



MAGICURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76

MARCH 2025

VOL. XXXV #3

Close-Up Contest Constantly Creative

February's meeting for Ring 76 is the annual Close-up contest. A chance for members to pit their skills against other members in front of an eager and appreciative crowd. As it is a "contest" there are rules and restrictions that the usual "performance nights" do not have. The participants are judged by the membership present and are awarded at the July Installation Banquet.

The meeting was started promptly at 7 pm by President **Josh Sherwin** who announced the meeting schedule for the rest of the year. He then asked for introductions from any guests in the audience. We had thirty-nine membership and seventeen guest attend this evening. After that, the floor was open for any announcements or information on magic in the area. **Mr. Funtastic** and **Joe Mystic** reported they were starting a series of magic shows for the county elementary schools and were looking for one more performer and stout hands to act as stage and prop managers. **Paul Dwork** reminded the members and guests of his annual Rotary Creates Magic show on March 8th. The proceeds from this star-studded event benefit the local charities served by the Encinitas Rotary Club. The final bit of business was a card for the Ring to sign thanking Dan Thomas, long a supporter of magic in the San Diego area, for his contribution allowing us to purchase an upgraded camera system to make events like the close-up contest better viewed by the attendees. It was much appreciated.

With the business portion concluded, the meeting was turned over to the Vice President of Entertainment, "**Magic Mike**" **Stilwell**. One of his favorite duties is to introduce new members who must audition for membership to the Ring. Tonight **Patryk Lauent** introduced himself and dazzled the audience with a clever card prediction featuring a member of the audience, a mathematical bit of patter, and the previously chosen card ending up in a sealed box. Patryk was then excused from



Pres. Sherwin trying again to convince the audience he was NOT St. Junipero Serra.

the hall and the Ring membership voted to accept him into our fraternity. Welcome Patryk.

Now came the time for the main event. Eight members of the Ring were to compete for the honor of First, Second, and Third Place in the Close-Up Competition.



New member Patryk Lauent



First up was **Miguel Garcia** who demonstrated how "win money when playing with friends." He dealt out four Kings and showed how to palm, fake palm, and transpose the pasteboards across the mat. He then dealt the Kings face down but when they were overturned them they had become Aces.

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 2025 Calendar

March 10th - Mini-Lectures

April 14th - You Fooled Us contest

May 12th - Stand-up Contest

***Opportunity for Members to Perform**

Direct any questions concerning the calendar to V.P. of Entertainment, "**Magic Mike**" **Stilwell** at Magicmike@Ring76.com.

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New Camera Setup used to aid in Close-up Contest viewing pleasure



Next up was **Callahan** started with the Albuquerque ball vanish and then produced a pack of Lego Cards. A mechanical bird was used to choose one of several cards face down on the table. This was given to a

volunteer who put it into his pocket. A second card was chosen and Callahan asked the volunteer to read the largest word in the paragraph on the Lego Card but unfortunately, she had forgotten her glasses, much to the amusement of the audience. When this was corrected the word was read and Callahan asked the first volunteer to remove the card he had from his pocket which contained the predicted word.

The next contestant **Raul Rivera**, more popularly known as **Mago Ruly** opened with a simple request. If you liked his magic then tell him he is great, if you did not then keep it to yourself. A humorous statement that was also an 'inside joke' for all the performers in the audience. With the help of a member of the audience, Mago had a random number of cards counted down into several piles. When turned over each pile was made up of Kings, Queens, and Jacks, with the remainder of the deck blank cards. When the piles were turned back over they spelled, "How Great You Are Mago Ruly!"



Ms. Charley was introduced as the next contestant and she recalled a card story from her college days. Four aces, red and black, she put the "heavy" Ace of Spades over the "light" Ace of Diamonds. She turned the card over but to our amazement when revealed the "light cards" had moved to the top. When set up again, the heavy cards had moved to one pile while the light cards had mysteriously moved to another.



It then became **Mr. Funtastic's** turn to perform. He said he was part of the MIA, the Magic Intelligence Agency, and was a master of spies and infiltrators. To demonstrate this he took a Bill, the dollar bill, and folded him, disguising him as a \$100 bill. He then folded him again and he changed his disguise to a Million Dollar bill, though somewhat mismatched. He tried to change it to a Billion Dollar bill but it changed instead to a One-in-a-Million dollar bill, or the original \$1. Mr. Funtastic then demonstrated the vigorous exercise routines agents of MIA must follow and rolled the bill up, walked it across his fingers, up his sleeve, and then floated it into the air.



Mark Booth was the next contestant. He called up a member of the audience named Linda and amazed everyone by placing the brass ring on Linda's thumb, removed the ring while it was covered with a handkerchief, placing the ring in his pocket, and then caused it to magically travel from my pocket back to Linda's thumb. Next, he handed Linda a deck of cards and while she shuffled them he produced a table with large red cards offering predictions as to what was to come. The cards were placed in a large Tupperware type container with lid to mix up and then dumped onto the table. Twenty-three were face up, the first prediction. Fifteen cards were found to be red, which was the second written prediction, and all of the black cards were clubs the third prediction, except one, which was the Ten of Spades, was revealed as the final prediction.



Chris Lorensen dealt the cards, face down, in two separate piles, as he wished, in front of the poker chips. When the cards were turned over all the black cards were in front of the black chip and all the red cards, with one exception, were in front of the red chip. The one exception was the Six of Clubs.

Greg Wauson was the final contestant in this year's event. He told of a brilliant man who created and automated ATM which spits out \$20 bills but had some problems. For him it only spit out one dollar bills and they were so soft a credit card would pass through them like a warm knife through butter, leaving to damage at all. Greg then produced a finger chopper used by his friend to make sure his grandmother never bit her fingernails again. He demonstrated its effectiveness with the help of Ring member **Alfonso Vasquez**.

Vic Terrific took to the table and mentioned that he had to learn his own form of magic as he was left-handed and magic books are usually written for right-handed individuals. With two audience members called up he proceeded to manipulate the cards so that whatever one volunteer chose would end up being in the other's possession. Finally, two poker chips, one red and one black, were placed on the table. Jessica, a guest, chose a card, the Six of Clubs, and showed it to the audience. The card was shuffled back into the deck and Ring member



With the last contestant presented the night's opportunity drawing was held with many magic treasures won by those present. Votes were cast though the winners will not be announced until the Installation Banquet in July.

And with that, the meeting was over. Next month will be a mini-lecture series with a host of topics discussed.

What's Coming Up !

Hear Ye, Hear Ye...

We are pleased to announce that **Misha Osinovskiy** will step in to cover the office of Secretary until June as long-time member and Board officer **Richard Ustick** will be leaving us for new and challenging family opportunities. However, we still need a Secretary and *MagiCurrents* Editor. Any member of the Ring may throw your hat in the ring for the chance to serve the Ring that have so enjoyed. Each of us will teach you what we know, it's a big club, so let's get some new blood on the Board of what I feel is the best club in the country!

We have two possible lectures for the meeting on June 9th, 2025, and I need your vote! Should we have Christopher T Magician, Family Entertainer, or Bill Goodwin, known for his sleight of hand with cards? Please email me your vote by May 13th, magicmike@ring76.com

This month's meeting (March) will be our mini-lecterns. A host for Ring members will be giving quick and informative information tips on how to make those tricking slights easier and how to make your performances more effective. Come learn something new at the next meeting!

You Fooled Us! will be the feature of our April meeting. This legally safe knockoff of fondly remembered magic shows of our past will be on Monday, April 14th. In it, you will perform a feat of magic so puzzling and extraordinary that our skilled judges, Mark Booth and James Thayer, will be dumbfounded in their seats (or something close to that). We currently have two members signed up and have room for six more. Contact me at the email above or see me at the March meeting if you need more details and are interested. (see page 7 for more details)

May is the annual Ring 76 Stand-up Competition. We will be featuring eight members vying for First, Second, and Third place.

June 9th will feature the lecture you all voted on from above. It will also be when annual dues are due and we will be voting on the new Board of Directors for the coming year.

July 14th, Installation banquet, and Awards Ceremony. This is always far more prestigious than the so-called "award" ceremonies those so-called other "entertainers" throw and is usually the highlight of the Ring 76 year. We currently do not have a performer booked so if you have a suggestion please let me know.

See you Monday, March 10th
Sincerely,
Mike Stilwell
VP of Entertainment



Board Elections Rapidly Approaching

Now is the time to Step up and aid Your Ring

The Board of Directors is the heart of Ring 76. These elected officials manage the Ring activities that we have all come to know and love.

The Board is made up of active members who want to help mold the direction of not only the Ring but the magic community of the San Diego area.

The Board meets once a month, usually for only an hour, via ZOOM to come up with meeting ideas, plan Ring events like the Holiday potluck and Installation Banquet, as well as manage guest lecturers and performers. They also work on keeping the Ring fresh and innovative to meet the needs of the ever-changing magic culture.

The club does not run itself and if you want to continue to be part of one of the largest and most active Rings in the I.B.M. then it may be time for you to step up and do your part.

If you want more information simply talk to any Board member at the next meeting or write Richard Ustick @ Ring76ibm@yahoo.com.



Remember, the Ring is active because of the energy of its members. Don't let THIS happen to Ring 76



Shavings from the Board



Ring 76 Board of Directors meets every fourth Monday (except December) at 7 pm, via Zoom. All members are welcome to attend.

With a lot of business to attend to, this meeting ran a bit long.

The first order of business was a review of the last meeting and the Close-up Competition. The board felt it was a success with the new camera setup working well, though some improvements will be looked into.

The next order of business was a proposed solution to the problem of Secretary **Richard Ustick** leaving the Ring. The position of Secretary has been hard to fill and one solution proposed by **Misha Osinovskiy** would be to record Board and General meetings and use recently developed AI programs to turn these recordings into text. This was seen by some Board members as a solution to the approaching problem of no, or limited secretarial services. Not all Board members were comfortable with the idea of the recording being made at general and Board meetings. Given recent problems with the new AI programs, some Board members are worried that transcriptions might be faulty or that things said in confidence could be picked up and transcribed into official records. While most of the Board was comfortable with addressing these problems as they arose, other members were adamant that this was not a good idea and a line they were not willing to cross. It was voted that the Board meetings would be recorded and transcribed with records kept locally and not on cloud-type services. The process of recording notes of the membership meetings will be discussed at a future Board meeting.

Mark Booth reported that at the last meeting, we had thirty-nine members and seventeen guests. **James Thayer** reported that as of the meeting we had seventy-seven members including the new member, Patryk Laurent who auditioned in February.

Next was the issue of attracting more members to Ring 76, particularly with magicians in the San Diego area. The Ring Facebook page is seen as one way and "**Magic Mike**" reported that he advertises the Ring to any magicians he meets. This will be a continuing effort as the Ring is seen as an important factor in the local magic community.

The final order of business was **Richard Ustick's** departure as secretary. The secretary keeps Many Ring resources and business documents, which will be turned over to the Board at the next Ring meeting. Misha Osinovskiy has volunteered to become acting Secretary until the next election.

With that, newsletter articles were requested and the meeting was adjourned.

Richard Ustick
Secretary
IBM Ring 76



RING 76

THE HONEST SID GERHART RING



MEMBERS ONLY FACEBOOK GROUP

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. It is 800 magic audiobooks, 1,800 magic instruction videos, 90 full length magic movies, 11 albums of magic music (some royalty free), over 1,550 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?

Library Donations:

We had several generous donations from members last month:

- Sherry Luft donated two VHS videos and a couple effects. Thank you, Sherry.
- Misha Osinovskiy donated 5 VHS videos. Thank you, Misha.
- Doctor X donated 12 more magic-oriented audiobooks that are now in the Magic Media Server. Thank you, Dr. X!
- Gary Salisbury donated \$600 to the library. (*It was painful but I did it for you because you are worth it!*)

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 Summary:

- \$22.00 from the *50/50 Opportunity* drawing
- \$23.00 from the *Door Prize* drawing
- \$93.00 from *Library Sales*
- \$602.00 from *Donations*

The library needs to be fed in order to keep it alive, so your donations would be greatly appreciated. It's your library so please support it.

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

We did not purchase any printed books this month.

Ring 76 Magic Media Server (Streaming Service):

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

I am still working on ripping magic videos, of which there are about 100 more to go. *(Note: I have an additional 200 that have already been ripped but need some editing work. Some ripped DVD videos result in one digital MP4 file, which goes directly on the server. Others result in 2-30 individual files that need reassembly into a single file before being placed on the server. If anyone would like to assist with this job, I can provide you the tools to help us from your own home.)*

In the *Magic Audiobooks* library, we have 12 new items:

- Emily Croy Barker-*The Thinking Woman's Guide to Real Magic*
- Everly Frost-*Assassin's Magic-1-Assassin's Magic*
- Glinda Porter-*Practical Magick for the Solitary Witch (3 in 1)*
- Greg Keyes-*Elder Scrolls-1-The Infernal City*
- Hailey Edwards-*Black Hat Bureau-1-Black Hat, White Witch*
- Heloise Hull-*Forty Is Fabulous-1-Making Midlife Magic*
- J.R. Rain-*Allison Lopez, Witch Detective Books 1-5 The Complete Paranormal Mystery Series*
- J.R. Rain-*Gwen's Ghosts Books 1-6 A Paranormal Women's Fiction Series*
- J.R. Rain-*Midlife Mermaid Books 1-3 A Paranormal Women's Fiction Trilogy*
- Jakob Tanner-*Arcane Kingdom Online-3-The Fallen City*
- Jakob Tanner-*Arcane Kingdom Online-2-Dark Magic*
- Jakob Tanner-*Arcane Kingdom Online-1-The Chosen*

In the *Magic Instruction* library, you will finally find 39 new DVDs and VHS tapes that the club owns that have been digitized for streaming.

- Aldo Colombini-*Pre-Deck-Ability*
- Andrew Mayne-*Ghost Bills*
- Barry Taylor-*Shell Shocked (Coin Magic with Expanded Shell)*
- Brad Burt-*Advanced Coin Technique-Spellbound*
- Brian Brushwood-*Scam School-1*
- Brian Brushwood-*Scam School-2*
- Brian Brushwood-*Scam School-3*
- Brian Brushwood-*Scam School-4*
- Brian Brushwood-*Scam School-5*
- Brian Brushwood-*Scam School-6*
- Brian Brushwood-*Scam School-7*
- Brian Brushwood-*Scam School-8*
- Brian Brushwood-*Scam School-9*
- Brian Brushwood-*Scam School-10*



- Cameron Francis-*Packet Mania-1*
- Dave Williamson-*IBM-SAM 2008 Convention Lecture-Daves Gone Wild-1*
- David Ben & Jon Racherbaumer-*IBM-SAM 2008 Convention Lecture*
- David Kaye-*IBM-SAM 2008 Convention Lecture*
- Derek Lever-*IBM-SAM 2008 Convention Lecture*
- De'vo Vom Schattenreich-*De'ring*
- Eberhard Riese-*IBM-SAM 2008 Convention Lecture*
- Eric James-*Card Thru Window*
- Gary Darwin-*My First Magic DVD*
- Geir Bratlie-*Infusion*
- Jim Steinmeyer-*IBM-SAM 2008 Convention Lecture*
- King, Finney, Williamson-*IBM-SAM 2008 Convention Lecture-The Business of Being Funny*
- Marc Spelmann-*The Strange Visitor-1*
- Marc Spelmann-*The Strange Visitor-2*
- Mark Mason-*Come Fly With Me*
- Mark Mason-*Crossword*
- Mark Mason-*No Tear Newspaper-2*
- Mark Mason-*Stickman Sam*
- Peter Nardi & Brian Caswell-*Trilogy (Bicycle)*
- Petrick & Mia-*Video*
- Robert Neale-*The Braided Bill*
- Roger Klause-*1-In Concert*
- Wayne Dobson-*IBM-SAM 2008 Convention Lecture*
- Willard-*IBM-SAM 2008 Convention Lecture*

In the **Magic Performances** library we have just added:

- IBM-SAM 2008 Convention-*Galt House-Louisville, KY*
- L&L Publishing-*The Greatest Collection of Magic Performances-1*
- L&L Publishing-*The Greatest Collection of Magic Performances-2*
- L&L Publishing-*The Greatest Collection of Magic Performances-3*
- Percy Abbot-*The Man & His Magic*
- Various-*Advertising*
- Various-*Penguin Advertising*

In the **Magic Music** library we have just added:

- *No new entries this month*

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.

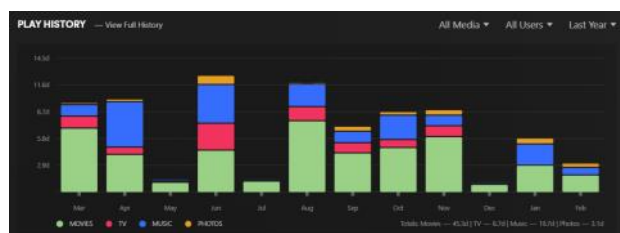
Plex only offers four categories for our eight separate libraries:

- **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*)

I am still working on ripping magic videos, of which there are about 100 more to go. I have an additional 200 that have already been ripped but need some editing work. (Note: Some ripped DVD videos result in one digital MP4 file, which goes directly on the server. Others result in 2-30 individual files that need reassembly into a single file before being placed on the server. If anyone would like to assist with this job, I can provide you the tools to help us from your own home.)

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

Here is the utilization report from the past month:



Server utilization has slightly decreased from January to February. Watch and see what happens next month.

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.

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: 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 gaudora 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-proweek&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 may 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) 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 over-due 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.



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
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 and I will see you again in the next newsletter. May the *Classic Force* be with you.



You Fooled Us!

Yes, it's coming back by popular demand. "You Fooled Us!" will be back at our April meeting! Why are we telling you a month in advance? Well, it's not easy to fool our knowledgeable judges, so you may need some time to prepare your magical trickery.

There is only the slightest of similarities (ahem!) between our contest and one we've heard is on TV. For those who are new to Ring 76 and weren't at either of the meetings when we've played *You Fooled Us!*, two and three years ago, or can we say whose memories aren't what they used to be, the object is simple. Perform a magic trick for the audience, including two pre-selected judges. The judges then put their heads together for a brief time to come up with the most likely method of how the effect was accomplished. If the judges are incorrect, you have fooled them and you win a beautiful plaque created by our own **Gary Salisbury**. If the judges are correct and you did not fool them, you pay \$100. Ok, just kidding about that part. The point is you can win something and there's no risk to lose anything!

We're talking big-time fame and booty here and we're now looking for those hearty individuals willing to take on the challenge. Step right up and take the bull by the horns. If you want to be a player, send "**Magic Mike**" Stilwell an email at magicmike@ring76.com. He'll gladly put you on the list of people who thrive on adventure and live life to the fullest!



MAGIC FOR SALE: Contact Gary Salisbury (619-328-9694) for more info.

INSIGHT PRO BY HUGO SHELLEY (NEW) - \$450

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION:



Insight has evolved – featuring a new reader with the ability to detect three cards simultaneously! Retail for \$550 but is out of stock everywhere I have looked.

Insight Pro includes a deck of 52 electronic playing cards. Invisible RFID chips embedded in each card transmit the suit and value to the Insight reader, a miniature device that will quietly vibrate the value of the card, or send it to a nearby iPhone.

THE BASIC EFFECT:

The performer hands the deck to a volunteer and invites them to choose their favorite card, placing the rest of the deck aside. Without touching the volunteer or the deck, the performer reveals the chosen card. Included are seven incredible new routines by Colin McLeod and Mark Elsdon.

THE READER:

The reader features both wireless transmission and on-board vibration cuing. At only 77 x 33mm it's incredibly small, with a range that allows you to detect cards and tags with a single gesture. The battery will last for over 10 hours on a single charge and is both rechargeable and replaceable.

THE DECK:

The Insight deck (Phoenix edition) is the very first electronic deck to be designed from the ground up specifically for magicians. The chips and antenna are embedded in the cards during the manufacturing process, ensuring that each card is perfectly thin and flat. The deck can be shuffled and handled in the same way as an ordinary deck, and is designed to last a lifetime.

SPECIFICATIONS:

- Dimensions: 77 x 33mm
- Battery life: 10 hours (rechargeable & replaceable)
- Range: 11cm from the Insight playing cards to the reader, 10m from the reader to a nearby iPhone.
- Includes: The reader, 52 electronic playing cards, Velcro wrist strap, instructions and routines.



MagiCurrents Editor Needed

As with any organization, communication is the key to effectiveness. To Ring 76, MagiCurrents is the information center that connects all its members and is sent around the country. What we do, what we are going to do, and what we stand for are reported and reflected in the pages of this publication.

The newsletter does not write itself of course and it has been my pleasure to be associated with MagiCurrents, of and on, for the last quarter century. However, I am leaving Ring 76 and will no longer be able to present you with this monthly presentation of magic news and information. We need a new editor.

Now is the time for you to step up and do your part to keep this Ring 76 institution going. It takes work, I will not deny that, however, it is a lot easier to do now than when it was a two-sheet pounded out on a typewriter and folded, stamped, and put in the mail. The process now is totally modern and as flexible as your creativity will allow it to be. There is no set format and you are free to use the publishing tools you already are familiar with. The final product is just converted to PDF format and emailed with the touch of a key.

MagiCurrents is important to the Ring and needs to continue. If you have any interest or questions please contact "Magic Mike" Stilwell at magicmike@ring76.com.

Thank you,

Richard Ustick, Editor, MagiCurrents.

More Photos From the 2025 Close-Up Contest



New Screen offers close up view of Close-Up Competition



Mark Booth doubles as stage manager keeping close up mat clean



Alvin chows down while contestants get final briefing

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 **James Thayer**

Thank you for all your hard work!



Greg Wauson

Vic Terrific

Ms. Charley

"Mago Ruly"

Callahan

Mark Booth

Miguel Garcia

Mr. Funtastic



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 March 10th for the Mini-Lectures at the next meeting.