona

Acting/Blocking/Direction

Collaboration with others

From my limited experience, the catalyst which enables a truly powerful Magician to alter

peoples' reality is not something I can force or make happen. It is something that happens when I am prepared and the circumstances are right. Some true examples are:

It was a holiday party for a small company at Guadalajara's in Old Town. I was strolling before the meal and did a set after their meal. The material wasn't getting the reactions I was used to. I was getting worried that this was a disaster in the making; Everyone was so...so...blah!

When I approached the CEO after my performance to get paid, I said I was sorry my performance was so lackluster and he could reduce my fee if he thought it appropriate. He smiled and put his hand on my shoulder and said "No, no, you were great! You see, everyone is really depressed and we almost cancelled the event because our favorite receptionist just passed away from brain cancer a few weeks ago and we are all in the dumps. You actually got our spirits up and I want to thank you!" Tip on top of fee!

I was hired to stroll for an hour at an upscale wedding reception in the U.S. Grant Hotel lobby. There were local FOX News celebrities, and many "beautiful people." I was having fun and doing well when I noticed a pretty young lady in her early 20s sitting in a wheelchair with her leg in a cast at the edge of the crowd. She had been placed next to a couch of sleeping seniors and looked miserable. "Hi, do you like magic?" I asked. "YES!" was her reply and so I started to entertain her but got volunteers from the crowd – mostly handsome young men. By the time I was finished, she was chatting with three boys and looking much happier. My job here was done. We can be powerful Magicians, not just persons who do tricks. We can make a big difference in some people's lives. We need to be prepared, ready, attentive, and always striving to create strong magic and strong emotional responses in our audience.

And, yes, it's a great way to meet girls.

..... jacques lord



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 dvds, even VHS tapes covering every phase of magic. All of the Materials are available for members to check out and use at home.

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.



Submissions 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, especially Donna Greenbaum and Kenny Shelton for the photos.