



# MAGICURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76

OCTOBER 2015

VOL. XXIX #10

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ring 76 has had an eventful month and there is more to come next month. We had a great turn out of performers at the September meeting for the performance theme of Comedy Magic. The day before, we had a very informative and entertaining lecture by Chris Capehart. Everyone walked away having learned something new.

This afternoon, I and four other ring members, worked with students at Nativity Prep during their first session of learning the tricks they will eventually do on stage as part of the Ring's Youth Education Grant from the I.B.M. It was a pleasure to see their reactions to learning some magic and associated skills.

Bob Meigs is organizing magic shows by Ring members from now through Halloween at the Pumpkin Patch next to the Del Mar Fairgrounds, Any and all members are invited to participate.

Our next meeting is our Halloween and Mentalism night. (See announcements for all of these events in the VP of Entertainment's report below.) We are still looking for a place to hold the David Ginn workshop, auction and Holiday potluck as well as a permanent meeting place.



I'm really busy working with my wife Lupe at the Scream Zone in the Del Mar fair grounds. You can find information about the dates when it's open on their web site.

Kenny Shelton, President

## Ring 76 2015-16 Calendar

Oct	12 Halloween Magic*
Oct	25 David Ginn Workshop (\$20/family at the door. Location TBD)
Nov	9 Auction
Dec	14 Holiday Potluck
Jan	11 Technology Magic*
Feb	8 Close-up Competition
Mar	14 Kids Magic*
Apr	11 Story telling (skit/movie) Magic*
May	9 Standup Competition
Jun	13 Food Magic*
Jul	11 Installation Banquet
Aug	8 Bag Night*

\*Opportunity for Members to Perform

*San Diego Ring 76 meets the second Monday of the month. For the foreseeable future, general meetings will be held at:*

**Denny's at 4280 Clairemont Mesa Blvd.  
San Diego 92117.**

Direct any questions concerning the calendar to VP Entertainment Richard Ustick  
ring76ibm@yahoo.com.

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HONEST SID GERHART RING 76

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER - MALCOLM CAMPBELL, EDITOR@RING76.COM

**CHRIS CAPEHART** entertained and enlightened Ring 76 with his lecture on September 13. Chris is a master entertainer and accomplished stage magician with many credits to his name. The variety of his effects and his keen sense of humor kept everyone on the edge of their seat. Having spent 15 years earning good money as a street magician, Chris was amazed to see that there were few street magicians in San Diego and urged the members to give it a try.

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

## CHRIS CAPEHART







## ***THE GREAT PUMPKIN BECKONS!***



Although we won't be having our October meeting at the Del Mar *Pumpkin Station*, I'll be doing Halloween shows there every Sunday through Halloween. I'll do two shows a day, at 2PM and 3PM, on the Sundays of October 4, 11, 18, and 25. The *Pumpkin Patch* is located at 15555 Jimmy Durante Rd., across from the Del Mar Fairgrounds.

But I hope I won't be doing this alone - *you are all invited to join in!* This is not a "paid gig" - it's just for fun - an opportunity for a little stage time in front of a family audience, without having to organize your own show. You're welcome to join in with any family-friendly routine - and you don't have to perform like a pro (but pros are welcome, too)!

Just show up, trick in hand or contact me (Bob Meigs) for more info at [carshows@bcglobal.net](mailto:carshows@bcglobal.net), or (619)742-1499. Or just come and watch - there's no admission charge or "two pumpkin minimum." Think of this as a *Ring 76 Social Event*.

And remember, *Burton, Teller, and Copperfield all got their start performing at the Pumpkin Patch!*

Hope to See You There!

Bob Meigs





## MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 13 RING MEETING

President Kenny Shelton called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, and began with the usual welcome. We were meeting for the first time in Denny's meeting room on Clairemont Mesa Blvd.

The first order of Ring business was Bob Meigs' description of the Ring's Youth Program to be initiated at Nativity Academy, and a call for volunteers to staff it. Bob has started a Magic Club meeting most Thursdays from 1-2 until their show in December. These are eighth grade students in a Prep school environment for children who are the first in their families to be college material. Teachers and assistants are needed, so please talk to Bob. This program is supported by our Honor Ring Grant from the IBM.

The next announcement was a shameless plug from Terry Lunceford for his Castle run at the W. C. Fields bar starting October 8<sup>th</sup>. Actually, we should all be proud that we have Ring members who routinely perform at the Castle! Support Terry and all our members!

President Kenny then introduced VP of Entertainment, Richard Ustick, and the night of Comedy Magic began. Richard had a great quip prior to every act, but his kicking off the evening with singing the first verse of "A Comedy Tonight" from "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to The Forum" was inspired.

Joe Mystic started things off with his Stupid Bean Trick. This was a wonderful bit of business involving loose beans, a can and bag, and some surprises along the way. Did you know bun-flapping rhymes with clapping?

After Joe came Charlie Gott who entertained us with verse from Romans and some coins that kept swapping places. Charlie, are they Ceasar's or not?

Next was Greg Wauson, and his very clever double card prediction that had the "chosen cards" swap for cards that matched in the hands of spectators. Cool!

Kenny Shelton was next with a similar switcheroo card prediction but the cute hook was having the cards transpose between volunteers by the use of "jumper cables" or ropes.

Terry Lunceford performed a sweet 6-card repeat that had a manic yet nonchalant decoy move of cards falling out of his hands; very funny. He followed with a hilarious mimed handkerchief and banana routine. Following a taped voice giving directions, Terry proceeded to fold a banana as if it were the bandana in the instructions. Ish! The ending was worthy of our performer of the month, so congratulations Terry.

New member Ken Intriligator followed with a very original routine that was terrifically funny, doing magic with germs and hand sanitizer! Ken got bogged down in the new experience of performing for a live audience versus practicing in front of your mirror, but that's why we get together and do this. Three cheers for Ken—and ALL our performers, pro or amateur) who make the commitment to log some stage time.

Nick Benevento was up next with a cool packet card trick and a nifty chain and ring routine that was effective and new to me!

Dr. Jeff Pearson followed with Sponge Balls and Chop Cup routines that met our standard of the night — funny and magical!

Jacques Lord came next with his version of the Chop Cup (that final load was déjà vu all over again!).

Malcolm Campbell closed the night out, with able assistance by Tom Owen-Towle, as a homeless bum doing conjuring for food, cash, and anything else he could finagle, all to cue cards and music – no dialogue. I thought it was inspired lunacy and a great effort on Malcolm's part.

The members of Ring 76 outdid themselves putting together a creative evening of magic and laughter. (We were laughing WITH you Jacques, not AT you!) The evening came to a close at 8:30 PM.

..... jacques lord, secretary



# COMEDY MAGIC NIGHT

Routines you may not have seen before  
and may never want to see again



**EMCEE AND V.P. OF ENTERTAINMENT  
RICHARD USTICK**



**JOE MYSTIC**



**CHARLIE GOTT**



**KEN INTRILIGATOR**



**KENNY SHELTON**





**NICK BENEVENTO**



**JEFF PEARSON**





JACQUES LORD



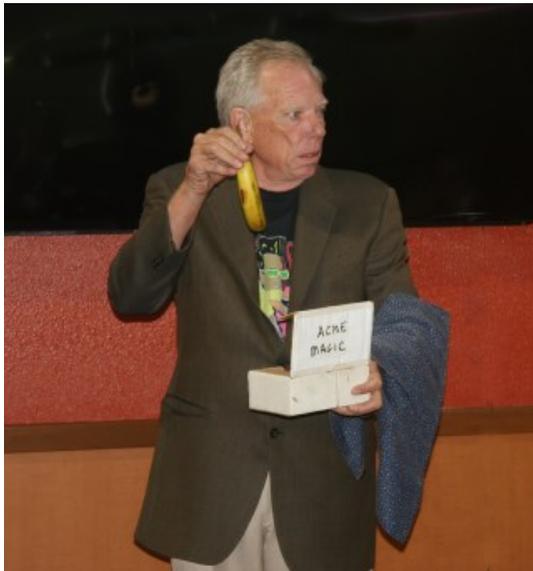
MALCOLM CAMPBELL



*And the Winner Is .....*



# Terry Lunceford



**Congratulations Terry. The audience went Bananas over this one!**



## SHAVINGS FROM THE BOARD



### MINUTES OF RING 76 BOARD MEETING

**September 28, 2015**  
Condensed for publication

#### SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

The Board approved a motion to post the By-Laws and Constitution of the Ring on the website for member access.

**The meeting was called to order by President (and Librarian) Kenny Shelton at 7:20pm.** Present were President Shelton, VP Entertainment Richard Ustick, Guest Joe Mystic, Guest Lupe Shelton, Treasurer Bob Meigs, VP Membership James Thayer, Sergeant-At-Arms Jeff Sargent, Member at Large and Newsletter Editor Malcolm Campbell, Secretary Jacques Lord, Member at Large Mago Ruly. Jeff Marcus and Sal Barajas were absent (excused)

#### Approval of previous minutes

August Board minutes were approved.

#### Treasurer's Report

Bob presented the Ring 76 Treasury Report which shows a sufficient cash balance to support the budget.

#### Library

No changes or new items to report this month

#### Membership

62 active members, with 11 of those being honorary lifetime. 8 less than last year at this time and most of those 8 are youth.

#### Old Business

David Ginn's Workshop is October 26<sup>th</sup>.

A location is needed for October 26 from 12 to 6.

Nativity Prep Youth Program

The first meeting was held last Thursday and 8 students signed up. Each received a package of magic and instruction. Classes for the next three

weeks are organized and staffed. This program is on its feet and running!

Malcolm has written an article on our Ring Youth program funded by the Honor Ring Grant which will be published in the Linking Ring.

#### Holiday Banquet

Richard Ustick has made arrangements with Rich Cowley, a regular at the Magic Castle, to provide the entertainment. The location is yet to be determined.

#### Finding a Replacement for the Senior Center

We continue to meet at the Denny's on Clairemont Blvd. in a month to month arrangement while searching for more permanent meeting space. The October and November meetings will be at the same Denny's. We need to find a bigger and more serviceable spot for pot luck Banquets and Swap Meets/Auction meetings where items are sold and we engage in commercial activity.

#### New Business

##### Pumpkin Patch shows

Bob Meigs is organizing shows at the Pumpkin Patch near the Del Mar Fairgrounds. Members are invited to perform. (*See announcement on Page 2.*)

##### Food situation at Denny's

Some members forgot to pay their tab after the last meeting/lecture events. A gentle reminder will go out to get everyone squared up with Denny's.

##### Auction Meeting Discussion

The board passed a motion to buy a card reader to be used for the auction and other transactions. Member sellers will pay a 10% commission to the Ring on their sales. Non-members will pay a 15% commission to the Ring. A maximum of five (5) lots per seller will be permitted.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.**

Respectfully submitted.

Jacques Lord, Secretary



## ENTERTAINMENT NEWS



# OCTOBER IS HALLOWEEN MONTH

**Hello fellow Ring 76 members!** Now is the time to dig up your cadaverous cards, your spooky silks, and ethereal rings and coins. October's Halloween and Mentalism theme is not only a chance to have some fun, but is also a chance to be named Performer of the Month and gather points towards Entertainer of the Year. Please contact me, Richard Ustick, VP of Entertainment to reserve your spot on the program and to help eliminate duplicate effects.

Although the theme of the evening is Halloween and Mentalism, you may perform any routine you like. However, if it does not fall within the theme (as determined by the VP of Entertainment) you will not be eligible to be a contestant for the Performer of the Month Award.

It was hoped that we could hold the performance part of our meeting in front of a public audience at the Pumpkin Station near the Del Mar Fair Grounds. Unfortunately, the timing did not work out so we will meet at our temporary regular location, Denny's at **4280 Clairemont Mesa Blvd.** The meeting will begin at the usual time of 7:00 on Monday, October 12th.

Remember, if you use special effects in your performance, no open flame of any kind is permitted.

## DAVID GINN WORKSHOP COMING UP

October 25 from 2 - 6 pm will see Ring 76 hosting a Magic Workshop by renowned performer, author, and motivational speaker David Ginn. He is currently celebrating 35 years of full time performing, writing, lecturing, and teaching others how to entertain children and family audiences. He lectures to magic and clown groups, plus conventions for entertainers across the country.

This is a Ring-hosted event but not one of the free Ring lectures for the year. The cost will be \$20 per family, paid at the door. The location will be emailed to you soon.

## NOVEMBER AUCTION

In November we are having our bi-annual Auction. This will be on November 9<sup>th</sup>, our usual meeting night, and again, the location will be announced. Our auctions are usually large (and loud), and Denny's is not really the facility for our needs.

*(Continued on page 13)*



*(Continued from page 12)*

All members are encouraged to dig through their closets and bring in their treasures to sell for much needed Holiday cash. As always, the rules are simple. Each member is allowed to have up to five lots to sell. The lot may contain one item or one hundred items; That is up to you. You must mark each lot with a starting bid and we will not go below that figure. Each lot must also have a seller's number which will be assigned to you.

The Ring takes 10% of the selling price. Non-members are also welcome to bring items in for auction with the same restriction of five lots, but the Ring will take 15% of that selling price. Being a member has its rewards. If you have any questions, please contact any Board member.

## HOLIDAY BANQUET

Finally, the holidays are right around the corner and our annual Holiday Pot Luck is on December 14<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is encouraged to bring in your favorite holiday dish to share. The entertainment will be provided by Rich Cowley. More details on that in our next newsletter.

Mark you calendars and watch your email inboxes for additional details of all of these up-coming events. See you at the meetings.

Richard Ustick  
V.P. Entertainment  
IBM Ring 76  
[ring76ibm@yahoo.com](mailto:ring76ibm@yahoo.com)

### ***Focus On THE LINKING RING***

*Each month, MagicCurrents features an item in the current issue of The I.B.M.'s The Linking Ring in which we feel the members might be especially interested.*

There seems to be an endless list of peripheral applications of magic which the Linking Ring eventually covers.

This month, the magazine has a very informative article about the Fellowship of Christian Magicians written by Dennis Schick. As a number of Ring 76 members do, members of FCM use magic as instructive tools in Christian Education

FCM has members in all 50 states, 9 Canadian provinces and 2 dozen other countries. It holds conventions annually. The closest chapter to San Diego is in Fullerton, CA. Details can be found in the 5-page article.

..... editor

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## IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF YOUR PRACTICE SESSIONS

As Suggested by John Carney

By Jacques Lord

Last month I wrote about my experiences and what I learned at the John Carney Workshop. This month I want to share some of the changes I have made so that you can decide if these changes or tools are something you would like to use.

The take-aways that I heard in the class as transcribed from my notes (and reported last month) included:

- Practice with your head, not with your fingers. Sleight-of-hand is in the mind.
- Magic (if it is to be an art form) is the **thoughtful design** of work that compels the audience reaction of awe and wonder (not “He is SO skilled!”).
- You can always improve. Do not close yourself off from learning and examining your tricks to make modest improvements.

OK, let’s take those bullets and turn them into a working tool you can use for practicing and keeping your practice thoughtful and in your head:

### Jacques’ Practice Log

*Practice with your head, not your fingers*

*Always ask yourself “What if...”*

<b>DATE</b>	<b>FOCUS</b>	<b>NOTES</b>	<b>TIME (min)</b>
9/16	Cups n balls	Work on sequence of motions to make final loads more direct; less cumbersome	45 min
9/17	Card fundamentals	Double lift, bottom palm, top palms, faro	40 min
9/19	Performance	Remember to use blue-backed deck when the impossible location can has a blue card in it!	75 min performing

Additional take-aways from last month which are indirectly related:

- You have to **earn** your applause and gasps. – John Carney
- You have to have something to say – Director Mike Nichols

I think the practice log helps address those points as well. You will earn your applause and laughter by logging in the time necessary to accomplish what you set out to do. You will also know the source of your frustrations when you have less than successful shows and the log book is lacking in entries. Your improvement will be obvious as you log the practice time and track your progress in the notes.

*(Continued on page 15)*



*(Continued from page 14)*

But, having something to say is a whole new kettle of fish! Having something to say is best done by writing, or scripting, a creative process. Creative writing is a muscle, and it will strengthen only if you exercise it! So keep jotting down ideas, concepts, plots, or effects you may think of.

As an example for your consideration, here is one of my ideas/concepts for which I have yet to find a way to make it happen. It is an example of the format I use for developing having something to say.

Erase my words and fill in your own using the format as a first template. If you want an electronic versions of the Log Sheet or Sketch Idea to use and morph into your own tools, please email me through the Ring 76 Website/officers.

### **DRAFT SKETCH IDEA: SWAMI FED'R-HED**

**Basic premise:** SWAMI FED'R-HED is out of control and completely disorganized. And if it weren't for real magic that is in his control (barely), he'd be sunk.

Swami Fed'r-hed, magician, is trying to prepare for a performance and get out the door.

He is dressed in boxers and tee shirt only, and needs to get dressed quickly. He is having a hard time since:

Pants and shirt are missing, then appear in previously searched locations.

Puts on pants and socks change colors.

Props are missing, finds silks in the change bag and coins in the vanishing box.

Car keys are missing, found under the Chop cup.

Wallet is easy to find, bursts into flames when opened.

Clothing is stained, stains removed with a wave of a wand.

Signature feathered turban is missing or broken/smashed, found in the executive briefcase.

(You get the idea...)

Production techniques might include thumb tip, purse frame, palmed items, executive briefcase, chop cup, wooden vanishing box for small items.

### **Potential soundtracks:**

*HELP!* By the Beatles

*Oh Yeah* by Jan Hammer



## NOTES AND REMINDERS



**Remember**, we are looking for product reviews. It doesn't matter if you liked what you paid for or not, we want your opinion for the benefit of the rest of the members. If you're not a writer, we can arrange a short sit-down to gather the facts and write the review.

Have magic to sell, stage equipment to rent? Looking for something to buy or rent? Need a ride or have room for a passenger to an out of town event such as the Magic Castle?

Have a special skill another member might use? Need a temporary assistant?

**Advertise it at no cost to Ring 76 members in MagiCurrents**

### LIBRARY REMINDER

Ring 76 has a large library of books DVD's, even VHS tapes covering every phase of magic. All of the Materials are available for members to check out and use at home.

Kenny Shelton, our Librarian, regularly brings a sampling to our meetings and those are available for immediate check out. But you may not know that the "Library" link on our website leads you to a complete list. If you find something there that you would like to use, contact Kenny at [magicjugglerks@gmail.com](mailto:magicjugglerks@gmail.com). Tell him what you want and he will bring it to the next meeting.

The intended publication date of each issue of MagiCurrents is the Friday 9 days before the monthly meeting. Submissions from officers, reporters and other members are due the Thursday before the publication date. If you want *your* newsletter on time, please be prompt!!



**Thanks to all who contributed to this issue of MagiCurrents!**

..... editor