



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



### RING 11 REPORT

### NEXT MEETING:

October 2, 2008  
7:00 p.m.  
Wizard's Den  
1228 Brady Street  
Davenport IA

Comedy magic was the theme for Ring 11's August meeting, which was attended by about twenty five members and potential members...a nice turnout. After a brief business meeting P.J. Wiese reviewed "The Complete Works of Derek Dingle" followed by Jerry Phillips' review of "Maximum Entertainment", both excellent books. A review of DVDs and books is a regular and popular feature of our meetings.

### ASSIGNMENTS:

#### OCTOBER MEETING

Another regular feature is the Heritage Corner, a look into the past history of the Ring, conducted by archivist, Ty Bernier. This month he showed photos and briefly described a special club meeting in 2001. It's fun to reminisce.

**MC:**            ????

Rickie Szewczyk taught us the Lazy Man's Card Trick. Kim Meacham, owner of the Wizards Den magic shop in Davenport, IA, demonstrated some of the new magic in stock.

**Theme:**        Stage Magic Contest

**Drinks:**       Joe Dobson

**Snacks:**       Eric Dany

MC Jeremy Haak started the lively show by performing the amazing, mystifying vanishing cracker...a tough act to follow! But the Club's youngest member, 13 year old Carter Hagen, was up to it. He did the act with which he won first place as well as Grand Champion in his division at the Mississippi Valley Fair in Davenport, IA...an honor that took him to Des Moines to perform at the Iowa State Fair in August. Carter has been tutored by Bob Brown, a real pro himself, and the mentor's special touches were well executed...clever, humorous patter, a running gag and different routines for standard tricks. We were all impressed and pleased with Carter's performance. Shortly after our August meeting, on August 26th, club members were saddened to learn Bob Brown had passed away. Throughout Bob's life he gave a lot to magic and magicians. He will be missed!

#### NOVEMBER 3 MEETING:

**Theme:**        Turkey-less Tricks

**MC:**            Sir Richard

**Teach:**        Kim Meacham (easy)  
Joe Urbain  
(Advanced)

**Book/DVD Report:** Jeremy Haak

**Snacks:**       Chuck Hanson

**Drinks:**       Mike Dyer

Rickie Szewczyk borrowed Ty's glasses, then apparently knocked out one of the lenses which fell to the floor. No harm though. It was just a gag. Then with the help of a small talking head he found a selected card. Joe Dobson did Vegas Visit, a cute Six Card Repeat trick

with five cards in which the thrown-away cards all have a theme. Joe did it nicely.

Kim Meacham made a coin vanish. His open hands covered up part of his face. When he lowered them the coin was seen stuck between his nose and his lips...a move he bravely called the Face Palm. It was another of the truly amazing mysteries of the evening. MC Jeremy Haak was shackled with a chain he claimed came from Siberia [with tongue in cheek]. After some funny by-play he was able to extricate himself from bondage, much to the relief of the audience.

Two years ago our most senior member, Del Kiefer, had a debilitating stroke that knocked out a lot of his memory including all the know-how he'd accumulated in over sixty years of doing magic. Fortunately his "chops" have been returning and he did his wonderful version of Silkola again, using a lot of the bits of business he'd developed over the years...a very gratifying sight to say the least.

The newly formed comedy team of Eric Dany and Chuck Hanson, fresh from their successful appearance at the June meeting, once again brilliantly used a lot of Piffle Powder word play and schtick to cause a slashed dollar bill to heal. The artists thought it was tremendous. The audience seemed to tolerate it. Then Chuck and two audience members caused two selected cards to rise from the deck, using the classic Val Evans Rising Card apparatus that Chuck acquired in 1944. My goodness, that seems like a long time ago.

The September meeting was a big auction during which over \$1500 worth of miracles changed hands. Prices were reasonably good so both buyers and sellers seemed to be happy. Auctioneers Joe Dobson and Jerry Phillips kept things lively, adding a lot of humor to the event. It was our second auction of the year because severe weather in March reduced both attendance and offerings for the first one. Next month is the Stage Magic Contest.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stage Magic Contest...October 2 Meeting...at the Wizard's Den. No October meeting in the Garden Room. Get your act together and participate in the fun. Rules are the same as for the Close Up Contest in May except the maximum time limit is extended to ten minutes. The judges will base their evaluations on five factors...Performing Poise and Personality...Appearance...Ability...Originality...and Audience Response. Good Luck.

A problem developed at the September meeting. A large replica of a Chinese coin disappeared before it could be sold. It happened early in the evening when only the first few people were putting their items on the table. The brass coin is 4 to 6 inches in diameter. A search of the area turned up nothing. Possibly someone picked it up and inadvertently put it into one of the packages of magic on the table, and it was eventually sold. If you happen to have this, please bring it to the October meeting or drop it off at the Wizard's Den at your earliest convenience. Thank you for your help.

Jerry Phillips reported that the treasury is "a little under \$4000". not counting the approximately \$800 for the August 9th activities at the polo meet.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont'd):**

### UPCOMING EVENTS

October 5...1 to 4 PM. Davenport downtown library....and October 12...2 to 6 PM. Independence, IA library. QCMC Walk-Around and variety programs. Fully staffed.

October 25...5 to 7 PM. QCMC SPOOKTACULAR, Prospect Park pavilion, Moline. Walk-Around and show. You're welcome to attend and be a part of it. This show pays the rent for the garden Room and the picnic shelter for the year

October 10-12 MAGIC IN SAVANNA. Evening shows by Jonathan Neal Brown and Liane and Joel Ward. Open to the public. Details in last month's newsletter.

December 8 QCMC CHRISTMAS PARTY at Johnny's Italian Steakhouse in Moline. A fine menu plus featured entertainers from Indianapolis...Christian and Katalina, who were seen by several of us at Abbott's in August. Tom Burgoon, originally booked, had to cancel out. More later.

March 5 and 14, 2009. Our go-getter Rick Brammer has lined up two more club shows, one at Monroe School in Davenport and one for the Eldridge, IA library to be held in the beautiful North Scott High School auditorium. Both are split profit activities. Stay tuned.

Bob Brown's memorial service in Cedar Rapids on October 12 was attended by a number of QCMC members. Bob Beardsley did a nice job conducting the unbroken/broken wand ritual, and many of Bob Brown's friends arose to say what his friendship and teaching meant to them in their lives, one couple coming all the way from Grand Rapids, Michigan. It was an uplifting event.

Some of you remember Larry Grutzmacher, a former member of our club. Ten or more years ago he was our official photographer, taking many snapshots at special events. Unfortunately Larry contracted leukemia and left us a few weeks ago. Larry was a super nice guy.

### MONKEY BUSINESS

Joe Urbain did two shows and some walk-around at the Rock-The-River fest in Cleveland, IL.

Toto Johnson, our itinerant clown, is back in China, having been invited to participate in another big clowning festival. Geez, you'd think he's get tired of rice.

We heard that Alex Elmsley has four children but people have only seen three of them. Really?

Sleight/Slight...which is the magical term? The answer is...Sleight...as in sleight-of-hand. But then we all knew that, didn't we?

Don't forget...Saturdays at 11 AM at The Windmill restaurant, where the magicians, elite and not so elite, meet to eat...and chat and magish and kid the waiters. Good food, good talk, good magic, good gosh, but it's fun. You need to be a part of it.

## David Blaine Style Voodoo Ash Trick

**Effect:** The spectator writes a name on a page in a notepad. The spectator then tears out the page, crumples it up and places it in an ashtray. The paper is set alight and the magician then rubs the ashes on his arm, on which the name written by the spectator, mysteriously appears.

**Preparation:** You will need a small notepad, pen, ashtray, lighter and a small piece of soap or wax.

**Method:** The spectator is asked to write either a name or favourite anything of their choice on a notepad. They are then asked to tear out the page, crumple it up and place it in the ashtray. The magician then sets the paper alight. At this point the magician should take the notepad from the spectator. If looked at closely, it should be possible to see an imprint of the spectators written word on the top page of the notepad. ( **It should not be made obvious that the magician has been looking at the notepad.**.) Then subtly, perhaps by using a little misdirection, the word should be written on the magicians arm by himself using the soft soap or wax. ( **Again, this action should not be visible or obvious to anyone.**.)

The magician can then take some of the ashes and rub them on his arm where the ash will stick to the soap or wax and the name become visible to the astonishment of the audience.

This is a great trick but depends on the magician creating an atmosphere with an entertaining routine and patter about black magic to enhance the trick and create misdirection to allow himself an opportunity to pull off the trick.

I found a good site for free magic tricks. The above trick is located on this site under “Street Magic” . For more tricks go to

<http://www.goodtricks.net/frameset6.html>

Have Fun!!!