



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



### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **NEXT MEETING:**

November 6, 2008  
7:00 p.m.  
Riverside Garden Room  
34th Street and 5th Avenue  
Moline, IL

#### **ASSIGNMENTS:**

#### **NOVEMBER MEETING**

**MC:** Rick Szewczyk

**Theme:** Turkey-less Tricks,  
The Best of the Best

**Drinks:** Mike Dyer

**Snacks:** Chuck Hanson

**Teachers:** Kim Meacham - easy  
Joe Urbain - advanced

**Book/DVD Report:** Jeremy Haak

#### **DECEMBER MEETING:**

December 4, 2008  
Election of Officers for 2009

President Joe set the theme for the November meeting... "Turkey-less Magic. The Best of the Best". In other words, don't use this forum as a place to try out new material. Do something you know has worked well in the past and you're comfortable with...or should we say "with which you are comfortable". You might feel you have nothing that fills that requirement. In that case don't crawl into the corner with your hand over your face. Get up and do something anyway. That's why we get together each month.

The race for Magician of the Year is heating up. As of October 6 the top five contenders and their points were...Jerry Phillips [33], Jeremy Haak [30], Chuck Hanson [25], Rick Szewczyk [21] and Rick Brammer [20].

Treasurer Jerry Phillips reports a balance of about \$4000 [he had the exact amount but the secretary...me...neglected to record it]. This does not include nearly \$1000 to be received in February from the Childrens Therapy Center for the work the club did at the Polo Club show last August. Also the club has since received \$1600 from its two library gigs in October. WOW!

It's disappointing that the large Chinese coin taken from the auction table in September has not been returned. Only a few people were around when it disappeared. Somebody has it. If that person would like to relieve himself or herself of the guilt of having it and feel up to returning it to its owner the coin can be mailed or dropped off at the Wizard's Den, 1228 Brady St. Davenport, IA 52803. Nuff said!

The Christmas Party is coming up...Monday, December 8 at Johnny's Italian Steakhouse in Moline. The food is excellent. The evening show by Christian and Katalina from Indianapolis should be excellent [we've seen them]. And the fellowship will be superb. Make plans to attend. Tickets are \$25 a person [one and all]. Reservations will be required. More about this later.

Future club shows...March 5 and 14, 2009 in Davenport and Eldridge. More are in the planning stage.

## MONKEY BUSINESS AND OTHER SERIOUS STUFF

Brian Moore has been promoted to manager of the Houdini's Magic Store at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas. He has seven other magicians reporting to him. Way to go, Brian. Best wishes.

TOTO is back from his fourth trip to China and finally getting over the jet lag.

Todd Lassen and family have just relocated to Longmont, CO. A group of us had a nice farewell dinner with them at The Windmill Restaurant. As of this writing they are getting adjusted to their new surroundings. Todd says the heavy machine tools and his pool table made the journey unscathed. He should be back cranking out the exotic coin gaffs 'ere long.

Good to see David Casas at the last meeting. Since moving to Iowa City he's been too busy to get back to our meetings. He's working on a new stage act and plans to be on the club shows next Spring.

Bob Smith is currently in Genesis West with more foot problems as a result of his ongoing bout with diabetes. He had another toe removed and has a badly infected ankle on the other leg. We wish him a speedy recovery.

[**Update on Bob.** Bob is out of the hospital now and his cell phone number is 563 570 4650.]

And P.C. Swanson from Rock Falls has been having some serious heart problems of late. He's been in and out of Genesis East several times for tests. Hang in there, P.C.. We wish you well, too.

Don't forget the Magicians Brunch each Saturday at The Windmill in East Moline. We gather about 11 AM for a good time and nice food. Join us if you can. You'll enjoy the experience.



## RING 11 REPORT

When October rolls around it's time to do spooky things. And that's what Ring #11 will be doing late in the month when it puts on its Third Annual SPOOKTACULAR show in Prospect Park in Moline, IL. This program is donated by the Ring to the Moline Parks and Recreation Department to pay for the use of one of its facilities for our monthly meetings...a very nice arrangement for both parties.

The other big event in October was the Stage Magic Contest which the Ring held at Kim Meacham's magic shop, the Wizards's Den, in Davenport, IA. Kim's shop has a theatre-style room that has a stage, and he graciously allows the Ring to use it for some lectures and other special events.

President Joe Dobson as MC kept things lively and fun between the five acts on the bill. First up was Jeremy Haak who showed his clever new routine with light bulbs, featuring some D'Lite capers, lighted bulbs from the mouth and an illuminated dancing cane. He also vanished and reproduced a cane, swallowed a sword [not really] and performed his sharp, well-honed razor blade swallowing routine.

Rickie Rowray did a jumbo ABC Blocks trick in which the middle block of a stack of three disappeared from inside one tube and reappeared inside another tube, previously shown to be empty. Rickie is one of our two hearing-impaired magicians. He made the props himself and used the pictures of hand signs for the letters instead of the traditional A, B and C...an appropriate and creative touch.

Another Rickie, this one Rickie Szewczyk [aka Sir Richard], did his unusual version of the bullet catching trick... using a squirt gun. It's tough to describe because he made it so hilarious. Nevertheless even though the gun squirted water, Rickie was able to dislodge a bullet from his mouth, letting it drop onto a plate.

Jerry Phillips loves to acquire well-made and interesting props and he used two of them in his routine. He started, though, with some funny bits while wearing a Groucho nose and glasses...then went into the Rogue Toad, an item manufactured by Wacky Wolf. A large, two-dimensional frog, after a lot of puns and word play, helped out by sticking out its tongue, and stuck to it was the previously selected card. Jerry also showed an empty box in which he put an inflated balloon. There was a bang. The balloon was gone. In its place were a rabbit and raccoon. Unreal!

Last up was Joe Urbain performing several routines. The first was a mental stunt in which he successfully predicted the outcome of several choices made by his helper. Next he did his version of the Mismade Flag trick and followed by vanishing, then reproducing two live hamsters from a Tip-Over Box.

As was the case with the Close-Up Contest last May the judges had difficulty selecting the three winners, but when the smoke cleared the finalists were Jerry Phillips in first place, Rickie Szewczyk in second and Rickie Rowray in third. Each received a trophy and unlimited bragging rights...at least for the year.





Do we have a talented group or what??

