



I.B.M. MAGRUM-KIEFER RING No. 11

QUAD CITIES MAGIC CLUB

DECEMBER 2011 NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING

December 5, 2011

7:00 PM

Riverside Garden Room
34th Street and 5th Avenue
Moline, IL

ASSIGNMENTS

MC: TBD

Theme: Holiday/Children

Drinks: Eric Dany

Snacks: Joe Dobson

Teach-A-Trick: Joe Dobson
& Chuck Hanson

Media Rpt: Sir Richard

JANUARY MEETING

Theme: Your newest trick!

DECEMBER MEETING

Final nominations for 2012 Club Officers and the casting of ballots will be completed at the December meeting.

The theme for the evening is holiday, children or anything you chose to present—card tricks included.

We will wrap up reservations for the Christmas Party, which will be held on Monday December 5th at the recently remodeled Windmill Restaurant.

Tom Burgoon will be entertaining and on Tuesday night after the party, Tom is going to present a lecture for us at the Garden Center.

We're holding costs down by going to the Windmill and we know the food is excellent. It will be a fun evening. Cocktails start at 6 PM and dinner at 7 PM. The cost will be \$15.00 per person for members and their family and guests. It's \$20.00 each for non-members from out-of town. Magic bucks are welcome!

The Windmill is re-opening December 1st and we'll be holding the magic brunch there next Saturday, December 3rd. Denny's kept us for starving, but we're looking forward to getting back to the Windmill.

TOM BURGOON LECTURE

Tom Burgoon will lecture for the club on Tuesday, December 6th at the Garden Center. The lecture will start at 7 PM. The cost is \$10.00 for members and \$15.00 for non-members. Tom's a riot and has plenty of great material you will use!!!

NOVEMBER MEETING

The November meeting was called to order by President, Todd Herbst. We welcomed two guests Tim and Nick Younger. Treasurer, Jerry Phillips indicated we had money in the bank. The recent

Spooktacular show was a success and the Moline Park Board wants us back again next year.

We have Nathan Kranzo scheduled to lecture on November 10th and our Christmas Party is scheduled for December 5th, with entertainer, Tom Burgoon lecturing for us the next evening.

Nominations for Ring officers provided the following candidates: President, Eric Dany; Vice Presidents, Ken Cooper, Rick Brammer and Brian Lees; Secretary, Mike Dyer, Brian Wheeler and Treasurer, Jerry Phillips. For Sergeant at Arms Joe Dobson and Luke VanCleve were nominated as were Chuck Hanson, Dave Curley and Bob Dalquist for Officers at Large. Final nominations and voting will be held at the next meeting.

Chuck Hanson gave a book report on Jerry Metzger's wonderful Counts, Cuts and Subtleties. It's a classic work and great refresher for card moves. Jerry Phillips presented a teach-a-trick. He showed a book test based on the 1089 principle. Good job guys--thank you.

Our MC for the evening was Eric Dany, who attempted to out-do the jokes our illustrious President Todd used last month. Eric's left-over Halloween jokes brought smiles, chuckles and quite a few groans from the group. His running gags with paper tears and mouth coils weren't much better so it appears we'll have to call it a draw---At least until the next time these face off as dueling MC's.

Sir Richard lead off the program with some nice coin manipulations and a chosen card reveal. Michael Waltz had three cards chosen and then lost in the pack. After some wheeling and dealing he revealed his, which correctly matched the selected cards.

Joe Dobson did a nice you-do-as-I-do card effect with six volunteers. They tried to follow Joe's instructions, but they couldn't figure out why his were always right-side up after shuffling and theirs' weren't. Justin Gilbraith asked two spectators to help him with a spoon in a bag and a deck of cards. Justin's prediction matched the spectators' cards and his mind meld bent the spoon in half.

Ralph Crow performed an effect using the 4 ½ of clubs as a magic locator card to divine another card from a pack of 21 cards. Todd Herbst used his large puppet, Hocus Pocus, along with some solid comedy to correctly identify the color of a spectator's chosen poker chip.

Brian Less presented a nifty disappearing and reappearing egg routine that ended with two scrambled eggs displayed on the tray. Chuck Hanson performed a series of terrific card manipulations—except Chuck doesn't play with a full deck. By the laughter it was obvious the members admired his ability to perform awesome slights with only two cards. After his demonstration, his silk vanish with a green thumb-tip was a nice climax to a fun evening.

If you are in the area, please join us for our weekly Saturday brunch--11AM at The Windmill Family Restaurant, 1190 Avenue of the Cities, East Moline, IL.

What Makes Magic Work by Brian Lees

Magic is a form of entertainment where illusion, misdirection, manipulation and set gimmicks lead the audience to unsuspecting results. A coin vanishes and appears in a different location. The volunteer's card is lost in the deck only to end up in the magician's pocket. These are the performance skills demonstrated by a magician. But what is the key that makes the magic work?

There are as many answers to that question as there are magic tricks. Without any physiological training or a certification in the paranormal I will share my opinion. This is the same explanation I use in my sponge ball lecture. If you follow the context it makes sense. And knowing what makes magic work is the key to expanding our performance.

Our brains work in a series of situation/solutions. The phone rings and we walk over and answer it. The brain does not tell the body to locate the sound, follow that sound to the phone and then pick up the receiver and say hello. Our brain has already solved that situation so we just respond. Get up in the morning the brain does not say walk to closet, locate door knob, grasp/turn and pull the door open. Our brain auto applies the solution and we just open the closet door.

The same holds true for other situations. If you hear someone say "knock knock", it makes no difference if you say it or not, your brain auto applies "who is there". There are longer auto applies too. For example: once upon a time; ladies and gentlemen; we interrupt this program; and please rise for – are other samples of how the brain would auto apply a solution based on experience.

Magicians play on the brains situation/solution chemistry to create the mystic of magic. A situation or movement is presented that triggers the brains auto apply solution. The audience experiences the surprise results. For example a sponge ball is held up and the other hand passes to it. A movement is made and the closed hand moves away from the other hand. You can almost watch the audience's eyes as they follow it. At the given time the hand is open and the sponge ball has disappeared.

The rule of auto apply will also work against you. If the magician does the same manipulation over again, the brain catches the auto application and tells the audience to look for the misdirection. The brain plays the "fool me once but not twice" recording. This is the reason magicians do not repeat tricks.

Practice natural hand, arm and body movements. Watch yourself in the mirror. As long as you present situations the brain auto applies solutions to, you will be successful in performance. Remember the key is natural movement. Mask the misdirection with simple, logical manipulations. Have confidence in what makes magic work and put the brain's auto apply to work for you.

Editor's note --- Many thanks to Brian T. Lees for his newsletter contribution!

FUTURE MEETINGS

January—Your newest trick!

Snacks and Drinks—Need Volunteers

February

March

April

May

June

July

August

September

October

November

December