



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



ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEXT MEETING:

November 5, 2009
7:00 p.m.
Riverside Garden Room
34th Street and 5th Avenue
Moline, IL

ASSIGNMENTS:

NOVEMBER MEETING

**NOMINATIONS FOR
2010 OFFICERS**

**Theme: Tricks or Bits of Business
for Childrens Shows**

Drinks: Toto Johnson

Snacks: Mike Dyer

Book Report: Chuck Hanson

DECEMBER MEETING

Theme: Big Teaching Session

Snacks: Joe Dobson

Drinks: Joe Dobson (watch out)

CHRISTMAS PARTY

**December 7, 2009
Johnnies Italian Steakhouse
Moline, Illinois**

With Christmas shows coming up soon the theme for our November meeting is very timely. All you guys and gals who perform for children certainly have some skills and insights that the rest of us would appreciate knowing. So please do a trick or relate some bits of business you have found to be successful. And if you don't have anything to share, do a trick anyway. That's why we gather together each month...to do and watch magic.

FLASH--CHRISTMAS PARTY NEWS Eric Dany reports that BEN ULIN will be our entertainer this year. And he's good. Ben is a very versatile professional comedy magician living in Des Moines but performing all over. His comedy illusion program is the longest running show at Adventureland in Des Moines...since 1988. The Holland American and Norwegian Cruise Lines have featured him as a headliner. He also works comedy clubs and was voted one of the funniest people in the country by ShowTime Television. Not bad credentials.

More about the Christmas Party. December 7 is the date...Johnnie's Italian Steakhouse, 1300 River Drive [across from the I Wireless Center] Moline is the place. Cocktails at 6 PM...Dinner at 7 PM. Prices will be announced at the November meeting and a reservation sign-up sheet will be passed around. Reservations are a must. Food will be ordered only for those who have signed up. Additional reservations or cancellations may be made prior to December 4 by contacting Eric Dany [ericdany@mchsi.com] or Chuck Hanson [hanson3108@aol.com].

Nominations for 2010 officers will be made at the November meeting. Additional nominations and the election will occur at the December meeting. We need to think seriously about who we want to run our organization. Being an officer is certainly an honor but it is much more than that. There is a lot of responsibility connected with each job. Seems like 50% of the people do all the work and the other 50% only attend the meetings. Or is it the other way around?

Treasurer Jerry Phillips reported a balance of \$6607.99, and added that he also received some more money and spent some. Right on, man!

Bill Blagg III will perform "A Night of Magic" on November 14 in Maquoketa, IA. It's at the Ohnward Fine Arts Center, 125 E. Platt Street [across Hwy 64 from the fairgrounds], starting at 7 PM. His all new magic and illusion show features a high level of audience interaction, such as random audience volunteers levitating 4 feet high in the middle of the stage. Tickets at the door are \$20.

Club Shows...no more until 2010, then 5 or 6 in the first six months including several in January. Thanks to the many members who have offered their services in the past. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. As we all know, it's the income we receive from these activities that subsidizes the cost of the lectures and various parties.

ANNOUNCEMENTS :

MONKEY BIZ AND OTHER STUFF

Our galloping clown guy, Toto Johnson, recently returned from yet another trip to China [Holy Rice Bowls!]...this time to Shanghai where he and seventeen other U.S. clowns did three shows daily to throngs of people. Have you noticed his eyes lately? Too much rice.

And, we received a note from David Casas. Apparently he has been hanging out in Peoria. Here's what he had to say...

Hello everyone, just wanted to let you guys know I competed in the magic contest that was held by the Peoria Magic Club last Wednesday in Peoria Illinois. Jesus Rios was there, and did a great job as emcee of the show. I had a great time, met lots of new people, and had a lot of fun. I'm excited to say, I brought home first place!!!

Way to go David!!!! We're very proud of you!



Recent visitors...include Jim [Jay J] Caffrey and his wife, Jamie. Jim is a former member and was the general chairman of the Unconventional Convention we held a few years ago. They were here from Tucson to visit Jim's mother and also to attend a major clown convention in Michigan, where Jim performed and was a judge for several contests.

Other guests at the last meeting were Tim and Christopher Brewer, Mary Winnie and Andre and Gabrielle [missed their last names...sorry]. Welcome folks. We're glad you came.

Meet DELMAR DADE, one of our new members. Delmar's home is in the northern suburbs of Chicago but he's currently a senior at Western Illinois University in Macomb studying the broad area of law enforcement. Ten years ago at age 11 he bought a Svengali deck and has had an interest in magic ever since. Recently Joe Dobson has been helping him. Together they worked out a routine for Delmar's participation in a talent show. Cards are his first love although he wants to get more involved in stage magic. Delmar has performed at three "open mic" gigs and some walk-around activity. He wants to do more. He's an interesting, intelligent young man...someone with whom we'll all want to get better acquainted. Obviously the students at WIU think highly of him. They elected him Homecoming King a few weeks ago. WOW! Welcome to the Ring, Delmar.

The Stage Magic Contest at the October meeting was a dandy. All the performers were good. David Casas kicked it off with his superlative dove and manipulation act. A guy named Murphy intervened, however and messed up a few bits that David normally aces. But the rest of it was outstanding. Laura Anderson as Daisy Dee used a lot of humor in her presentation. As one of the Blues Brothers Sir Richard made the cups and balls a real show piece. Jeremy Haak did his very nice bill in lemon routine and Jesus Rios kept the audience chuckling with a cute balloon animal trick. The judges decided to award Jesus first prize, followed by Laura in second and David in third. A more descriptive report will be in the Linking Ring magazine soon.



RING REPORT OCTOBER 2009

The annual Stage Magic Contest is always fun. The one we had at the October meeting was especially so. It was held at our local magic shop, the Wizard's Den, in Davenport, IA. Kim Meacham, its owner lets the Ring use his theatre room for this and other special events. Nice man, that Kim.

After a brief business meeting President Joe Dobson introduced the first contestant, David Casas. David does a superlative, Las Vegas style act featuring artistic dove productions and card and ball manipulation...always top-drawer except this time when Murphy came to visit. Two of his dove harnesses broke, making the "introduction" of the birds somewhat surprising in a different sort of way. Nevertheless David concluded his act very nicely with his skilled card manipulations.

Next up was Laura Anderson all decked out as Daisy Dee, her colorful clown character. Daisy had everyone laughing with her humorous use of the multiplying wands, dove pan, Rocky Raccoon and the animated raccoon tail sticking out of a bag and rolling around the floor. She said she was very nervous. It didn't show. Good job, Laura.

Did you ever see a Cups and Balls routine done by one of the Blues Brothers? Well we did...almost. Actually it was Rickie Szewczyk [AKA Sir Richard] dressed up like one of the famed Brothers. He even had the Chicago accent down pat. It was an imaginative and interesting act.

Jeremy [The Amazer] Haak's program consisted of only one routined trick, and it was a dandy called The Lemon Game. A \$50 bill was borrowed and initialed. It disappeared, but the lender was given the choice of one of about ten "prize" cards. Each large card showed a picture of an expensive item or trip. However when one was selected it contained only the picture of a lemon. Tough luck, Dude! But all was not lost. Jeremy showed a bag of lemons. One was removed and cut open. There, by golly, was the initialed bill, right inside that little old lemon. Amazing! Simply amazing!

Our last contestant was Jesus Rios [Mr. Illusion]. He had the audience in stitches with his clever commentary and bits of business. He tried to blow up balloons but they always got away from him or his helper. Finally succeeding he created a dog balloon animal. It was stepped on and broke. The pieces were picked up and placed in an empty paper bag which he inflated and burst. The restored balloon dog, like the famous phoenix bird, arose from the shards much to the delight of the young assistant. It was a cute routine, and his presentation made it all work beautifully.

As usual the judges had a tough time deciding who the top three would be. Nevertheless they awarded first place to Mr. Illusion, second to Daisy Dee and third to David Casas. Each received a nice trophy to put on a shelf for all to see. Thus endeth another interesting and entertaining contest.

Recent lecturers were Geoff Williams and Michael Ammar. We're looking forward to seeing Devin Knight later in October. The Ring has several fund raising programs lined up for the next few months, including our annual Halloween show for the Moline Parks and Recreation Department. This one enables the club to use a meeting room for the year free of charge...a nice deal for everyone.



HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU. MAY YOUR LIFE BE BLESSED. WE ALL HAVE SO MUCH TO BE THANKFUL FOR.