



I.B.M. MAGRUM-KIEFER RING NO. 11
QUAD-CITIES MAGIC CLUB
MARCH, 2008 NEWSLETTER



NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, April 3, 2008
7:00 p.m.
Riverside Garden Room
34th Street and 5th Avenue
Moline, IL

ASSIGNMENTS:

APRIL MEETING

Theme: Silks or Ropes

MC: Jeremy Haak

Teach: Bob Smith (hard)
Jeremy Haak (easy)

Book/DVD Report: Rick Brammer

Snacks: Chuck Hansen

Drinks: Ty Bernier

MAY MEETING:

Theme: Close Up Contest

MC:

Teach: Jerry Phillips (hard)
Michael Dyer (easy)

Book/DVD Report: Todd Herbst

Snacks: Michael Dyer

Drinks: Todd Herbst

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The April meeting will be on the usual day, Thursday, April 3rd. Fortunately it just misses April Fools Day by a mere 24 hours and one minute. The THEME for the program will be ROPE AND/OR SILK MAGIC, so get yourself in gear and do something spectacular like the silk off rope trick, thereby encompassing the entire theme. An extra hoorah for the person doing it best.

During the March meeting President Joe appointed two committees:

1. Lecture Committee: Joe Dobson, Brian Moore and Chuck Hanson...who will be able to more quickly react and book lecturers when the time is short.
2. Christmas Party Committee: Linda [Mrs. Eric] Dany and Rick Brammer.

Treasurer Jerry Phillips said the current balance is \$3815, not including a \$500 check from the Childrens Therapy Center, which should be coming in March ...with luck and if the wind is in the right direction.

Rules for the Close Up Contest, the feature of the May meeting, will be sent to you separately.

Rick Brammer reported that the next club show in Dixon, IL will be in May on a date yet to be set.

Welcome **NEW MEMBER...RICK SZEWCZYK** [pronounced Suf-cek]...who hails from Macomb and did a great job with the Rub-A-Dub Dub Cups and Balls routine at the last meeting.

Dave Curley mentioned two nearby magic shows coming in April and May.

1. April 19, Maquoketa, IA, "The Magic of Bill Bragg III", at the Ohnward Fine Arts Center, 1214 E Platt St. [HWY 64 E] across from the fairgrounds. Showtime 7 PM. Adults-\$21, Children-\$14. Call 563 652 9815 for more information. According to his press release he's

ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONT'D)

2. May 9, 10, 11, Savanna, IL. Jonathan Neil Brown and Joel Ward, highly respected magicians from the west coast area, St. George Center for the Arts [former school], 800 W. Chicago Ave. [on HWY 52/84 about two blocks west of the 52/84 intersection-McDonald's]. Doors open at 7 PM. Showtime-7:30, Adults-\$20, Children under 18-\$15, Premium front section seats-\$25, free pop and popcorn. Brown has been featured on television and has performed at a number of conventions. We don't know anything about Ward.

MARCH 25...is the Rick Maue Lecture...a club sponsored event at Mr. Wong's, 7 PM.
Ring #11 members...\$10 [Ring/IBM members get in for \$5]
parents and spouses...\$5
other non-members...\$15

This is a good site to go to to read about Bill Blagg III

<http://www.ohnwardfineartscenter.com/events.php>

Here is a link to a YOUTUBE video of Joel Ward and Jonathan Neil Brown.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xfen-mJLMh0>

Here is last months blurb about Rick Maue so you don't have to dig out last month's copy.

Rick Maue's Mental Deceptions Lecture is not a regular magic lecture, nor is it a mentalism lecture, or a "bizzare" lecture. Instead, it is a lecture on creating, adapting, and performing strong magic and mentalism for audiences in the real world. That is probably why Rick has been getting such wonderful endorsements from not only Phil Willmarth, Joshua Jay, Doc Eason and Marc DeSouza, but also a wide range of performers such as Simon Lovell, Banachek, Paul Gertner, Kenton Knepper, Jon Stetson, Docc Hilford, Harley Newman and many others.

Rick Maue has been creating deception for over four decades. He is the founder of Deceptions Unlimited & the author and creator of The Book Of HauntedMagick; FATE; Imagine; The Final Picture; Mixed Emotions; The Journey; The Book Of Spirits Séance; and the upcoming Occam's Magic. In addition, Rick recently shot a video series of original material for an upcoming DVD release from L&L Publishing.

At his Mental Deceptions Lecture, Rick will feature a number of his signature pieces, and also several unreleased items. None of the effects will require expensive gimmicks or props—just everyday items such as envelopes, poker chips, paper, playing cards, etc...

And all of the material will be what Rick refers to as VdM Magic—which means that it will all be so technically easy that the Venus de Milo could perform it.

David London will be joining Rick on the road. Many of you enjoyed David in 2007 when he came through with Arthur Trace and now he's back! David will be featuring a brand new lecture that you have got to see.

In addition to being a creative mind in magic, David has a magazine called Beyond the Smoke and Mirrors that all of the insiders in magic are reading.

RING #11 REPORT

The March meeting was quite special because it put emphasis on the teaching part of magic. Members had been asked to bring a deck of cards and some coins so they could actually learn and do several tricks. The audience was divided into three groups. Three teachers, selected earlier, each taught a favorite trick...the groups rotating from one teacher to the next. It was truly a three-ring teach-in. President Joe Dobson presented rubber band stunts, Tod Waller taught his version of Coins Across, and Chuck Hanson did a take-off on “Forty Two”, a card trick that was described in The Card Corner in the November 2007 Linking Ring.

Ty Bernier, our archivist/historian, talked about and showed some photos taken at the Club picnic in 1999. This little vignette called “The Heritage Corner” is an interesting and popular feature of our meetings. Ty even enhanced his presentation by using his laptop computer to show a trick which had been done by one of our members of that period.

Rick Brammer reported that the recent club show in Davenport, Iowa put \$706 into the club treasury. Doing their bit as performers and stage hands were Bob and Karen Smith, Kathy Baum, Laura [Looney Lori} Anderson, Jeremy Haak, Doug and Mike Johnson, Toto Johnson, Jerry Phillips, Kim Meacham, Rick Brammer and Chuck Hanson. We have several more of these fund raiser shows coming up this year. It’s a nice feeling having a few bucks in the treasury.

The magic show during the Ring meeting was emceed by Jerry Phillips...a man with a bunch of funny lines and a few groaners. First up was Jeremy Haak, who loves to find signed cards and borrowed bills in strange and unusual places. This time it was a borrowed bill that disappeared and somehow found its way into a fresh green [actually orange] pepper...something we’d never seen before.

Todd Herbst, who calls himself Terrible Todd [we don’t know if that’s his opinion of his act or a moniker that goes with the pirate costume he sometimes uses] reached up into the air and retrieved a silver dollar...then made it double, do a number of stunts and finally disappear. Fifty years ago Bob Kline of Copentro fame manufactured a box which, when held by the string attached to the top and twirled, magically filled with many silk scarves.

Less than twenty of these classic boxes are reported to exist today. One is owned by member Dave Curley who performed it for the Ring. It’s always fun to see some of these priceless classics of magic “in the flesh”.

Another classic trick of many years ago is the cups and balls routine known as Rub-A-Dub-Dub. Using the original poetic patter new member Rick Szewczyk [it’s pronounced Suf-chek in case you had difficulty] gave a very nice performance, bringing back some good memories for the gray-hairs in our group. Kim Meacham, past president and fine sleight-of-hand guy, showed us some clever examples of coin magic as well as his take on Color Monte.

Chuck Hanson tried to read the mind of one of the members who had memorized the serial number of his dollar bill. Chuck failed and, shrugging his shoulders, calmly tore up the borrowed bill. But somehow that same bill reappeared, fully restored, tied to the end of a shoe lace that was pulled from a small box which had been in full view all along.

Thus endeth another interesting Ring 11 meeting.



THE MAGIC CASTLE

The Magic Castle is likely the most famous magic night club in the world. It hosts nightly performances by the world's finest magicians, and it is considered an honor to perform there. It is also the private clubhouse for the Academy of Magical Arts (AMA), an organization devoted to the advancement of the art of magic and its history, and it is a hang-out for the magic industry. It is located in Hollywood, California.

It is a private club. Only members and their guests are allowed entrance, though courtesy invitations can be obtained by magicians visiting from out of town. During a typical evening there are numerous magic shows and historic displays, as well as a full service dining room and numerous bars. The atmosphere is reminiscent of classic night club days, and a dress code of formal party attire is strictly enforced. Minors are not permitted for these evening performances. On Saturdays and Sundays, the Castle hosts a brunch and performances which are open to adults and children. During brunch, the Castle's "Junior Members" (ranging in age from 13 to 20 years old) perform in the Close-Up Gallery.

The Magic Castle houses the Academy of Magical Arts. The mission statement of the Academy of Magical Arts reads:

"The Academy of Magical Arts, Inc. has been and will continue to be the premier organization in the world dedicated to the art of MAGIC. We are an organization which promotes the art of magic, encourages fellowship and maintains the highest ethical standards. We provide a friendly environment where members and their guests can enjoy the art and each other's company. Our goals and objectives are to advance the art and promote a positive image of magic and magicians worldwide."

One of the Castle's most famous members was the late Dai Vernon, an expert in sleight of hand, who often sat in the bar area entertaining and teaching. Vernon was the Magician-in-Residence at the Castle for many years, up until his death in 1992. Other famous magicians who have been regular performers at the Magic Castle include Mark Wilson, Jay Ose, Senator Crandall, Johnny Platt, Kuda Bux, and Billy McComb. Many "celebrity magic hobbyists" have also performed at the Magic Castle, including Cary Grant, Steve Martin, Johnny Carson, and recently Jason Alexander of Seinfeld.

The top magicians in the world perform in several different formats, including an intimate close-up room, a larger parlour, and a grand stage. Informal performances around the 5 bars give magicians the opportunity to learn from and impress peers. Magician members interested in magical research have access to a substantial library of resources.

The Magic Castle is also known for its Junior Program (the Magic Castle Junior Group). The Junior Group comprises highly skilled young magicians, many of whom have gone on to be well-known performers and professionals.

At the Castle, visiting non-magicians can see the best of magic being performed close up. The lobby of the Castle has no visible doors to the interior, and one must say "Open sesame" to an owl to gain access, exposing the entrance to the club. Once inside, visitors can go to any of the five different shows, each of which changes weekly, where magicians exhibit their skills, and can listen to Irma, a piano-playing ghost that takes requests.

Magicians must audition to join the Academy of Magical Arts and the Castle. Non-magicians can join, but only as associate members.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Magic_Castle