



# MAGICCURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76

JANUARY 2025

VOL. XXXV #1



## Holiday Potluck was a fitting ending to a Magical Year.

December is one of two of the biggest meetings of the Ring year. It is our annual Holiday Potluck and not only features a wide selection of great food but we also make it a point to hire outstanding talent to entertain as well. This meeting is open to family and friends of the Ring so as a result it is often the largest attended event of the year. We were pleased to welcome thirty-eight members and fourteen guests. Each family brought fine food for the feast and **Greg Wauson's** wife **Brenda** once again volunteered to make festive holiday centerpieces for the tables. Thank you, **Brenda**.



See Potluck Pg. 2

*IBM Ring 76 meets every second Monday of the month at the Rec Hall of the Immaculate Conception Church in Old Town, San Diego, California. Unless otherwise specified, the doors open at 6:30pm and the meeting will begin at 7:00pm.*

## Ring 76 Has the New Year in the Bag.

Happy New Year Ring 76.

We are going to hit the ground running with our first performance night of the year, Bag Night. Each performer will receive a closed bag filled with magical props. They will then have fifteen minutes to figure out what they have and how they can turn the proverbial "pig's ear" into a "silk purse" of entertainment. They will be judged by the audience on creativity and entertainment skills.

Now the good news is that they do not have to do this alone. Each performer is allowed to *pick an assistant* to help them figure out *what the heck* they have and *what the heck* to do with it. This is a performance night so the winner will receive "Entertainer of the Month" and their votes will go toward "Entertainer of the Year" to be announced in July.



As of this publication, we have five people signed up. There are a total of eight bags ready and waiting for your imagination so if you are interested text or call "**Magic Mike**" Stilwell at 619-251-2766.

## Ring 76 2025 Calendar

**January 13th 2025 - Bag Night \***

**February 10th 2025 - Closeup Contest**

**March 10th 2025 - Mini-Lectures**

**\*Opportunity for Members to Perform**

Direct any questions concerning the calendar to V.P. of Entertainment, "**Magic Mike**" Stilwell at [Magicmike@Ring76.com](mailto:Magicmike@Ring76.com).

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**PUBLISHER - RICHARD USTICK, PROOF READER GREG WAUSON EMAIL US AT [EDITOR@RING76.COM](mailto:EDITOR@RING76.COM)**



## Potluck from Pg. 1



The Board members arrived early to set up the meeting room. Fortunately for us, the church where we hold our meetings had celebrated their own so tables were already arranged. Long tables were placed along the walls to accommodate the wide variety of foods that members were to bring. Secretary **Richard Ustick** arrived with the warming trays, Sterno, plates, eating utensils as well as the serving spoons. As the crowd

arrived, he directed food to the hot table, salad tables, and dessert tables. With the help of others, all went remarkably smoothly for such a complex maneuver. Normally our Ring meetings start at 7 pm however we start the food service early at the December meeting to make sure everyone has time to eat, business is attended to, and we can all enjoy the entertainment that is to come.

Shortly after everyone had had a chance to get the food a brief business meeting was called to order by President **Josh Sherwin**. It was announced that January would feature Bag Night and that anyone interested in entering February's Close-Up contest should contact V.P. of Entertainment, "**Magic Mike**" **Stilwell**. Guests were welcomed but due to the nature of the evening, they were not called on to identify themselves and relate their interest in magic, as is the usual rule. With that, business was concluded and the night's entertainment could commence.

For this year's program, we were fortunate enough to book *Christopher T. Magician* and his "Not-So-Traditional Magic Show." While his show is "tailor-made for kids," it was tweaked just enough to make sure the mainly adult audience had an enjoyable time. The same energy and enthusiasm were present and at no time did the attendees feel they were watching a "children's show." Christopher had us laughing at his jokes, including the clever "inside jokes" aimed at the magical members, and also had us amazed at the skill

and daring of many of his effects and presentations as he puts it in his promotional material, "No unimpressive "kiddie" tricks here that wouldn't fool a baby. Christopher pulls every ounce of kid show fun and hilarity out of tricks that will fool everyone in the room!" including our most seasoned and professional magicians. He even produced his magical Rat, much to the delight of the younger members of the audience.



After the show, Member at Large and Ring Librarian **Gary Salisbury** presented the "Opportunity Drawing" where valuable additions to anyone's magical treasures could be won with a simple ticket. Finally, there was the grand holiday tradition of "cleaning the place up," in which everyone participated. The Church recreation room was put back in order so that Ring 76 could continue its reputation of being welcomed guests wherever they are.



Pres. Josh Sherwin with future Ring member



VP Membership James Thayer & wife Marieke



Cynthia Robertson and Brenda Wauson are two Associate Members who make our meetings possible. Cynthia took many of the photos for this edition and Brenda made the fine decorations for the event.



Rich Robertson & Donna Greenbaum





## Holiday Potluck was a Festive Time for One and All



Christopher T, Magician with his magic rat



Secretary Richard Ustick gets ready to set up serving stations



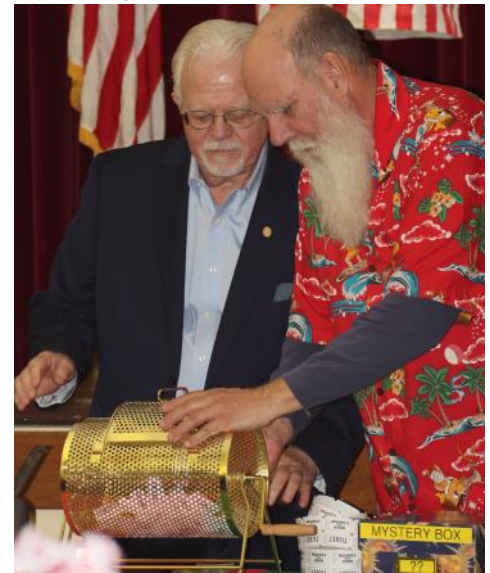
I am sorry Greg but if you wanted to get on Santa's "Good List" you should have thought of it earlier. I am all booked up.



This is often the only time we get to see wives and family members



Mago Ruly and family from Tajuana. We really ARE an International Brotherhood of Magicians



Gary Salisbury & "Magic Mike" About to spin for Magic Gold



## Michael Johnson Offers Life Skills Magic Program

Ring 76 member **Michael Johnson** is sharing his new Life Skills Magic program at birthday parties and after-school programs throughout Southern California. In December 2024, he brought his show to San Diego County, Riverside County and Orange County. In February 2025 he performs for all the schools in the San Jacinto School District for the second year in a row. His program is one-third show, one-third sharing, and one-third teaching.

Michael started Life Skills Magic as a way to expand his traditional family magic show, with more interactive activities. For example, he lets kids examine his collection of magic wands. He passes out magic magazines. He also brings the World's Smallest Magic Shop for kids to check out a dazzling miniature display. Some of the tricks he teaches involve pencils, rope, ping pong balls, and coins. "I think kids are too intelligent today just to sit and watch," he said. "I like to share my magic joy in multiple ways, as a magician, a collector, and a storyteller. I sure am learning a lot in this new format!"



## What is Coming up!

The January meeting will feature **Bag Night**. See page 1 for all the details and contact "Magic Mike" Stilwell if you are interested at 619-251-2766.

February will be our annual **Close-Up competition**. This is a formal completion and rules can be found on the Ring website. It will be limited to eight contestants and there is a time limit for your presentation. Any questions or if you wish to register please text or call "Magic Mike" at the number above.

Our March meeting will be the ever popular **Mini-Lectures** where you can bring your questions and problems and our experienced teachers will help you figure it all out.



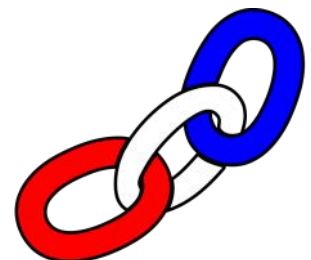
MagiCurrents is a large endeavor every month. The editors make a concerted effort to bring information to Ring members about events in the past and upcoming news, including the latest on magic events all across San Diego. We welcome all the help that Ring members give us in getting this periodical out. This month's photographs were provided by **Cynthia Robertson** and **James Thayer**. Thank you for all your hard work!

## Internet Links to Enhance your Magic

A special thanks to Librarian **Gary Salisbury** and Web Mage **James Thayer** for organizing a library of internet links that will we are sure will improve your overall skills not only in magic but in presentation as well.

The Links can be found on the Ring 76 web page ([www.ring76.com](http://www.ring76.com)) under the main menu, *Magic Links*, or by following this particular link, <https://www.ring76.com/html/magiclinks.php>

Check it out and please enjoy  
-ed



# Ex Libris

**By Gary D. Salisbury**



Welcome to Ex Libris, my monthly newsletter article about the IBM Ring 76 Library in San Diego, CA.

‘Ex Libris’ (Eh-cks LEE-breese), means ‘From the Book’. Generally, you will see this term used on bookplates to denote that it came from the library of its owner. For example: “*Ex Libris: Gary Salisbury*” is on all my personal books.

This is where we talk about your library as well as do book and video reviews. Yes, your library! If you are a Ring 76 member in good standing, then this is your library! So be sure to stay in good standing by paying your dues on time.

Someone recently asked me, “*What is the Ring 76 Library?*” I responded, “It is currently over 1,000 volumes of magic books and magazines, all available for check-out. There is 744 magic audiobooks, 1,741 magic instruction videos, 92 full length magic movies, 10 albums of magic music (some royalty free), 1,526 magic performance videos (many classics), 10 podcasts (over 2,000 episodes that we co-host), 23 magic TV series, a photo warehouse (where we will save all our Ring 76 activity photos) and all this is available for streaming from the *Ring 76 Magic Media Server*.”

It is also a museum for a collection of historic Ring 76 memorabilia from one of our founders, Honest Sid Gerhart. It is a magical learning source unparalleled in the entire IBM organization and it is funded totally from donations and fundraising efforts that I have engaged in on your behalf.”

## WHAT'S NEW AT YOUR LIBRARY?



**Ring 76 Web Server:** I have given James a long list of [Magic Links](#) that I have collected over the years and he has put them on our *IBM Ring 76 web server* where everyone can use them.

Be sure to check them out and feel free to submit any of yours, that are not listed, to James for inclusion. Also, please report any that become broken

in the future. Thank you, James, for the great job you have done here. Everyone, give James a THANK YOU!

### Library Donations:

We had several generous donations from members last month.

- Michael Calahan donated \$30 to be added to the *50/50 Opportunity Drawing*. Thank you, Michael!
- Doctor X donated some more magic-oriented audiobooks that are now in the Magic Media Server. Thank you, Dr. X!
- Gary Salisbury donated a Mr. Magic robotic magician for a door prize drawing. (Valued at \$55)

We need your DVDs, VHS tapes, and video downloads. They will be put on the *Ring 76 Magic Media Server* so you will still be able to watch them or check the physical media back out. Please help.

Sharing is good! Sharing is fun!

**Funding & Expenditures:**

We made \$27.00 from the *50/50 Opportunity* drawing and \$23.00 from the *Door Prize* drawing. We purchased 10 magic-oriented audiobooks for \$35.98, leaving the library Petty Cash at \$205.21.



We have other things to purchase for the library but I am holding off until the cash balance increases and am only focusing on essentials at this time. The library needs to be fed in order to keep it alive, so your donations would be greatly appreciated. Make a holiday donation.....

### Ring 76 Magical Arts Library (Books):

We did not purchase any printed books this month. I am scheduling the library physical inventory after the holidays, so if anyone wants to volunteer, please let me know.

### Ring 76 Magic Media Server (Streaming Service):

We have lots of new things this month. You need to get logged on and do some exploring.

In the *Magic Audiobooks* library we have 39 new items:

- Amy Blackthorn-Blackthorn's Botanical Magic
- Amy Blackthorn-Blackthorn's Botanical Brews
- Darren Shan-Cirque du Freak-01-A Living Nightmare
- Darren Shan-Cirque du Freak-02-The Vampire's Assistant
- Darren Shan-Cirque du Freak-03-Tunnels of Blood
- Darren Shan-Cirque du Freak-04-Vampire Mountain
- Darren Shan-Cirque du Freak-05-Trials of Death
- Darren Shan-Cirque du Freak-07-Hunters of the Dusk
- Darren Shan-Cirque du Freak-08-Allies of the Night
- Darren Shan-Cirque du Freak-09-Killers of the Dawn
- Darren Shan-Cirque du Freak-10-The Lake of Souls
- Darren Shan-Cirque du Freak-11-Lord of the Shadows



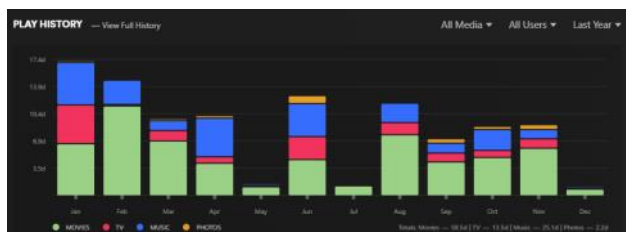
- Justin Travis Call-Master of Sorrows-1-The Silent Gods
  - Kelley Armstrong-03-Dime Store Magic
  - Kelley Armstrong-04-Industrial Magic
  - Kelley Armstrong-05-Haunted
  - Kelley Armstrong-06-Broken
  - Kelley Armstrong-07-No Humans Involved
  - Kelley Armstrong-08-Personal Demon
  - **Kelley Armstrong-09-Living with the Dead**
  - Kelley Armstrong-10.5-Counterfeit Magic
  - Kelley Armstrong-12.1-Men of the Otherworld
  - Kelley Armstrong-12.2-Tales of the Otherworld
  - Liz Hedgecock-The Magical Bookshop, Volumes 1-3
  - Nicole Conway-Mad Magic-1-Mad Magic
  - Nicole Conway-Mad Magic-2-Vicious Vows
  - Nicole Conway-Mad Magic-3-Wicked Ways
  - Patricia A. McKillip-Od Magic
  - Robyn Peterman-1-It's a Wonderful Midlife Crisis
  - Shannon Hale-Princess Academy-1-Princess Academy
  - Shannon Hale-Princess Academy-3-Palace of Stone
  - Simon R. Green-For Love of Magic
  - Sofie Kelly-A Magical Cats Mystery-10
  - T. L. Huchu-4-The Legacy of Arniston House
  - Torsten Weitze-13th Paladin-3-The Brazen City
  - Torsten Weitze-13th Paladin-6-The Battle for Hjalgar
  - Torsten Weitze-13th Paladin-7-The Eternal Empire
  - Torsten Weitze-13th Paladin-8-Father of the Mountain
  - Torsten Weitze-13th Paladin-9-The Forest of Ire
- In the **Magic Instruction** library, you will finally find 24 new DVDs and VHS tapes that the club owns that have been digitized for streaming. There is some really GREAT stuff here.
- Al Goshman-The Life and Times of Albert Goshman
  - Ben Williams-Labeled (2)
  - Bill Goodwin-Siamese Twins
  - Boris Wild-Boris Wild's Marked Deck & Memorized Deck
  - Chase Hubler-Drawn Apart
  - Curtis Kam-Silverado
  - Dan Harlan-Pack Small, Play Big-Bizarre Magic Show-9
  - Fielding West-How to Be The Life of the Party
  - Jay Sankey-Imprisoned
  - Jim Pace-Gags-2a
  - Jon LeClair-Who's Afraid of Invisible Thread
  - Joshua Jay - Masterclass Live (Week 1)
  - Joshua Jay-Talk About Tricks-1
  - Joshua Jay-Talk About Tricks-2
  - Joshua Jay-Talk About Tricks-3
  - Kevin Parker-Descent
  - Larry Anderson-Jaw Droppers-4
  - Marc Mason-Solo
  - Mark Mason-Revelation
  - Mel Mellers-Tickling the Mind-2
  - Oz Pearlman-Clutch
  - Oz Pearlman-Greatest Beginner Magic DVD, Ever
  - Patrik Kuffs-Mind Stunts
  - Tim Wright-Zombie (2)
- In the **Magic Performances** library we have just added:
- Ben Jackson-Performs Magic on NBC's Today Show
  - Dai Vernon-The Spirit of Magic
  - JB Magic-Mark Mason Ads
  - Lebanon Circle of Magic-Crookes Residual Ectometron
  - Milt Larsen-Magic Castle The Inside Story
  - Ricky Jay-Deceptive Practice (2)
  - Steve Martin-Flydini (absolutely funny)
  - TAOM-2017 In Frisco, Texas
  - TAOM-2021 Stage Contest narrated by Scott Wells
  - TAOM-2022 Contest Content
  - TC Tahoe-Video Broadcast of Podcast 610
  - Terry Lunceford-Terry's Magic Pub
-



As you can see, I have been very busy adding new media for you. I work on the server 1 - 6 hours a day. It is only beneficial if you take advantage of it, so get logged on and start exploring.

We currently have a wide variety of magic oriented material on the Ring 76 Magic Media server in hopes to have something of interest for everyone. Please tell me if there is something else you would like to see there.

Here is the utilization report from the past month:



December was the lowest month on record so I have to assume you were too busy with Christmas or there might be something broken in the reporting system. We will watch and see what happens next month.

Plex only offers four categories for our eight separate libraries:

- **Movie Category in green** (Magic Instruction, Magic Movies, & Magic Performances)
- **TV Category in red** (Magic TV Shows)
- **Music Category in blue** (Magic Audiobooks, Magic Music, & Magic Podcasts)
- **Photos Category in orange** (Ring 76 Photos and Videos)

This magic machine is your key to *learning* and *being entertained*. It is a benefit from being a Ring 76 member so please make use of it.

*Do you have an account on the Ring 76 Magic Media Server yet? It is the best thing since Netflix and it's FREE for members of IBM Ring 76! Send me a request at [librarian@ring76.com](mailto:librarian@ring76.com).*

How would you like to be featured on the Ring 76 Magic Media Server? Just forward any of your performance videos to me and I will put them on the server in the **Magic Performances** library where everyone can see you perform.



**UPDATE:** PLEX now offers rental movies via streaming just like Netflix. Be sure to check it out.

**UPDATE:** Tired of high cable TV bills? Would you like to watch free movies & live TV? You've come to the right place. We've got bunches of them here on the Ring 76 Magic Media Server and you can start watching right now, all courtesy of PLEX! There is a wide selection of gauda to choose from.



**WATCH THIS:** Here is a short video on how to watch the over 800 channels of free TV from the PLEX Magic Media Server: <https://watch.plex.tv/watch/video?uri=provider%3A%2F%2Ftv.plex.provider.vod%2Flibrary%2Fmetadata%2F66e319d4361d05521fb973d1%2Fextras%2F66e319d4361d05521fb973d1&context.page=on-demand.list&context.groupID=plex-proweck&context.groupIndex=0&context.itemIndex=9>

**SPECIAL OFFER:** Do you have your eye on a video from your favorite magic dealer but were holding back because of the cost? Have I got a deal for you! Just tell me what you want to buy and I will take a look at it. If there are funds and it is something that would benefit all the members, then I will be able to purchase it and put it on our Magic Media Server where you and others members can enjoy it.

#### LIBRARY CHECK OUT PROCEDURE

Members may contact me 7 days a week, 24 hours a day, either by e-mail (at [librarian@ring76.com](mailto:librarian@ring76.com)) or by cell phone (voice or text) at 619-569-6035 to let me know what you would like to check out. (If you do not hear back from me within 24 hours, there may have been a technical problem so call me.) I will make sure the item(s) get to the next monthly meeting or you can pick it up at my home in Blossom Valley.

There is a limit of 4 items per month. You will need to sign the library card attached to the item along with your phone number. We ask that you return the items to the library on or before the monthly meeting for the following month (for example: If you check out a book at the July meeting, it should be returned on or before the August meeting). If need be, you can keep the book or video again if nobody else has requested it but you must sign for it again.

Our objective is to build the best magic reference library in the entire IBM organization world-wide but we need your help to do that. Please return overdue books & videos and donate regularly to your library. The library is here so YOU can learn how to perform magic. Use it! Am I doing a good job for you? Do I meet your needs? Please email me with any comments or suggestions.

Non-urgent communications will always be done via my *Ex Libris* newsletter article while more urgent communications will be done by a Ring 76 Librarygram emailed to:

[ring76members@googlegroups.com](mailto:ring76members@googlegroups.com).

Gary Salisbury



*Objective: To build the best magic reference library in the IBM organization world-wide.*

IBM Ring 76 Board Member-at-Large  
IBM Ring 76 Librarian  
Email: [librarian@ring76.com](mailto:librarian@ring76.com)  
Cell: 619-569-6035

CREDES QUOD HABES, ET HABES  
What you believe is real, is real.

(Disclaimer: Much of this material is my own but I sometimes copy material from other sources, with and without credit, and then merged with my own commentary to give you a better, more thorough source of information. Thanks to all who have knowingly and unknowingly contributed.)

From my secret underground bunker, hidden deep in the hills outside San Diego, California, I wish you a magical month. Happy Holidays and will see you again in the next newsletter. May the *Classic Force* be with you.



## Magic in Our Area

Paul Dwork is presenting his 39th Annual Fundraiser Magic Show on March 8, 2025. This is going to be a fabulous show. Send Paul an email if you need more information go to [www.magicmagicmagic.com](http://www.magicmagicmagic.com)

**ROTARY CREATES MAGIC!**

David Kovac- The funniest Magician You'll ever see-

Paul Dwork The Magic of Merlin

Ron Saylor- A Magician that leaves an audience of skeptics in "awe"

Jonathan Molo- The Magician in a Purple Suit

Ice McDonald - Excellence in Magic with no exceptions

**Featuring 5 Great Performers from the Magic Castle**

**Saturday, March 8, 2025, 7 PM**

**Carlsbad Cultural Arts Center Theater**

**8357 Monroe St. Carlsbad CA 92008**

Advance Tickets are \$60 ea. Seating is limited. No reserved seating

All proceeds benefit local charities through the Encinitas Rotary Club a Non-profit Foundation

**To Order Tickets ONLINE** scan QR code here →

Or go to: <https://www.magicmagicmagic.com/rotary-magic>

For further info: [paul@magicmagicmagic.com](mailto:paul@magicmagicmagic.com)

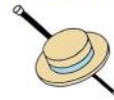
Encinitas Rotary Club

ENCINITAS



## RING 76

THE HONEST SID GERHART RING



MEMBERS ONLY FACEBOOK GROUP

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**619.466.2251**

5500 GROSSMONT CENTER DR. | SUITE 327 | LA MESA, CA 91942



Join Us For Our Post-Meeting Meeting Many of us gather together to eat and talk magic and news of the world after our monthly meetings. There probably won't be many (any?) of us there after our December potluck, but usually we'll be at the Denny's in Mission Valley, 1065 Camino Del Rio South, right across I-8 from Target.



## Christopher T. Magician Entertains Ring 76 with a "Kid's Show" that All can Enjoy



SAN DIEGO RING 76, INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS



## *Joint I.B.M. and S.A.M. Ethics Statement*

**The International Brotherhood of Magicians and the Society of American Magicians join in recommending that all magicians adhere to the following code of ethical conduct**

- Oppose the willful exposure to the public of any principles of the Art of Magic or the method employed in any magic effect or illusion.
- Display ethical behavior in the presentation of magic to the public and in our conduct as magicians, including not interfering with or jeopardizing the performance of another magician, either through personal intervention or the unauthorized use of another's creation.
- Recognize and respect for rights of the creators, inventors, authors and owners of magic concepts, presentations, effect and literature, and their rights to have exclusive use of, or to grant permission for the use of by others of such creations.
- Discourage false and misleading statements in the advertising of effects and literature merchandise or actions pertaining to the magical arts.
- Discourage advertisement in magical publication for any magical apparatus, effect, literature of other materials for which the advertiser does not have commercial rights.
- Promote the humane treatment and care of livestock used in magical performances.

**Each organization expects its members to adhere to the foregoing ethical principles and to educate non-members to the need to adhere to these ethical precepts.**

**See you all Monday, January 13th for "Bag Night !!**

