



MAGICURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76

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Mini Lectures Shine At March Meeting

The March meeting's theme was "Mini-lectures," a chance for members and guests to get some quick insights into new magic and performance skills. Five instructors had a limited amount of time to teach a round table before moving on to the next group.

President Josh Sherwin was absent from the meeting so Vice President of Entertainment, "Magic Mike" Stilwell helmed the meeting. First up was the call for visitors and guests. Besides the twenty-seven members, there were six guests.

The next order of business was the selection of the lecturer for the June meeting. The Ring members present voted to have Bill Goodwin, Librarian for the Magic Castle. Magic Mike then gave the rundown for the rest of the Ring's calendar year. Next month will be our annual "You Fooled Us" competition. As of this meeting, we have four contestants who will try to fool the judges with their performance skills.

After the business meeting, Magic Mike asked for announcements from the floor. Member-at-Large Misha Osinovskiy reminded Ring members of the

(continued on Page 2)

IBM Ring 76 meets every second Monday of the month at the Rec Hall of the Immaculate Conception Church, 2540 San Diego Ave. in Old Town, San Diego, California. Unless otherwise specified, the doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m.



Photos By James Thayer

Vice President Magic Mike Stilwell presents outgoing MagiCurrents Editor Richard Ustick with a Tip of the Hat Award, for his decades of service.

Ring 76 Calendar 2025

- April 14 You Fooled Us Contest *
- May 12 Stand Up Competition *
- June 1 Wheel Chair Regatta *
- June 9 Bill Goodwin Lecture
- July 14 Installation Banquet

* 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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March Meeting (continued)

importance of the Ring's Board of Directors, that elections were coming up in a few months, and that there were going to be positions that needed to be filled. If the Ring members wanted to continue enjoying the benefits of being members of Ring 76 then they should think about serving on the Board.

With that, Magic Mike had one further duty before the mini-lectures. Secretary Richard Ustick is leaving the area and the members wanted to show their appreciation for his many years of work for the Ring by presenting him with the "Tip of the Hat" Award. We hope he continues to enjoy magic and will seek out the Ring in his new location.

With all business concluded it was time to start the mini-lecture series. Four tables were set up with an equal number of members and guests at



Max presents his "Tricky Theater".



Micah Ortiz teaches sponge ball magic.

each one. The five instructors started at a different table and presented concise classes on a variety of subjects. Alvin Revilas was the timekeeper and gave a one-minute warning to move things along.

Max, with an X, presented what he called "Tricky Theater." He talked about the difference between doing a simple trick and crafting an entertaining event. To demonstrate this he did a simple vanish of a small silk using a thumb-tip. Quick and elegant. He then showed how the same effect could be more entertaining by using a one-dollar bill and tweezers and removing a small green silk from the nose of George Washington. He then replaced the silk into the President's nose and unfolded the bill to be examined. It was an enjoyable event.

Next to our table was Micah Ortiz who demonstrated basic, but effective sponge ball manipulation. With a few clever and well-practiced moves, a small collection of different-sized sponge balls could become an entire act.

Following Micah, Terry Luncford brought a deck of cards to the table and demonstrated the Kelly Bottom Placement and Snap Change. Both are simple sleights but require a good amount of

(continued on page 3)

March Meeting (continued)



Terry Lunceford reveals some card moves.

practice. They have different uses and can lead to surprises from your audience. Terry brought extra packs of cards so the whole table could practice under his skilled tutelage.

After that Magic Mike Stilwell showed how a couple of simple rope tricks could make children's magic and strolling fun. He showed how to tie a one-handed knot and how to "thread the needle."

Finally, Misha Osinovskiy gave an interesting lecture on various styles of coins for coin magic and how to polish silver coins to give them the best presentation shine. He also warned that newly polished silver coins were harder to handle and should be "seasoned" a bit to make effects more dependable. He showed some basic but effective sleights and how simple gesturing could hide palmed coins and give the appearance of clean vanishes and transpositions.

With that, the evening came to a close. Magic



Magic Mike Stilwell teaches rope magic.



Misha Osinovskiy talks about magic with coins.

Mike reminded the members that the next meeting will be April 14 and promised it will be most enjoyable. Then, the meeting was adjourned.

Richard Ustick, Secretary, IBM Ring 76

Local Magic Around San Diego

April 10, 17 and 24, Thursdays, 6 – 8 p.m. local star Derek Ostovani performs at Bellamy's Restaurant and Wine Bar, 417 W. Grand Ave. in Escondido; for info call 760-747-5000.

April 10, Thursday, 10:30 – 11:45 a.m. the Magic of Alfonso at El Cajon Library, 210 E. Douglas Ave. in El Cajon; free; 619-588-3718.



Audiences line up for the Magic of Alfonso Vasquez, an award-winning Ring 76 member.

April 11, Friday, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Christopher T. Magician at Julian Library, 1850 Highway 78 in Julian; free; 760-765-0370.



Zany Zoe performs at several libraries in San Diego County.

April 17, Thursday, 11 – 11:30 a.m. Zany Zoe Magic Show at the Bonita-Sunnyside Library, 4375 Bonita Rd. in Bonita; free, and free books for children while supplies last; call 619-475-4642.



Terry Lunceford (left) headlines and Tim Wise (right) hosts the Magic Cellar of Wonder in Escondido.

April 17, Thursday, 7 – 9 p.m. Magic Cellar of Wonder at the Holiday Wine Cellar, 302 W. Mission Ave. in Escondido; tickets \$65 or 2 for \$110, which includes a cheese plate and a wine pour or a beer; ages 21+ only; curated by Tim Wise, with Magic Castle favorite (and former Ring 76 President) Terry Lunceford headlining; visit www.holidaywinecellar.com.

April 24, Thursday, 1 – 4 p.m. Mingle & Magic with San Diego native Joel Ward at the Encinitas Community and Senior Center, 1140 Oakcrest Park Dr. in Encinitas; free; 760-943-2260.

April 24, Thursday, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Zany Zoe Magic Show at the La Mesa Library, 8074 Allison Ave. in La Mesa; free and bilingual in English and Spanish, with free book for the children while supplies last; call 619-469-2151.

April 25, Friday, 8 p.m. Carbonaro Lies On Stage with Magician Michael Carbonaro at Pechanga Resort Casino, 45000 Pechanga Pkwy. in Temecula; tickets \$34 - \$162; 888-810-8871 or visit www.pechanga.com.

(continued on Page 5)



Local Magic (continued)

April 26, Saturday, Alchemy After Dark magic evening at Witch Creek Winery, 2906 Carlsbad Blvd. in Carlsbad; doors open 7 p.m., 7:30 p.m. close-up magic, 9 p.m. main show; headliners are Pop Haydn, Luna Shimada, Magic Mike Stilwell, Vic Terrific, Nathaniel Allenby and the host Tim Wise; tickets \$25; info 310-770-2877.

April 27, Sunday, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Life Skills Magic program with Michael E. Johnson at the Fallbrook Arts In The Park event at Live Oak Park, 2746 Reche Rd. in Fallbrook; with magic shows, magic classes, and lots of free magic gifts; free magic ball vases to the first 75 people who show up, donated by the Magic Shop San Diego, compliments of James Kellogg; free.



Michael Johnson from Warner Springs entertains children with his Life Skills Magic program.

April 29, Tuesday, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. DIA with Zany Zoe at the Lakeside Library, 12428 Woodside Ave. in Lakeside; free, and free books for children while supplies last; 619-443-1811.

The Magic Shop San Diego is still alive and kicking, conducting business as usual through their website. Call 760-470-2767 if you need supplies or the latest tricks. Shop local! Visit www.magicshopsandiego.com.



Pop Haydn headlines at Alchemy After Dark in Carlsbad on April 26 at Witch Creek Winery.

Congratulations to Joe Mystic and Dale “Mr. Funtastic” for their successful run of shows in Balboa Park April 4 - 6 at the Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theater, titled “Believe In You. The Magic Of You Can!”. The pair are Ring 76 favorites.

Dan Sperry just finished a run of shows on April 4 and 5 at The Yellow Door Comedy Club in San Diego. He said this was his first visit to San Diego. If you missed the show, you can still buy his merchandise at www.dansperry.com.





A Message from Magic Mike Stilwell

First, thank you to members who did the well-received mini teaching series: Misha, Max, Micah, and Terry. I hope we can do that again.

And now the schedule:

Monday April 14, theme: You Fooled Us! We currently have 7 entrees, but I would like more. Please email me if you want to take a crack at fooling the judges! (Maximum 8 minutes).

Monday, May 12, theme: Stand up competition; Currently I have 5 signed up; of course I would like more. The winner will be awarded at the Monday, July 14 Installation Banquet. Please email me if you want to compete. (8 minutes max).

Sunday, June 1, theme: Wheel Chair Regatta, with strolling magic provided by Ring 76 members. The 62nd annual Wheelchair Regatta at The Silver Gate Yacht Club has asked Ring 76 for volunteers, This will be our 4th year of volunteering to entertain, and they feed us! The event is 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., so we usually have magicians for 1 or 2 hours. This is a great way to work on your walk around sleight of hand magic. Currently I have 2 people signed up, but I need more. So please reach out. If you need a ride, as in the past, I will pick you up and bring you home. You are entertaining people that are handicapped as well as the volunteers.

Monday, June 9, theme: Lecture by popular vote, Bill Goodwin, Magic Castle Librarian and Sleight of Hand Expert will be the lecture of the night! Doors will open by 6:30 p.m.

Monday, July 14, theme: Installation Banquet; More info next month about the popular pot luck, awards, and special entertainment.

Ring 76 Needs You!

From Mark Booth:

Our Ring Needs You! We are in need of volunteers to serve on the Board for Secretary, Treasurer, and VP of Entertainment for the term starting in July 2025. Please reach out to any Board member and/or Sherry Luft (nominating committee). As a 501(c)(6) organization, the Ring is required to fill these elected positions. Not to be overly dramatic, but you would be helping to preserve the Ring. Please give of your time to help give back to the Ring.

From Misha Osinowski:

I'd like to extend and build on the message from Mark about the importance of member involvement in our club leadership. In addition to the open positions of Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice President of Entertainment, for this upcoming election we would like to fill up to two Member-at-Large positions for the next term.

One of our current Members-at-Large, Misha (me), may be stepping into a higher role, and the Board will soon vote on adding a third Member-at-Large position, which is allowed under our bylaws. The Member-at-Large position is a fantastic, low-commitment, entry-level way to get involved with the Board. It requires only about one hour a month to attend board meetings, share your thoughts, listen, and vote on important club matters. If you've ever thought about getting involved but didn't know where to start, this is the perfect opportunity to get your feet wet, learn how the club operates, and make a difference. Your participation matters. Our club thrives when our members are engaged and willing to contribute their time and ideas.

Please consider joining the Board and helping shape the future of Ring 76. If you're interested or would like to learn more, please reach out to any Board member or contact Sherry Luft (Nominating Committee). Your Ring Needs You!

Help preserve and grow Ring 76 for the future.



Ring 76 Library Status Report

Library Donations

- Gary Salisbury donated \$600 to the library.

IBM Ring 76 Magic Media Server (PLEX)

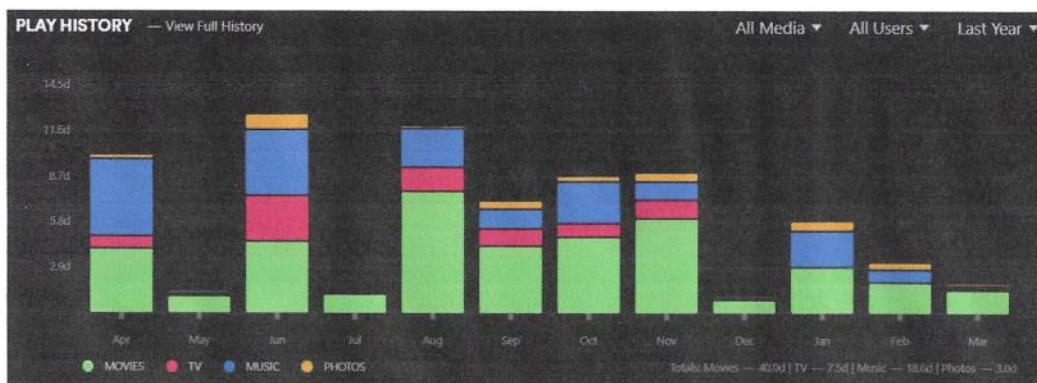
I am still working on ripping magic videos, of which there are about 100 more to go. I have an additional 200 that have already been ripped but need some editing work. I could use some assistance on that and Alvin volunteered but we haven't coordinated yet.

We purchased a magic themed TV series, The Dresden Files, have ripped them, and they are on the server for member access.

Plex only offers 4 categories:

- **Movie Category** in **green** (*Magic Instruction* (1,784), *Magic Movies* (93), & *Magic Performances* (1,556))
- **TV Category** in **red** (*Magic TV & Radio Shows* (23))
- **Music Category** in **blue** (*Magic Audiobooks* (886), *Magic Music* (11), & *Magic Podcasts* (10 for over 2,000 episodes))
- **Photos Category** in **orange** (*Ring 76 Photos and Videos*)

Here is the yearly utilization report:



IBM Ring 76 Magical Arts Library (Books)

We did not purchase any printed books this month.

Income & Expenditures

Summary: We had a \$600 donation from *Gary Salisbury*, we made \$20.00 from the *50/50 Opportunity drawing*, \$23.00 from the *Door Prize drawing*, \$3.00 from *Library Donations*, and \$15.00 from *Library Sales*. We purchased a DVD series for \$15.07 leaving the library Petty Cash at \$786.96.

Date	Transaction	Credits	Debits	Balance
02/01/25	Purchase: Label tapes for label printer (Amazon)		\$7.52	\$53.47
02/02/25	Purchase: USDISC DVD Cases Standard 14mm Economy, Single 1 Disc, Black, Pack of 100		\$51.15	\$2.32
02/10/25	Proceeds: February Meeting - 50/50 Drawing	\$22.00		\$24.32
02/10/25	Proceeds: February Meeting - Door Prize Drawings	\$23.00		\$47.32
02/10/25	Proceeds: February Meeting - Donations	\$2.00		\$49.32
02/10/25	Proceeds: February Meeting - Sales	\$93.00		\$142.32
02/10/25	Expense: PayPal Fees (Ethan Brackett)		\$1.29	\$141.03
02/24/25	Donation: Gary Salisbury	\$600.00		\$741.03
03/10/25	Proceeds: March Meeting - 50/50 Drawing	\$20.00		\$761.03
03/10/25	Proceeds: March Meeting - Door Prize Drawings	\$23.00		\$784.03
03/10/25	Proceeds: March Meeting - Donations	\$3.00		\$787.03
03/10/25	Proceeds: March Meeting - Sales	\$15.00		\$802.03
03/15/25	Purchase: DVD - Dresden Files (Amazon - \$13.99)		\$15.07	\$786.96
	Balance Validation	\$7,876.08	\$7,089.12	\$786.96

Gary Salisbury,
IBM Ring 76 Librarian