



I.B.M. MAGRUM-KIEFER RING NO. 11
QUAD-CITIES MAGIC CLUB
JULY 2009 NEWSLETTER



NEXT MEETING:

ANNUAL PICNIC
July 2, 2009
Riverside Park Shelter
5th Avenue and 34th Street
Moline. IL

ASSIGNMENTS:

AUGUST MEETING

Thursday, August 13, 2009

MC: Jeremy Haak
Theme: Funny Prop Magic
Drinks: Larry Tooker
Snacks: Quinn Connor

PICNIC

PICNIC

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You bet! It's picnic time again...Thursday, July 2 is the date. This takes the place of the regular meeting. Location...same as last year...the large shelter south of the Garden Room. Plenty of close-by parking. Enter the lot from 34th Street. Come rain or shine, we'll be under cover. Food, catered by HyVee, will be delivered at 6:15...fried chicken, BBQ pulled pork, potato salad, cole slaw, rainbow rotini salad, rolls, plates, napkins and eating utensils. All you have to bring is a beverage, an appetite and a trick or two for the evening show.

If you haven't already signed up [a reservation sheet was passed around at the last meeting] you need to do so by June 29, our deadline with HyVee. Contact Chuck Hanson..309 797 5996 or email hanson3108@aol.com. And contact him if you have to cancel or change the number of reservations, also by June 29. Food will be ordered for those who have made reservations. You may bring guests if you desire.

Cost for everyone is just \$5 a person and you may use your "magic bucks". The Club is picking up the difference between the full cost and what we each pay. Such a deal.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LECTURES

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SATURDAY, JULY 11...the QCMC is bringing in **ROB THOMPSON**, 2 PM at the Wizard's Den, 1228 Brady St., Davenport. Several of us saw him at the recent convention in Peoria and decided unanimously to invite him to do a lecture for us. He will feature clever magic with cards and coins. so bring your own cards, coins and a pinch of woofle dust [very scarce stuff] and see what you can learn from a very nice guy. Cost is: QCMC members...\$10, Parents of young members and spouses...FREE, Other non-members...\$15.

MONDAY, AUGUST 3...**GEOFF WILLIAMS** from the Twin Cities will give a lecture at the Wizard's Den, starting at 7 PM. He'll be presenting his "MOTHER LECTURE" which includes routines using cards, coins, 3x5 cards and other very commercial materials. Allen Holdsworth and Joe Dobson give him high marks. 'Nuff said." And here's a nice plus...because our treasury is in excellent shape, thanks to Rick Brammer and all the members who have worked the many fund raising shows, the lecture will be **FREE**, that's right...**FREE**...to QCMC members, their parents and spouses. Others may attend by paying the usual \$15 fee.

"LATE BREAKING NEWS"...**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15**...**MICHAEL AMMAR** will give a lecture and conduct a special workshop at the Wizard's Den. Wow! More details in the next issue. But plan now to attend. Michael is a terrific magician, teacher and entertainer.

BANACHEK, one of the premier mentalists, is lecturing in East Peoria on July 1 at the Par-A-Dice Hotel, 21 Blackjack Blvd. at 7 PM. The event is sponsored by the Peoria Magicians Assembly. Cost is \$25 for non-PMA members. For more information go to their website....www.peoria magicians.com.

OTHER GOOD STUFF

At the June meeting treasurer Jerry Phillips stated the account balance was "about the same as last month" which was around \$7500, not including \$500 still due from the Polo Club gig last summer.

Please welcome new members Quinn Connor of Davenport and Roger McGrath of Dubuque. We're so delighted to have you with us.

The Club library just got an infusion of material...a number of video tapes of television magic shows and a group of David Ginn books and DVDs. The library came into existence several years ago when one of our members passed away and left a group of classic magic books such as the Tarbell Course to the QCMC. All of these items are available for members to borrow and read or view...then return in a reasonable period of time. Kim Meacham is the custodian. He brings them to the meetings and keeps them in his magic shop, the Wizard's Den, in between meetings for your use. Avail yourself of this valuable resource.

BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE!

....a message from the Prez coming up.



...FROM YOUR PRESIDENT...

The good news is I don't fill up space in the newsletter often. The bad news is that this month I've got a lot to share...

On Sunday, June 7, a multitude of magicians descended upon Iowa City to help entertain at the Arts Festival. We came, we conjured, and we conquered. Here are some of the people I had the privilege of working with that day (my apologies if I left anyone out):

Ricky Rowray---the hardest working man in show business. Ricky made balloon animals for four hours straight!

What a guy!

Laura Anderson---another trouper. She cut off the line for her face painting a full hour before the end of her shift, and just *barely* got all those kids in line taken care of. Wow!

Brandon Lipkowitz

David & Justin Peter

Levi Samuelson

Toto Johnson

Jason Hamilton

Ricky "Sir Richard" Szewczyk

Jerry Phillips

Jesus Rios

David Casas

Jeremy "The Hawk" Haak

Eric "I just *love* card tricks" Dany

Del Kiefer

Josh Talal

Kim "Mr. Wizard" Meacham

And of course, Rick Brammer, who orchestrated the event!

So much thanks to all those listed above, who generously gave of their time and effort to help YOUR Club raise money. Some of them drove quite a way, donating not only their time, but their gas mileage, in the service of the Quad Cities Magic Club. Be sure to give them a thumbs up when you see them.

We have been having some very nice lecturers coming into town, from David Ginn and Paul Gertner to Dan Harlan, and now Rob Thompson and Geoff Williams coming up. Magicians from other cities have been showing up to attend these lectures. We must be doing something right.

The going price for top lecturers seems to be about \$300. Some Club members have asked if we can take some of the money we have accumulated and try to entice magicians who do not normally do the lecture circuit to come and speak to us. They are not talking about squandering our hard-earned money, but using a little of it to bring in some hard-to-get magicians that would be well worth our while. If one of the main purposes of the Club is to become better magicians, we could think of this as an investment in our continuing education. So, what do you think? Should we see who a few extra bucks will bring in? Personally, I think this is a good idea. But it is up to **you**, the Club membership. Speak up!

For the Dan Harlan lecture, we rushed through the business meeting in record time. Here is something to think about. Actually two things to think about.

- 1) In St. Louis, the S.A.M. Assembly meets twice per month, with a format like ours. The business meeting takes place, then after a short break the fun stuff starts. The IBM Ring there has a different format. Their officers meet every month for an 'executive meeting', in which any member is welcome to attend, where all the Club business decisions are made. Then in the regular Club meeting (once a month), the decisions are simply announced, and the fun stuff starts much more quickly.
- 2) A member of our Club has proposed we hold a second meeting each month, for IBM members only, that would have NO business meeting, and just focus on the magic.

So, would you be interested in changing our format? Maybe go to a model similar to the St. Louis IBM Ring? Or maybe have a second monthly meeting devoted 100% to activities and 0% to Club business? Again, please speak up.

Probably the reason for these ideas is that it seems we spend a lot of meeting time on Club business, much of which could just be covered in the newsletter. Some things need to be covered of course, but I share the opinion that I came into the magic world for fun, not business meetings.

The Magician of the Year contest points are listed here for the top ten contenders. Good luck to all, and keep working those Club shows to build up more points:

- #10 Tie between Michael Dyer & Todd Herbst (15 pts)
- #8 Rick Brammer (16 pts)
- #7 Tie between Brandon Lipkowitz & Ricky Szewczyk (18 pts)
- #5 David Casas (19 pts)
- #4 Tie between Eric Dany & Chuck Hanson (20 pts)
- #2 Jeremy Haak (26 pts)
- #1 Jerry Phillips (27 pts)

Finally, here is the tentative schedule for the rest of the year:

July 2 – Meeting – Annual Picnic

July 11 – Rob Thompson lecture, @ the Wizard's Den

August 3 – Geoff Williams lecture, @ the Wizard's Den

August 13 – Meeting – Funny Prop Night

September 3 – Meeting – Auction. Should we have all magazines, books, and videos be sold in flea market system, rather than as part of the auction? This was a suggestion from one of our members to help move the auction along more quickly. Sellers could have a couple of tables to set these things up early, before the 7:00 meeting. Then anything not sold by 7:00 could still go into the auction, subject to the usual bundling rules.

September 14 – Michael Ammar lecture & workshop, @ the Wizard's Den

October 1 – Meeting – Stage Contest, @ the Wizard's Den

November 5 – Meeting – Theme TBA

December 3 – Meeting – Election of Officers, Theme TBA

December 7 – Holiday Party @ Johnny's Italian Steakhouse

RING 11 REPORT

JUNE 2009

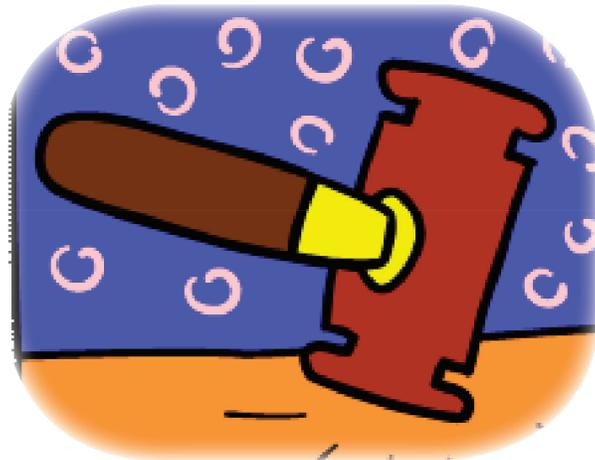
Dan Harlan was here. He lectured. It was excellent. Using only a handful of props he started by doing a regular show...one that intrigued and entertained all 34 of us for 45 minutes. Later he explained what he did, and more importantly, told us how he developed tight, humorous routines, the kind we had just witnessed.

He said to write down every step of a routine using one column for what the audience sees and hears and another column for the secret actions. Then examine each step. Try to develop ways to make it entertaining or to shorten it..or to eliminate it altogether. For example, he took the ancient Grandma's Necklace trick and made a wonderful piece out of it. Instead of it being a ho-hum beginner's trick/puzzle it became a real worker. The same was true of the other eleven tricks he covered...dynamic, humorous presentations all with the simplest of props. Except for one.

That one was a takeoff of the Television Card Frame. Instead of cards and two pieces of glass, Dan used a stack of cheese slices and two pieces of bread. The bread slices were put into a zippered plastic bag. Then the stack of cheese slices was riffled and one selected. It was marked by the spectator biting off one corner and writing his initials by squirting catsup on it. The cheese slice was vanished using a banana as a gun, only to reappear nested between the two pieces of bread. It was a funny premise, enhanced by lots of humorous lines and bits throughout. We were glad Dan was with us.

Prior to Dan's lecture President Joe Dobson conducted one of our shortest business meetings ever...only 12 minutes and 23 seconds long. Amazing! We were please to welcome two visitors, Troy Keefer and Karl Niebuhr, both members of the Peoria Ring 48.

You're invited to attend any of our meetings as well as the Saturday brunch at The Windmill restaurant in East Moline, IL where a group of us gather every week for magical monkey business, starting about 11 AM.



See you at the picnic on Thursday!!