



# MAGICURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76    OCTOBER 2013    VOL. XXVII #10

## *Halloween Magic*

Get ready for some “Spook-tacular” magic at Ring 76 this coming October. Let’s see what ghoulish effects our members can conjure up.

- Here are some ideas to help dress-up any effects you may already know for this evening of spooky magic:
- Poltergeist - Instead of Telekinesis
- Resurrection - Instead of Restoration
- Tarot Cards - Instead of Ordinary Playing Cards
- Possession - Instead of Mentalism
- Transformation - Instead of Color Change
- Impalement - Instead of Penetration
- Dimensional Teleportation – Instead of A Transposition

You get the idea. Of course, members are also welcome to perform any other type of magic effect

they want , if they don't want to stick to the suggested theme.

To sign up please contact [salomonbarajas@yahoo.com](mailto:salomonbarajas@yahoo.com)

Please let me know what type of effect you are doing to make sure that no two acts are the same.

— *Sal Barajas*

## *D-I-Y Night*

Our theme for September was a first for Ring 76 - Homemade Magic. Prior to the meeting, Loch David Crane and Sal Barajas operated “sellers’ tables.’ The meeting was convened at 7PM by President Derek Ostovani, announced the upcoming Ring lecture by David Gabbay, and a performance Doc Easton at the Red Spade Theater. Jeff Marcos announced an upcoming lecture by Chris Randal at 3 Generations of Magic and Kenny Shelton announced the opening of the Del Mar Fairground’s haunted house, ScreamZone.

Sal Barajas, Entertainment Vice-President, held a raffle for three batches of donated magic, and then began introducing our performers for the evening.

Richard Ustick opened our evening of Homemade Magic with a rare “non-singing” routine, The Welch Rag Doll, in which he vanished a doll that returned as Flat Stanley. Jacques Lord followed with an animated bunny routine, and Jeff Sargent did a name-divination routine.



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**HONEST SID GERHART RING 76**

**EDITOR JAMES THAYER – [EDITOR@RING76.COM](mailto:EDITOR@RING76.COM)**



## President's Message

I am so proud of all of you who performed last month for Home-Made Magic! We had about a dozen of you get up and perform some really great home-made Magic stuff! Thank you for all those who put the effort into it, it really added to the performances and that is the kind of enthusiasm I would like to see for all events!



Looks like we had a great turnout for the David Gabbay lecture! Hope you all learned a lot! Looks like we will be keeping our future lectures on a Sunday evening, seeing how we got a much better turnout!

This coming month is October, so I think the theme speaks for itself Halloween, spooky, spiders, bill to pumpkin? Just a thought! But like always, all performances are welcome!

The annual Chargers blood drive is coming up, here on Tuesday November 26th at the Town and Country Convention Center in Fashion Valley, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome to come and perform some walk around Magic during that time, and we may have a booth to represent our club as well. More information will be announced.

Also, the Christmas Banquet will be coming on Monday Dec 9th, it will be a pot luck, so everyone keep your calendars and your kitchens open! The Banquet performer will be announced soon!

— DEREK OSTOVANI

Donna Greenbaum, our only female performer in the evening, did an original version of six-card repeat, using copies of a book. Bob Meigs followed with a mentalist version of Rock-Paper-Scissors wrapped in a horror movie skit. Terry Godfrey then performed his Indestructible Child in which he walks up a staircase of on-edge machetes. The routine is made even more remarkable, as Terry

says he usually does it with young audience volunteers. Loch David Crane did two of the routines he not only makes at home, but produces for sale - his Birthday Divination and a spelling routine. Alfonso Vasquez did a bill switch and a color-match routine, and Charlie Gott performed a Gospel-themed ABC Blocks. Derek Ostovani produced multiple wooden cigars (he makes wooden cigars?) from a small coin purse, followed by some very deft cigar-manipulation.

Cary Shaffner did broken and restored toothpick, and Mago Ruly performed a Windowmation-style card trick, using two 78 records (licorice vinyl?). Chuck Cook performed with a homemade hydrostatic bottle, and Jeff Marcus closed the evening showing us how to build a homemade Gung-Ho box and several other magic tricks.

WOW! That was 14 (count 'em, 14!) performers, all using homemade magic. We should rename Ring 76, "The Magic Factory!"

— Bob Meigs

## Auction Coming Up

This November, Ring 76 will be having its Bi-Annual Auction at the regular meeting place, the Lion's Club of North Park. All members in good standing are encouraged to clean out their closets, pull out their old books, empty their close-up cases and bring these rare treasures to this meeting.



(Continued on page 8)



## *Photos from the September Meeting*



*Richard Ustick*



*Jacques Lord*



*Jeff Sargent (r)*



*Donna Greenbaum*

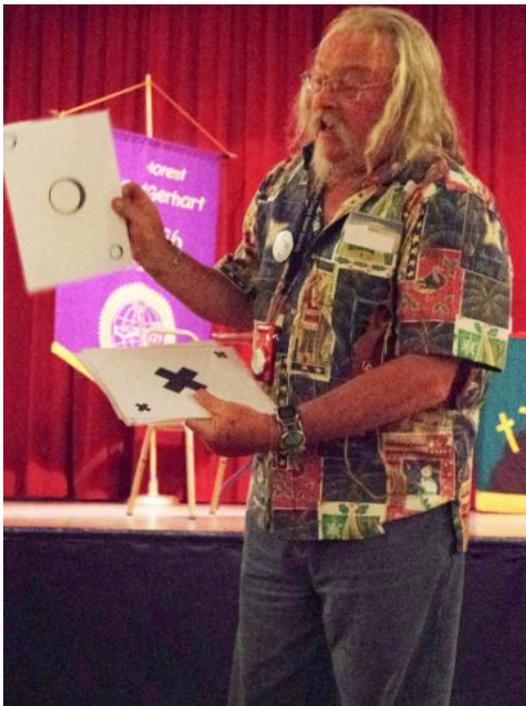
## *Photos from the September Meeting*



*Bob Meigs (2nd from r)*



*Terry Godfrey*



*Loch David Crane*



*Alfonso Vasquez (r)*

## *Photos from the September Meeting*



*Charlie Gott*



*Derek Ostovani (r)*



*Cary Schaffner (l)*



*Mago Ruly (r)*

## *Photos from the September Meeting*



*Chuck Cook*



*Jeff Marcus*



*Home-made Magicians*



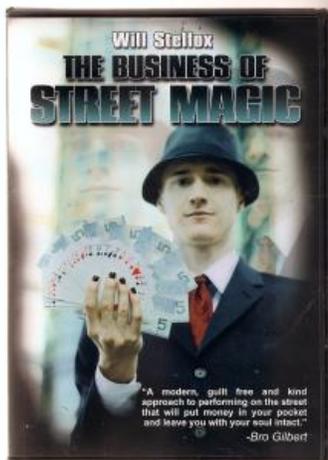
# *The Business of Street Magic*

*DVD by Will Stelfox*

*Reviewed by Joel A Moskowitz M D  
September 30, 2013*

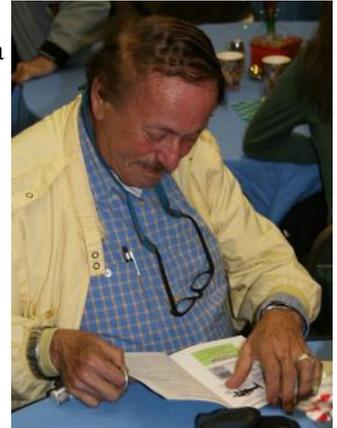
Where is the organ grinder with a monkey? A snake charmer? Oh well - a magician gathering a crowd. All are buskers. Street performers. Did you want to learn to magish for the public, depending on grateful audiences for your livelihood, then this DVD is for you. A Vancouver artful successful professional reveals his experience. William Steifil has turned two tricks into a profitable business - purchasing his cards from Costco and invisible threat courtesy of Google - your overhead can be very low. Absent the government's share (some venues have an annual license; and you are expected to pay income tax), the rest of the coin is yours.

First, you will have to draw a crowd. Psychology is that nobody will stop until somebody will stop. Even when an actor feigns being in agony, and a confederate is sitting passively reading a newspaper, passerbys will pass without stopping. Remove the newspaper reader, many will attend to the suffering man. Good Samaritans are a universal reaction. That is not to say that you (as a busker) have to be in distress, you will gather a crowd if you can convince a single person to stop/watch/laugh. Choose your first audience member carefully. You may have to try and try



again. Catch the eye of someone who is not afraid of being approached... ..and then amaze. Gently indicate that they are to follow you — hand them a pack of cards which is still in your grip and indicate that they are to follow you —out of the traffic on the sidewalk. You will benefit from having a colorful rope which is

lain down in a semicircle to delineate the stage. Perhaps you have a (very light) table (remember you will need to carry it). This reviewer's mother was born in Transylvania and she told about the gypsies who performed on the streets (though most of their revenue was from pocket picking). The audience would be



relaxed with music. In the New World, some attempt to relax the onlookers via humor. If this is not your forte, at least show that you don't take yourself too seriously. Your costume will tell them you are, at least, eccentric. Hair style (flaming red) will set you apart from the general public.

Dont forget - early on - the nothing is for free theme must be interjected. A vital part of busker's haberdashery is a HAT. That is where the audience will show their appreciation. Some refer to this donations. Others call it gratuities. It is MONEY. Some load the hat which is center on the ground with several \$5.00 bills. Others have skills who set the pace - A busker in Sea Port Village in San Diego, juggles with a hat - kicks it behind his back and on to his head. He has a duplicate same hat primed with several bills of varying denominations.

Skill in handling the various personalities: How do you deal with whoever is standing there with his/her arms folded - aka challenging you to stump them. Subset is the kind of person who reacts to you like a movie and has a mind set from trying to figure how it is done. Your feigned screw up with smile. This looked easier on the internet I cant believe you are still watching this. I cant believe I do this thing for a living. Just say the line = dont wait for a reaction. Equates to a non contest stance. And your glance at the hat tells them you expect to be rewarded.

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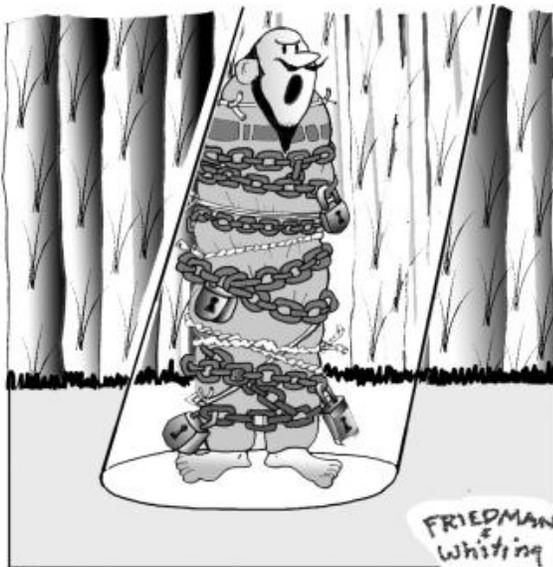
*(Auction — Continued from page 2)*

The rules are simple. Each member is allowed to place up to five lots for auction. A lot can contain as many items as the member wants, but the lot will go for one price. You will need to provide the auctioneer with a list of what is in the lot, a brief description of any tricks you think you need to explain, and your starting bid, if any. The auctioneer will start the bidding at that price, and will not go lower. If it does not sell at that base price, he will move to the next lot. Only members in good standing can place their items up for auction, however, anyone can bid and we encourage members to bring guests who may be interested in magic.

The Ring will take 10% of the selling price and this year we will be able to take Credit and Debit cards. The debit cards must have a Visa or Mastercard logo on them however.

## "MagiToon"

*by Jim Whiting & Ellen Friedman*



**"And this most daring escape will take place entirely while the audience is blindfolded!"**

Often times in the past we have had magic enthusiasts and novices come to the auction looking to expand their magic collections. It is strongly suggested that you include the instructions for any illusion you wish to sell. Most are obvious to a seasoned performer, but in the past some great deals went unsold because no one knew how to use the

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*(Street Magic — Continued from page 7)*

Stelfox asks should you want to do this for a living: He advocates keeping track of how much you spend (by the month) and how much you earn from your street act (per hour/week/month) Calculate how much you spend i.e. cost of decks of cards from Costco etc. You don't have to buy a yellow zoot suit but the cost of what clothing you do wear is an expense. And of course the hat.

Suppose you wish to expand to another territory i.e. roaming in a party for which you have been hired to entertain. Sharing your business card which has an internet domain listed is publicity. On your web page, you can boast and have favorable comments by customers.

Will spills the construction of his two pieces : floating coin and card transposition the latter with bows to Wayne Houchin.

Bruce Springsteen and other luminaries have busked. Would you think Ben Franklin busked but was dissuaded by his father - called it dangerous. Some buskers have been robbed/injured. A classical violinist used his Stradivarius violin to play in the subway - he was not recognized and only earned about \$30 for a 45 minute performance. Busking is an ancient entertainment and if man reaches the moon, he may find buskers there. And they may have studied *The Business of Street Magic* by Will Stelfox. They surely should have and any earthlings who aim to be a street performers will do themselves a big favor by studying the one and half hour course in becoming a street magician by Stelfox. Find it : [www.willstelfox.com/Products.html](http://www.willstelfox.com/Products.html) Dr. Moskowitz prescribes this DVD Rx Rx Rx Rx .5 (4.5/5)



(Auction — Continued from page 8)

apparatus. It also helps if the item is clean and well maintained. A few minutes polishing your treasure will mean a few extra dollars on auction night.

So mark your calendars for November 11th, and again we encourage members to invite any guests who may be in the magic market. The auction will start promptly at 7 o'clock to be sure that everyone who wants to sell has time to. If you have any questions please contact Sal Barajas, V.P. of Entertainment, or any Ring Board Member.

— Richard Ustick

## David Gabbay

This past September 22<sup>nd</sup>, Ring 76 hosted the very likeable and professional, David Gabbay. The magic presented in this lecture was directed to those who specialize in “Close-Up” magic. He offered a variety of magical effects, with coins, cards, Tic-Tacs, sugar packets and pens. One of the favorite effects of the lecture was his “Four Coin Opener”, it was very magical and a great lesson in misdirection. David also shared his tips on how to “Sleeve Like A Pro”, and I must say he was very good at it. Another subject he covered was how to effectively use “Black Art Magic” in close-up situations and he fooled all of us when



## Ring 76 2013-14 Calendar

Oct	14	Halloween Magic*
Nov	11	Auction
Dec	9	Holiday Banquet
Jan	13	Anything But Cards (ABC)*
Feb	10	Close-Up Competition*
Mar	10	Mentalism*
Apr	14	Teach-A-Trick Night
May	12	Stand-Up Competition*
Jun	9	Money Magic
Jul	TBD	Installation Banquet

\* Opportunity for Members to Perform

using it. Not all of his magic was 100% angle proof, however he was completely aware of this and explained the best situations of when where to perform those effects.

— Sal Barajas

## Father Joe's Village Show

Ring 76 has made performing at Father Joe's Village a semi-annual event. Thank you to the entertainers that have volunteered in the past 3 shows. Ring 76 is well noted there and appreciated. These are homeless families that are staying at the village for a short time. We need volunteers for our next show there on Thursday, October 24, 2013 and the show starts at 6:30PM and lasts until we are done. Usually 1 to 1½ hours total. If you want to volunteer 5, 10 or 15 minutes or more of magic, contact Joe Mystic at [joemystic@san.rr.com](mailto:joemystic@san.rr.com) or see him at one of the meetings. We like having 5 or 6 entertainers at each show. Remember your audience doesn't get to see much in the way of entertainment so this is a great place to try out something new or just to get your feet wet in front of a live audience.

— Joe Mystic