



MAGICURRENTS

SAN DIEGO RING 76 DECEMBER 2015 VOL. XXIX #12

President's Message

I would like remind everyone that the annual potluck banquet is coming up and we need side dishes. Besides good food and fellowship, we will have live music and a fabulous entertainer.



We will also have guests from the local Boy Scout Troop which graciously agreed to change rooms with us so that we could have the space we need. Several faculty and students who participate in our Youth Development program will join us as well.

We are working hard on finding a permanent place to meet and need every lead we can get.

We also need input on the type of lectures the members would like to see. Please contact a Board member with your opinions. kenny

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

This issue marks the end of my first year as Editor. We have had some remarkable issues which have been acclaimed throughout The I.B.M., all due to the consistent, quality input from the Board and other members.

I'm looking forward to another successful year for Ring 76 and the continuation of Magicurrents as a valuable source of information for, and about, our Ring.

Thanks especially to Bob Pozner and James Thayer for their on-going efforts.

..... malcolm campbl

Ring 76 2015-16 Calendar

Dec	14 Holiday Potluck (See announcement below for location)
Jan	11 Technology Magic*
Feb	8 Close-up Competition
Mar	14 Kids Magic*
Apr	11 Story telling (skit/movie) Magic*
Apr	TBD Lecture
May	9 Stand-up 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.

SEE ANNOUNCEMENT BELOW FOR LOCATION OF DEC. POTLUCK

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
PHOTOGRAPHY - JAMES THAYER, PROOFREADER - BOB POZNER**



We extend our deepest sympathy to the families, friends and associates of those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks in Paris on Nov. 13, 2015.

As entertainers, we can lighten hearts and create temporary distractions from reality, but the world must find an eminent solution to ending these inhumane actions which affect us all.



ENTERTAINMENT VP REPORT

By Richard Ustick V.P. Entertainment

With the holidays upon us, and the New Year rapidly approaching, it is time to take a quick look at Ring activities in the months to come.

December is our traditional Holiday Pot Luck Banquet. This is on December 14th and will feature entertainment by Rich Cowley. (See the details in this newsletter and bring your favorite holiday dish to share).

January is Tech Magic. The theme will feature tricks and routines with a technological bent.

February is the annual Ring 76 Close-up contest where members compete for the title of Close-up Champion.

March will feature Kids Magic. We are planning on having an audience of children and are asking Ring members to perform routines rather than individual tricks. More on this as the time comes closer.

In April, we will be trying something new with what we call "Skit & Movie Magic." We are asking our Ring members to come up with story-based magic like the golden days of Vaudeville. The rules are loose on this so please talk with any Board member if you have questions or suggestions. This is also the month where members can start thinking of running for Board positions.

May is the Stand-up Competition from which the year's winner will emerge.

June will feature Food Magic, where Ring members can show their culinary conjuring. We will also hold our election of officers for the next year. It is also when dues are due.

Our Installation banquet in July ends our year with the official change of officers, entertainment and a catered meal.

August will feature Bag Magic where contestants volunteer to do a trick with the contents of a brown paper bag, not knowing what the bag contains. It is a challenge, but fun is the name of this evening's events.

Contact any Board member for more information.

BEHIND THE SCENES



A brief look at members' contributions to the success of the Ring, professional backgrounds and other interests.

One outstanding feature of Magicurrents is the abundance of quality photos, most of which are the work of James Thayer.

James has been a member of Ring 76 for 15 years, has served as Board Member-At-Large and is now in his 5th term as VP of Membership. He also is our Webmaster who is responsible for the professional quality Ring 76 web site and its many useful features. James has served in that capacity for seven years. He was Editor of Magicurrents for four years.



James is a member of the Magic Castle and especially enjoys performing close-up magic.

Professionally, he is a systems engineer on the forefront of mobile telecommunications. Among his other interests are solving puzzles, geocaching, crewing on tall ships, blacksmithing and military history.

If you would like to be featured in this column, or would recommend another member, please contact the Editor.





Ring Field Trips to the Magic Castle Proposed

By Jacques Lord

Do you ever feel that your Board is a bunch of snobs because most of them belong to this exclusive magician club up in Hollywood which you've never been able to go to?

Well, fret no more. This exclusivity is about to come to a halt. The Magic Castle guest policy is very accommodating and any member of Ring 76 who is serious about enjoying and participating in one of the iconic experiences of our glorious and universal craft can have the opportunity to do so. It just requires being accompanied by a castle member and some advanced planning.

The Board has asked me as Castle Member and Board Secretary to make arrangements for field trips to give all Ring 76 members the opportunity to experience this fabulous center of the magicians' universe.

The current proposals are as follows:

OPTION A: A member with a vehicle will declare to the Ring Secretary with at least a week's notice, that they are going to the castle and they have x number of seats for carpooling. Email blasts are sent and carpoolers are connected with driver.

Riders will contribute to a free will offering to compensate the driver for their chauffeuring (e.g., gas, food, but no alcohol!)

OPTION B: The Ring (or a member) rents a van for the night to take a larger group. Cost of the van is split amongst the passengers. Valet Parking may assume a taco truck just drove up but they can get over it....

Cost: You can expect the cost of an evening at the Castle to range from \$40 to \$100 or more depending on what you eat and drink and buy at the gift shop. You can expect to leave San Diego about 3-4 PM, get there at around 7, stay till you are bleary-eyed, then back to San Diego and home by 2 or 3 am at the latest.

The best days to go are Sunday through Wednesday. The crowds are smaller and there is

more opportunity to explore the place. *AND* you can have the chance to perform in one of the member performance spaces!

Please forward your questions, suggestions, and wishes to Jacques Lord, Ring Secretary, email: everydaywonder@sbcglobal.net.

..... jacques lord

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER RING MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The November General Membership Meeting was held at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in Poway. Since this was our bi-annual auction night, more space than we have at our interim location at Dennys was necessary. Secretary Jacques Lord made the arrangements for us.

Unfortunately, various circumstances limited the attendance to about half of our normal turn out.

Since Treasurer Bob Meigs and VP Membership James Thayer were the only officers present, the business meeting was suspended and the auction commenced.

Despite the low attendance, Treasurer Meigs conducted a lively auction. Sherry Luft and Crisy Ustick assisted with the receipts and disbursements.

..... editor

Focus On THE LINKING RING

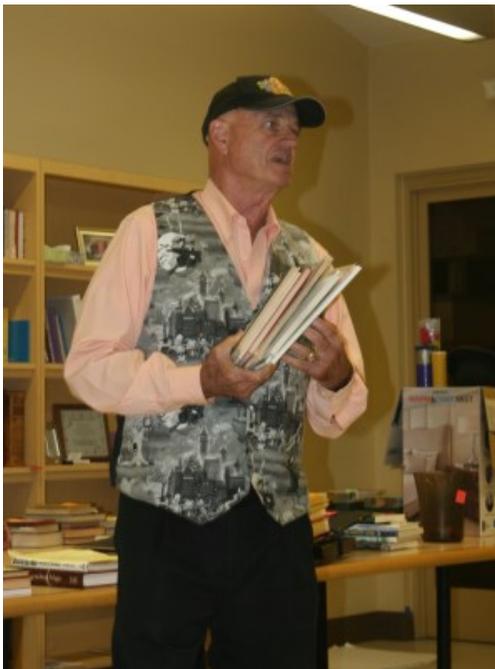
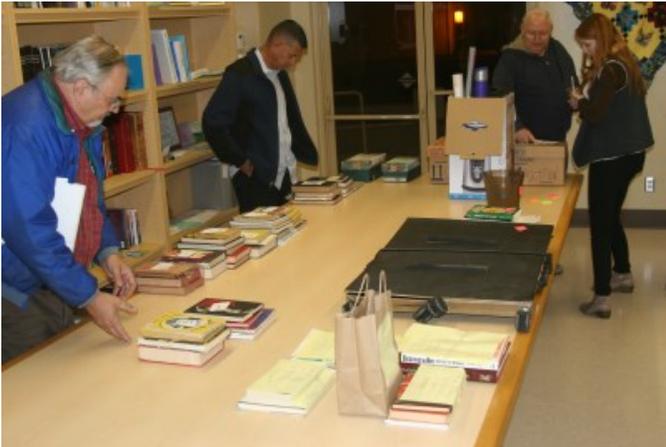
Each month, MagicCurrents features an item in the current issue of The I.B.M.'s The Linking Ring in which we feel the members might be especially interested.

Don't miss the Linking Ring's coverage of Ring 76's Youth Development program at Rady Children's Center in November's issue. The hope is that it will inspire Rings around the world to get involved in similar programs.

..... editor



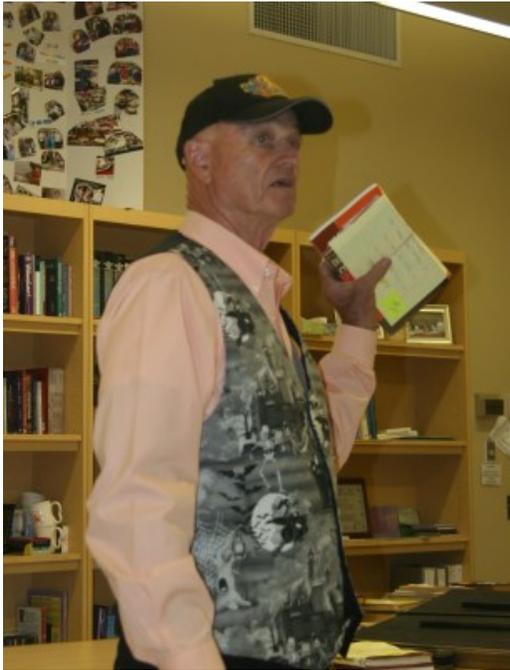
AUCTION ACTION



AUCTIONEER BOB MEIGS







**CRISY USTICK & SHERRY LUFT
HANDLE THE FINANCES**



HOLIDAY POTLUCK DECEMBER 14

It is time, once again, to celebrate the holidays with all of your magical friends and family at the Annual Ring 76 Potluck Banquet.

This year it will be on Monday, December 14th at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church at 16275 Pomerado Road, Poway, 92064. The facility is large enough to meet our space needs for food, entertainment, and attendees.

The doors will open to the membership at 6:30pm with dinner starting at 7:00 and the entertainment beginning at 8:00. Members are encouraged to bring their families and other guests plus food items for the pot luck. The Ring will be providing turkey and ham, as well as drinks and table service. Members need to bring a side dish, appetizer or dessert big enough to feed ten people. Warming trays will be available.

The entertainment for this year's banquet will be provided by Rich Cowley. Rich is a regular at the Magic Castle in Hollywood.



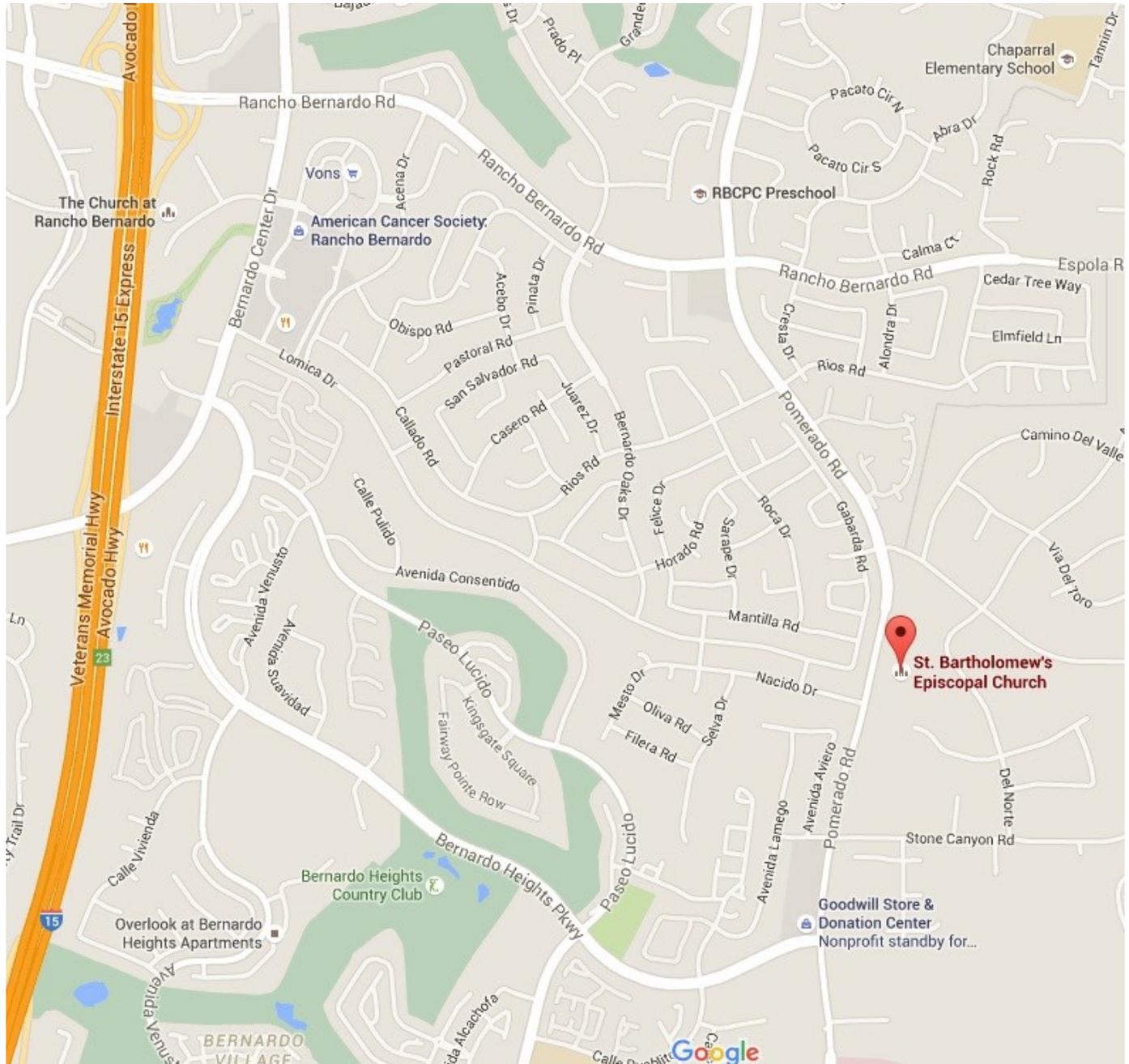
You can often find him in every corner of that amazing place, sharing his magic and entertaining the crowds night after night. One of Rich's favorite ways to "avoid the ordinary" is showing his audiences that they're capable of doing amazing things as well. Rich frequently "turns the spotlights around" in his shows, helping his audience silence their "you-can't-do-it" mindset to achieve things they never thought possible!

We will also have raffles featuring prizes and special trinkets to delight any conjuror this magical time of the year.



HOLIDAY BANQUET DIRECTIONS

St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church
16275 Pomerado Road, Poway, 92064.





SHAVINGS FROM THE BOARD



MINUTES OF RING 76 BOARD MEETING

November 23, 2015
Condensed for publication

The meeting was called to order by President Kenny Shelton at 7:05 pm.

Present were Treasurer Bob Meigs, VP Membership James Thayer, Member at Large and Newsletter Editor Malcolm Campbell, Secretary Jacques Lord, President Kenny Shelton, Sargent-at-arms Jeff Sargent, Past President and Member at Large Sal Barajas, and Member at Large Mago Ruly.

Approval of previous minutes

October Board minutes were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report was approved.

Library

No changes or new items were reported this month. Conversion of VHS tapes we own to DVDs was discussed.

Membership

We have 64 active members, 11 of those being Honorary Lifetime..

Old Business

November's Meeting. Despite the low attendance, the Ring's take was \$90. Thanks to Sherry Luft and Crisy Ustick for managing the Auction paperwork and financials under duress.

Meeting Venue We still do not have a permanent new location for our meetings and events, although several possibilities are being pursued.

Reestablishing Non-Profit Corporation status Malcolm Campbell discussed the benefits of regaining our Non-Profit Corporation status and strongly recommended that we pursue

it. He is investigating the cost and proper path to take.

Honor Ring Education Grant program.

The first phase of the Nativity Prep School Magic Club program will end with the student show on December 3rd with eight participants. This is a successful program so far, but it is operating with the bare minimum of volunteers. If the school wants to, the program will continue next semester, hopefully with more support from the Ring. Cost is minimal. Middle of the day time frame limits who can get involved.

The Honor Ring grant can be used for Lectures, and Library Materials as well.

New Business

Holiday Pot Luck Banquet. The event will be held the 14th of December at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in Poway. The Board members and the Ring will supply the basics including main courses. Members will bring side dishes.

Non-Profit Performance Opportunities.

Bob Meigs discussed the possibilities for members to gain performance experience while participating in pro-bono shows for non-profit organizations. This will be brought up at the next General Membership meeting.

Additional Lectures. Discussion focused on the topics of cost, space and timing We need to ask the members for their topic preferences.

January Technology Magic Theme. If your effect involves iphones, ipads, d'lites or anything else with batteries, electrons, ions or morons, it qualifies. Denny's is the meeting location until further notice.

March Kid's Magic Theme. Bob Meigs wants to encourage performers to do more of a show and not a single effect, since we hope to have a room full of children. We currently have no time limit so the rules do not need to be revised.

General Contest Rules Malcolm reminded the Board of the previous Board resolution to

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(Continued from page 10)

limit eligibility of performers to receive votes to those whose performance fits within the theme of the month.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jacques Lord, Secretary



DO YOU ENJOY PERFORMING?

By Bob Meigs

I enjoy watching a good magic show but I have even more fun when I perform. As Walt Disney said, "It's kind of fun to do the impossible."

One of the things I like best about Ring 76 is the opportunities we have to perform which are part of most of our monthly meetings. However, there are several other opportunities to perform and develop your magical talents which you may take advantage of.

First, there's our Youth Program, which has included a program at Rady Children's Hospital, and Wizards, Inc., a series of 9 sessions for 8th graders at Nativity Prep Academy. This program provides not only an opportunity to do a little magic, but also the opportunity to teach a little magic – and to help disadvantaged kids develop their own performance skills. What could be more magical than that?

We are now finishing the first 9-week run of Wizards, Inc., and it has been a huge success. The only disappointment was that only five Ring members afforded themselves the opportunity of participating in this program. That's understandable, in part, because Wizards, Inc., meets on Thursday afternoons, from 1 to 2 pm. We're going to do it again in the Spring semester (probably starting in February), and we hope more ring members will

participate! If you'd like to be a part of this program, contact Malcolm Campbell or Bob Meigs.

Secondly, Joe Mystic and Bob Meigs both arrange shows in which any Ring members can do a routine or two in front of a family audience. These are great opportunities to perform, without having to arrange or put on a full show yourself. Joe arranges two of these shows every year at St. Vincent DePaul Village, and Bob has arranged shows at Cinco de Mayo and, in October, the Pumpkin Patch. If you have an interest in such events, contact Joe or Bob.

Thirdly, it's quite likely that we will again arrange a meeting place in exchange for shows. If you want to be a part of these shows, you'll be developing your performing skills and having fun, all while helping the Ring!

Finally, if you have an organization for which you'd like to put on a show, but doing a whole show on your own is a bit daunting – maybe the Ring can help. Bring it up at a meeting – you might find other Ring members anxious to be a part of it!

The shows and events I'm talking about usually are pro-bono – that is, there's no fee involved. We tend to think of pro-bono shows as benefiting the "client." That's true, but they usually benefit the performers, as well. I view such opportunities as one of the great benefits of my association with Ring 76. Don't let the "pros" have all the fun!

..... bob meigs





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. 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