



MAGICURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76 JANUARY 2026 VOL. 41 (XLI) #1

Holiday Potluck Banquet Was Filled with Joy and Fun for Everyone

For Ring 76, on Monday, December 8th, the club held its annual "Holiday Potluck Banquet". This year's dinner-theater event was adroitly coordinated by Jonathan Gold. He was assisted by Librarian Gary Salisbury and other helpful members. Of the 74 who attended, 41 were guests. Spread upon the long row of serving tables were entrées, salads, side-dishes, and desserts... all of them delicious.

During the meal, of the few club business items mentioned, Tim Wise announced that he will be producing and hosting his third magic show at the New Village Arts Theater. On December 29th, "Hollywood Stars of Magic - At The Village" will star the legendary Terry Lunceford (who is a Life Member of Ring 76).



After dinner, Librarian Gary Salisbury directed a delight "white elephant" party activity. We all had fun watching the table-reps carefully chose or lose one of Gary's ten gift-bags of goodies.

The dining tables were cleared and the house lights lowered. Entertainment VP Paul Dwork introduced the star of the night's entertainment: a one-hour/two-act stage show by Los Angeles-based magician Steve Owens.



For Act 1, Steve performed visually-stunning "silent" routines. He masterfully manipulated colorful flowers, silks and balls, lit candles and cigarettes, ribbons and ropes, and playing cards. His routines included "Ball Manipulation", "Card-Frame Transposition", "Fountain of Silks from Newspaper" and "The Diminishing Deck". He also tore-and-restored a picture postcard.

For Act 2, Steve performed his signature "Shadow Act" which we watched in awe as he formed recognizable shapes on a backlit scrim. To music and sound effects, by using only the shadows of his hands, Steve created images of land and marine animals, human figures, action heroes and the profiles of familiar faces. His "shadowgraphy" deserved the applause that we gave him during our 3-minute standing ovation!



Written by Max Long

Ring 76 Calendar

Jan 12th, 2026 - Magic for Kids *
Feb 9th, 2026 - Close-Up Contest *
Mar 9th, 2026 - Lecture (TBD)

*All members are welcome to perform !

PUBLISHED BY THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS
HONEST SID GERHART RING 76

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President's Message

Dear Ring 76 Members,

What an amazing Holiday Potluck Dinner and Entertainment. Thank you all for helping clean up, We turned off the lights and closed the gate at 9:15 PM, Thanks to all of you for making this party so much fun! Thank you to Brenda Wauson for the great center pieces, thank you to Gregg Wauson for taking the table cloths home to be washed, dried and folded. This is the kind of volunteer services we are looking for in our club, step up, bring some munchies, bring some water, volunteer,

WE STILL NEED A SECRETARY!!!, Currently we have 2 of our members doing this job, Thank You Sherry and Max. Thank you to Paul Dwork for the amazing skills of Steve Owes Shadowgraphy, which I think saved the show!

And then there's the amazing white elephant gift bags of MAGIC that Gary put together, Oh what fun it was stealing each other's bags of retired magic. And the food, handled by 1st Time Banquet Manager Jonathan Gold, Thank You!!! A wide assortment.

So members, Monday January 12th is Kids magic, I will also be doing a short mini lecture on Give-a-ways for kids parties as well as providing you with some of my give-a-ways! So..sign up with Paul Dwork if you want to perform, this will be a voting theme, towards Performer of the year!

Happy New Year!



BROKEN WAND

We've lost another member. Long time member Charlie Gott. Charlie and many other members use to do magic for The Chargers Blood Drive, Charlie and I use to be in the recovery room, me doing my standard stuff and Charlie doing his Gospel Magic. Charlie Gott 5/25/35 -12/18/25. His family will host a small service for him on Saturday, January 3rd 2026 at 11AM to 11:45 AM at Faith Bible Fellowship located at 9971 Mission Gorge Road, Santee, CA for anyone that wants to attend.

Charles Everett Gott (Charlie), 90, of San Diego, California, went home to be with the Lord on December 18, 2025. Charlie was born on May 25, 1935, in Terre Haute, Indiana. At the age of 17, he proudly joined the United States Navy, beginning a lifelong commitment to service. He served honorably as a career Navy man and retired in 1972. Following his military service, Charlie began a second career with the United States Postal Service, from which he retired in the 1990s.

A joyful and faithful Christian, Charlie loved Jesus deeply and lived his life in devotion to God. He was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather who faithfully raised his family in the Christian faith and served God throughout his life. His kindness, steady faith, and joyful spirit were a blessing to all who knew him.

Charlie is survived by his beloved wife, Colleen (Barton) Gott; his son, Charles Gott Jr.; his daughter, Deborah (Gott) Gray, and her husband, Jeff Gray; his cherished grandsons, Daniel Scott Gray and Timothy Charles Gray, and his wife, Meaghan; his brother, Jack Gott; and many beloved nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be privately held January 3, 2026. Charlie's life was a testament to faithful service—to his country, his family, and his Lord. While he will be deeply missed, his family rejoices in the assurance of eternal life through Jesus Christ and celebrates a life well lived.

Sincerely,
Mike Stilwell
Ring 76 President

More Pictures from the Pot Luck Banquet



Rotary Creates Magic

Professor Paul's 40th Annual Fundraiser Show is **February 28, 2026**, at the Carlsbad Cultural Arts Center Theater.

As a proud member of IBM for 40 years, I am extending this fundraiser to include our club.

The funds go directly to the Rotary Foundation, which is a 501 3C Charity. We will share in 50% of the ticket cost or \$30, when allocated to our club at time of purchase. When tickets purchased online, you will check the box for IBM, and our sales will be tracked by Ticket Spice. I am proud to add our IBM to the list, and hope you will share the flyer with everyone you know.

This will be my first year doing a Matinee. The theater holds 400 for each show, and I have Sold Out for 39 years.

ORDER TICKETS at [magicmagicmagic.com](https://www.magicmagicmagic.com)

Paul@magicmagicmagic.com Questions: 805/377-0036





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 a collection of magic books and magazines, all available for check-out. It is a collection of magic themed audiobooks, magic instruction videos, magic movies, albums of magic music (some royalty free), a collection of public domain magic performance videos (many classics), a collection of magic podcasts that we co-host, magic TV series, a magic 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?

We need your DVD and VHS tape videos. They will be put on the [Magic Media Server](#) so members will still be able to watch them or check the physical media out. Please help. Sharing is good! Sharing is fun!

Library Donations:

- James Weigelt donated several boxes of magic props to the library which will be used for door prizes and such. (James was a past Ring 76 member from the 80's who is back in town.)

Thank you, Gracias, Grazie, Merci, Danke, Arigato, спасибо!

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.



Magical Arts Library (Books):

We did not purchase any printed books this month. We currently have 5 book out on loan and 3 pending. Remember to return your books when your loan period is up because there may be someone else waiting for them or extend it for another month by notifying me.

Magic Media Server (Streaming Service):

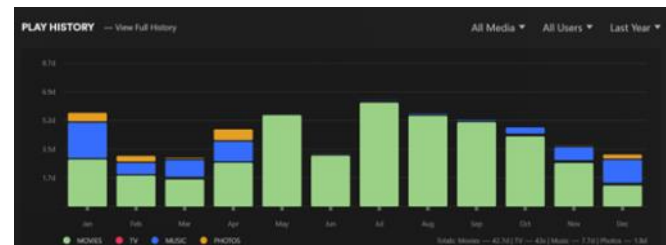
I am still working on restoring the broken Audiobooks Library. I have restored 154 files with 987 to go. I also have about 250 video files that need video editing work before putting on the server. Volunteers are welcome.

Plex only offers 4 categories:

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

Here is the yearly utilization report:

Here are the current statistics on the [Magic Media Server](#):



- Magic Audiobooks: 154 books(907 pending restoration)
- Magic Instruction: 1,962 videos
- Magic Movies: 97 movies
- Magic Music: 13 albums, 215 songs
- Magic Performances: 1,570 videos
- Magic Podcasts: 10 podcasts, 2,063 episodes
- Magic TV & Radio Shows: 23 series, 1,418 files
- Ring 76 Photos & Videos: 8,807 files

How would you like your videos of your performances 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.



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.

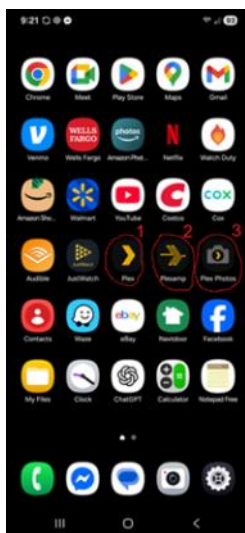
**New Changes to the PLEX App:**

This does not apply to those using a web browser to access PLEX, only to phones & tablets using the PLEX app.

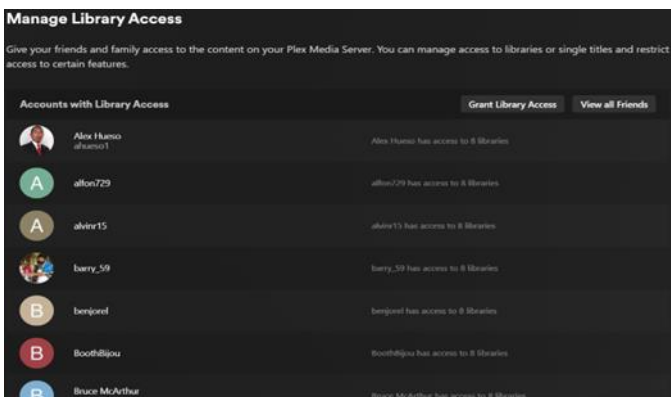
Previously, the PLEX app allowed you to view movies, listen to audio content, and look at pictures using this single app. Several months ago, they made some changes to the phone & tablet app requiring you to now have 3 apps to do what the single previous version did before. It's only a mild inconvenience but it seems to work more reliably now.

1. **PLEX** app will allow you to watch videos in the Magic Instruction, Magic Movies, Magic Performance videos, and Magic TV & Radio Shows libraries.
2. **PLEXAMP** app will allow you to listen to Magic Audiobooks and Magic Music libraries.
3. **PLEX PHOTOS** app will allow you to look at pictures in the Ring 76 Pictures library.

These apps are available from the Play Store or Apple Store but remember, that PLEX charges you a one-time fee of \$5 to use the **PLEX** app. No charge for web browser use.



NOTICE: Please change your **PLEX ID** to your name so I can tell who is on the server. Here is what I currently see:



If you use a coded ID, I may not be able to tell if you are a legitimate user. Also, please add your photo so I can associate names and faces. Thank you for helping me with this.

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.

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.

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.

Gary Salisbury



Email: librarian@ring76.com
Cell: 619-569-6035

Objective: To build the best magic reference library in the IBM

(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.)

NOTICE – “So You Want To Be A Mentalist?” Lecture

Regarding the free mentalism lecture on what it takes to be a mentalist with world renowned mentalist, Dr. Kaleo Whiting:

The Good News:

Six applicants have been approved so we are planning two separate sessions of three people each. One on a Tuesday afternoon for the pros, who work on the weekends, and one on a Saturday afternoon for amateurs, who don't work week-ends. I will email you each asking which you prefer.

The Bad News:

Dr. Whiting has incurred a physical injury and we do not know when he will be back on his feet again so we are in a holding pattern until then. I will start an email thread for all future planning of this spectacular event. Please wish him a speedy recovery and stay tuned.

TENYO T-174 CLYDE MAGIC RABBIT (UNUSED) - \$125



Ask a spectator to select a card from a deck, remember it, and place it back anywhere. Now this is where the magician traditionally tries to find the card. But not this time! Instead Clyde the magic rabbit will find it. Clyde is a wonderful idea, a great prop, and a guaranteed audience pleaser. This is a wonderful 'puppet' effect where the magician holds a stuffed bunny which appears to have a life of it's own. Several effects with this wonderful prop are suggested in the instructions including "card in carrot."

Even if you don't use this item for a magic act, it's a wonderful collectible item and also a great prop for puppeteers. Comes complete with original box. The rabbit itself looks very nice and is of superb quality. When you use the rabbit as the instructions say, it really does look like it is alive – very well done by Tenyo and is now a sought after collector's item selling elsewhere in the \$200 range.

CARD-SHARK'S MARKED PHOENIX DECK (NEW) - \$20

Card-Shark meets Ted Lesley. This is a dream come true for all magicians who love to use a marked deck. The markings are based on the ideas of Ted Lesley, are extremely visual compared to all other marked decks on the market as they perfectly blend into the design of the Phoenix backs.



All markings are situated at the same spot right in the corner, so even the slightest opened fan will allow you to read the marking. If the back design gets into view, you will be able to spot the value. Can't get easier!

Contact Gary Salisbury (619-328-9694) for more info.

**Lebanon Circle's Abacus Spiritualis Spirit Slates - \$300
[PRICE REDUCED]**



Demo: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Puo9KymZoA>

These are the Rolls Royce of Spirit Slates! You can actually hear the spirits writing on the slates with chalk. You can also program your own sounds in them. Out of production, collectors' item originally sold for \$502. In excellent condition. Comes complete with wooden stands and instructional DVD.

Contact Gary Salisbury (619-328-9694) for more info.



HP LaserJet Pro M283cdw Wireless Color Printer - \$225
[PRICE REDUCED AGAIN !!!] (In original box)
[\(Click here to see it currently selling for \\$499.99 at Walmart.\)](#)



- Laser Printer
- Color Copier
- High Res. Scanner
- Color FAX
- 22 pages /minute
- 600 dpi
- Duplex Printing (F&B)
- Wireless / WiFi / USB
- Max Paper - 8½" x 14"
- 2nd paper tray available



In the original box with documentation. This printer is a little over one year old and has only had about 900 color and 1,200 B/W pages printed on it. Printer reports are available. The printer is designed for a maximum duty cycle of 40,000 pages/month, for 5 years which is 2,400,000 pages. It does not have any problems. Laser printers are more durable and reliable than an ink jet printer with cheaper cost to operate. I wound up with two printers and only need one. Price is firm and price is low for a quick sale. **\$225!**

It currently needs new toner cartridges which are:



[\\$70.53 for 206A series](#)

[\\$79.46 for 206X series](#)

(I will also include a new set of 206X toner cartridges but this printer firmware is too new to use this particular set. If you install older firmware, they will work. I just didn't want to mess with it.)

[Contact Gary Salisbury \(619-328-9694\) for more info.](#)

12.9" Apple iPad Pro Tablet - \$200 [PRICE REDUCED]



OS Version: 16.7.11
Model: ML0F2LL/A
Serial: DLXS40HUGMLD
Screen: 12.9"
Capacity: 32GB
Communications: WiFi
Condition: In like new condition, no dings, new case, works great
Case: New JETech case/stand
Power: Charger & cable
Original cost: \$799

[Contact Gary Salisbury \(619-328-9694\) for more info.](#)

9.7" Apple iPad Tablet - \$150 [PRICE REDUCED]

Model: A1396
Serial: DN6G341NDFJ3
Screen: 9.7"
Capacity: 64GB
Case: Griffin IntelliCase case/stand
Power: Charger & cable
Communications: WiFi + Cellular (Can be used as a cell phone!)
Condition: Used, good condition, no dings, works great
Original cost: \$829



[Contact Gary Salisbury \(619-328-9694\) for more info.](#)